BIOLOGICAL STUDY REPORT

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility Project

Plumas County, California

Prepared for:

Plumas District Hospital

Prepared by:

Allison Loveless, Qualified Biologist

July 2021

655-01

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Plumas District Hospital (District) is proposing to construct a new skilled nursing facility to replace the former Nursing and Rehabilitation Center that closed in 2015. The new facility would be located directly across Bucks Lake Road from the Plumas District Hospital in Quincy.

The purpose of this biological study report (BSR) is to identify and characterize sensitive biological resources that may occur in the project work areas or that may be adversely affected by implementation of the proposed project. This BSR will serve as a baseline study to assist in the preparation of subsequent environmental documentation.

ENPLAN is an environmental consulting firm with over 40 years of experience with projects throughout northern California. All work associated with this project was performed by Donald Burk, Environmental Services Manager with ENPLAN, and Allison Loveless, Environmental Scientist with ENPLAN. Resumes for the biologists are provided in **Appendix A**.

Mr. Burk received his Master of Science degree in Botany, and Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry and Biological Sciences, from California State University, Chico. Having worked in the environmental consulting field since 1981, he has an in-depth background in a broad spectrum of environmental studies. His experience includes managing the preparation of CEQA/NEPA environmental compliance documents, environmental site assessments, wildlife and botanical studies, wetland delineations, reclamation plans, and stream restoration projects. Mr. Burk was responsible for the biological surveys for this project, and final report review.

Ms. Loveless received her Master of Science degree in Zoology from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, and Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography (Environmental Studies) from the University of California, Los Angeles. Ms. Loveless has four years of experience working in environmental services throughout northern California. Her experience includes general wildlife surveys, endangered species surveys, and nesting bird surveys; preparing technical environmental documentation for environmental impact reports; and preparing biological study reports, wetland delineations, biological assessments, and associated GIS mapping. Ms. Loveless was responsible for drafting this BSR.

2. PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is in the community of Quincy, Plumas County, on the south side of Bucks Lake Road across from its intersection with Bellamy Lane. The site is 0.75 miles west of the intersection of Bucks Lake Road and Highway 70. As shown in **Figure 1**, the site is in Section 15, Township 24 North, Range 9 East, of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quincy 7.5-minute quadrangle (USGS, 1994). The study area includes Plumas County Assessor's Parcels 115-210-009, 115-210-019, a portion of 115-210-020, and the abutting Bucks Lake Road right-of-way. The developable parcel(s) would total ±3.26 acres in size; with inclusion of the road right-of-way, the study area consists of ±3.45 acres.

2.1. Project Description

The proposed project includes construction of a ±20,040 square-foot skilled nursing facility. Two one-story buildings would be joined by a pedestrian bridge that would free-span an onsite wetland. The facility would include 24 private and semi-private patient rooms with pharmaceutical service/storage space, dietary service space (including food storage, prep., and dining areas), activity programming space, common areas (including lobby and reception, spa and salon, consult/family room, and restrooms), administrative offices, housekeeping, storage, and employee dressing rooms, lockers, and staff lounge and necessary parking. An emergency access road would wrap around the entire facility. Other appurtenant improvements would include landscaping, concrete walkways, snow removal areas, one or two above-ground propane storage tanks, and storm water detention and drainage facilities.

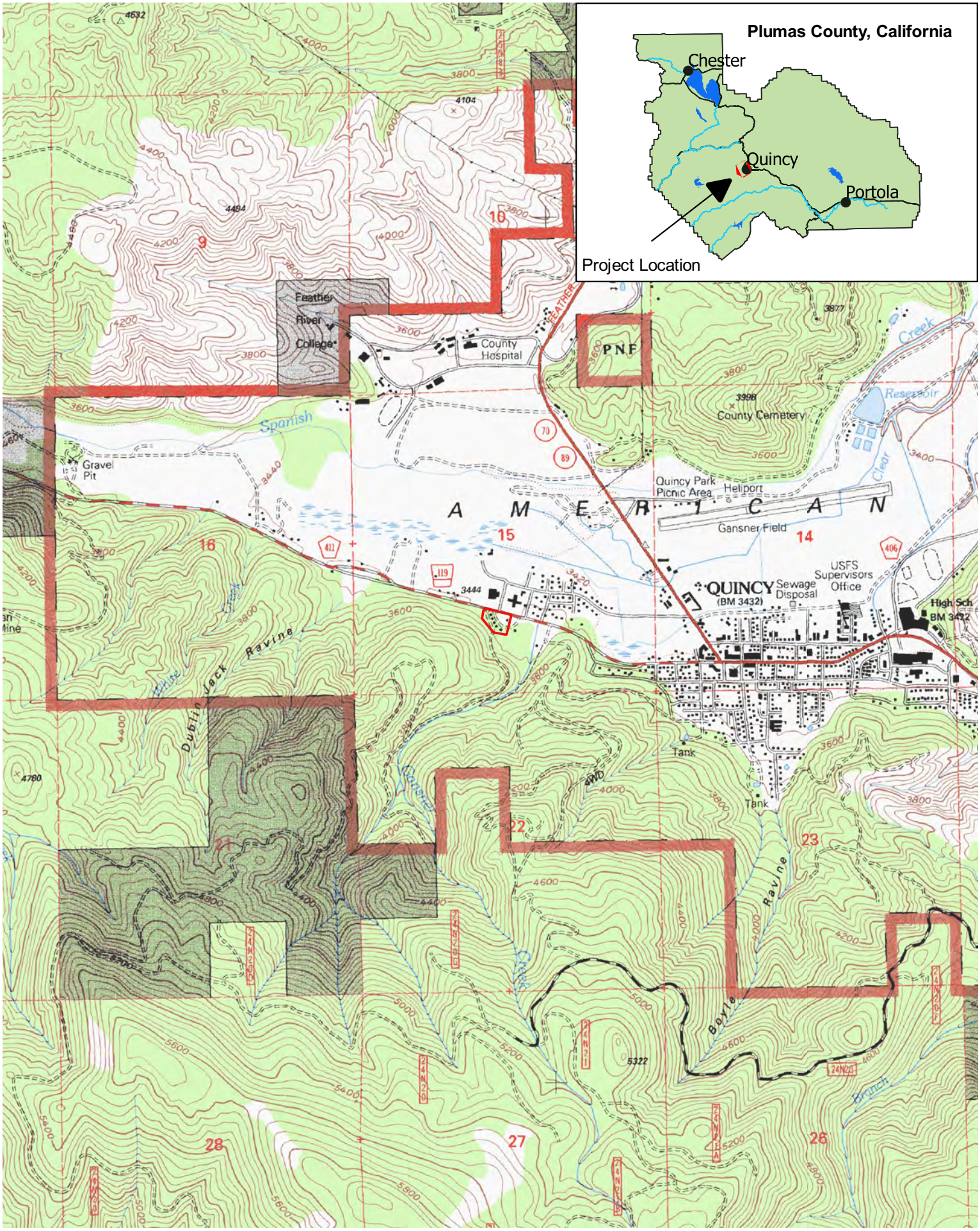

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Figure 1

Project Vicinity

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2.2. Area Characteristics

The ±3.45-acre study area ranges in elevation from approximately 3,445 to 3,470 feet above sea level. Land uses adjoining the project site include timberland to the south and west, and Bucks Lake Road along the property frontage to the north. The Plumas District Hospital and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are located north of Bucks Lake Road. Gansner Creek is located ±200 feet east of the project site, and a single-family residence is farther to the east. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS, 2021) maps the on-site soils as Forgay-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes, and Kistirn-Aiken-Deadwood families complex, 30 to 50 percent slopes. Neither of these soil units is identified as a hydric soil.

The project site has been substantially developed in the past. Plumas District Hospital currently owns and operates a dental clinic on the site. The building housing the dental clinic was constructed in 1964. A paved parking lot is present in front and on the sides of the building, and storage containers are present to the rear. Several cabins accessed by an on-site loop road were constructed in 1934 and remained at least into the 1990s. Representative photographs of the project site are provided in **Appendix B**.

3. RECORDS REVIEW AND FIELD RECONNAISSANCE

3.1. Records Review

Records reviewed for this evaluation consisted of California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB, 2021) records for special-status plants, animals, and natural communities (see **Table 1, Appendix C**); the California Native Plant Society (CNPS, 2021) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (see **Table 2, Appendix C**); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS, 2021) records for federally listed, proposed, and Candidate plant and animal species under jurisdiction of the USFWS (see **Appendix C**); USFWS records for migratory birds of conservation concern; and National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps (USFWS NWI, 2021). NMFS was not consulted because the project site does not contain any potentially fish-bearing streams; Oroville Dam is the upstream limit for anadromous fish in the Feather River watershed (NMFS, 2014).

The CNDDB records search covered a five-mile radius around the project site. This review of records addressed portions of the Crescent Mills, Meadow Valley, Onion

Valley, Quincy, and Spring Garden quadrangles. CNPS records were reviewed for the Quincy quadrangle. The USFWS records search was based on the study area location, with an appropriate buffer as determined by USFWS.

3.2. Field Reconnaissance

To determine the presence/absence of special-status plant and animal species, biological field studies were completed by an ENPLAN biologist on May 7, June 4, and July 16, 2021. Some of the special-status species potentially occurring in the general project area would not have been evident at the time the fieldwork was conducted. However, determination of their potential presence could readily be made based on observed habitat characteristics.

4. NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Review of USFWS records showed that there is no designated critical habitat in the project area. Review of National Wetlands Inventory records showed that no wetlands have been mapped in the project site. Review of CNDDB records identified a darlingtonia seep within a five-mile radius of the project site. Darlingtonia seep is considered an unranked sensitive natural community (CDFW, 2020); however, field review confirmed that this community is not present in the project area and thus warrants no further discussion.

Based on the field evaluation, three natural communities were identified in the project study area: mixed conifer forest, riparian scrub wetland, and a disturbed dry meadow. The mixed conifer forest is dominated by ponderosa pine and white fir, with smaller numbers of incense-cedar, black oak, and Douglas-fir. The forest contains both large trees (≥12 inches in diameter at breast height [DBH]) and dense stands of small trees. The understory consists primarily of deerbrush and forbs in open forest areas but is nearly absent in dense forest habitat. This community most closely resembles the mixed conifer and woodland alliance (87.015.00) described in the CDFW California Natural Communities List, which is not identified as a sensitive natural community.

The onsite riparian habitat is quite variable. At its point of origin just upslope of the site boundary, the spring is in a heavily shaded forest. Wetland plants present

include tiger lilies, common camas, and various sedges. The middle section of the feature is more open and is dominated by willows and Douglas' spiraea, with cut-leaf blackberry and other species on the margins. The lower section of the feature is characterized by Baltic rush, sedges, western buttercup, and other herbaceous species, although willows are also present. Given its variable composition, the feature cannot be assigned to a California natural community, but all wetlands are typically considered as sensitive communities. The wetland itself is a perennial, or near perennial, spring-fed feature, approximately 0.22 acres in size.

A constructed roadside ditch is present in the Bucks Lake Road right-of-way adjacent to the project site. Three culverts are present in the ditch, with two serving the dental clinic and one at the eastern edge of the site where Appy Lane joined Bucks Lake Road. The ditch does not appear to receive flow from the wetland, does not meet wetland criteria, and does not support sensitive biological resources. The constructed ditch totals approximately 0.03 acres.

The disturbed dry meadow is located on both sides of the wetland, downslope of the mixed conifer forest, and may have supported forest habitat prior to clearing and historical on-site development. The habitat is very open and weedy between the wetland and dental clinic. The western portion of the dry meadow supports a dense stand of sickle-keeled lupine, along with downy brome, ox-eye daisy, yarrow, and numerous other annual and perennial herbs and grasses. The habitat is not "natural" and does not correspond well to any of the communities on the California Natural Communities List. The disturbed dry meadow habitat is not a sensitive natural community.

Project implementation would result in disturbance or complete removal of the mixed conifer and dry meadow communities; the wetland community would be fully avoided. Because neither of the affected communities is considered sensitive by CDFW, effects of the project with respect to natural communities would be less than significant. Nonetheless, a Timberland Conversion Permit (or less-than-three-acre exemption) from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection may be required.

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Figure 2
Project Site

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5. SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES

5.1. Special-Status Plant Species

Review of the USFWS species list (see **Appendix C**) for the project area did not identify any federally listed plant species as potentially being present in the project area. The project site does not contain designated critical habitat for federally listed plant species (USFWS, 2021).

Review of CNDDB records (**Table 1, Appendix C**) showed that one special-status plant species, Webber's ivesia, has been broadly mapped to encompass the project site. However, the occurrence was reported in 1886 and the specific location is unknown. According to Nakamura and Kierstead Nelson (2001), the historic lower-elevation populations of Webber's ivesia near Quincy and Greenville are no longer expected to exist.

CNDDB records show that 12 other special-status plants have been reported within a five-mile radius of the study area: brownish beaked-rush, Caribou coffeeberry, Constance's rockcress, flat-leaved bladderwort, Follett's monardella, hairy marsh hedge-nettle, northern coralroot, Plumas rayless daisy, pointed broom sedge, sticky pyrrocoma, tall alpine-aster, and watershield. One non-status plant, Quincy lupine, has also been reported within the five-mile radius (CDFW, 2021). The CNPS Inventory (**Table 2, Appendix C**) identifies one additional special-status plant species: Canyon Creek stonecrop, and ten additional non-status plants: California lady's-slipper, California pitcherplant, clustered lady's slipper, Fresno ceanothus, Geyser's sedge, marsh claytonia, mountain lady's slipper, narrow-petaled rein orchid, northern Sierra daisy, and True's manzanita, within the Quincy quadrangle (CNPS, 2021).

The potential for each special-status plant species to occur in the project site is evaluated in **Table 3** of **Appendix C**. No special-status plant species were observed during the botanical field survey, nor are any expected to be present. A list of plant species observed during the botanical survey is provided in **Appendix D**.

5.2. Special-Status Wildlife Species

Review of the USFWS species list for the project area (see **Appendix C**) identified the following federally listed animal species as potentially being present in the

project area: California red-legged frog, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, and Delta smelt. The USFWS does not identify any designated critical habitat in the study area for any federally listed animal species (USFWS, 2021).

Review of CNDDB records showed that three special-status animal species have been broadly mapped to encompass the project site: American badger, foothill yellow-legged frog, and yellow rail. An American badger was collected in the Quincy area in 1898 (the specimen is housed at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History); foothill yellow-legged frogs were reported on two occasions, in 1995 and 2001, in a tributary to South Fork Rock Creek; and yellow rails were reported on two occasions, in 1889 and 1894, in the vicinity of Quincy. Twelve other special-status animals have been reported within a five-mile radius of the study area: bald eagle, bank swallow, California wolverine, greater sandhill crane, northern goshawk, pallid bat, Sierra Nevada mountain-beaver, Sierra Nevada red fox, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, southern long-toed salamander, Townsend's big-eared bat, and western bumble bee. Five non-status animals have been reported in the search radius: fringed myotis, long-legged myotis, North American porcupine, osprey, and western pearlshell (CDFW, 2021).

The potential for each of the above special-status animal species to occur in the study area is further evaluated in **Table 3** of **Appendix C**. As documented in **Table 3**, potentially suitable habitat is present in and adjacent to the project area for the western bumble bee, Townsend's big-eared bat, and pallid bat.

Western Bumble Bee

The western bumble bee was formerly found throughout much of California, but is now mostly restricted to high-elevation sites in the Sierra Nevada, with some observations along the northern California coast (Xerces Society *et al.,* 2018). The species may be found in open grassy areas and mountain meadows with abundant floral resources. Residential gardens and urban parks may also provide valuable floral resources, and may serve as important habitat refuges for the bumble bees. The plants that are most commonly associated with the western bumble bee in California include *Cirsium, Erigonum, Solidago, Aster, Ceanothus, Centaurea,* and *Penstemon*. The species is also associated with *Chrysothamnus, Geranium, Grindellia, Lupinus, Melilotus, Monardella, Rubus,* and *Trifolium* (Williams *et al.,* 2014). The western

bumble bee requires plants that bloom and provide adequate nectar and pollen throughout the colony's flight period from as early as February to late November (CDFW, 2019).

Nests are primarily in underground cavities such as in old animal burrows on open west-southwest slopes bordered by trees. The species may also be able to nest aboveground, such as in log cavities.

According to CNDDB records, the western bumble bee was reported approximately one mile east of the project site in 2013 and 2014. The bees were observed at the Quincy Natural Foods Store on Main Street, which has a small garden with lavender and/or other floral resources.

The western bumble bee is not expected to nest on the project site, given that the site slopes primarily to the north and north-northeast. However, the site may be used for foraging, and supports numerous lupines and ceanothus, as well as some *Centaurea*, *Trifolium*, *Rubus*, and other plants that may be used by foraging western bumble bees. Potential impacts of the proposed project on the western bumble bee are not considered significant because nesting habitat would not be affected, and similarly suitable foraging habitat is widely available in the area. No mitigation is proposed.

Bats

Townsend's big-eared bats and pallid bast have some potential to forage and roost in the project area. According to CNDDB records, both species have been reported approximately one-half mile northeast of the project site.

Townsend's big-eared bats are distributed throughout California except for subalpine and alpine habitats. This species prefers mesic habitats and uses caves, mines, tunnels, and buildings as day roosts and maternity roosts. Maternity roosts are generally less than 100 individuals (Ziener, 1990). Pallid bats may be found throughout California except at high elevations. They are most commonly found in open, dry habitats, and use caves, mines, rock crevices, and occasionally in hollow trees and buildings, as day roosts and maternity roosts. Night roosts are generally in more open sites, such as porches and open buildings. This species is colonial and can be found in groups of a dozen to 100 individuals (Ziener, 1990).

During the field evaluation, bat guano was observed on and under the eaves of the small plywood shed behind the dental clinic building. The proposed project has the potential to adversely affect Townsend's big-eared bats and pallid bats through the removal of potential roost sites, particularly those used by maternity colonies. Recommended mitigation measures to minimize effects on bats are outlined in Section 8 below.

6. NESTING MIGRATORY BIRDS

Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, migratory bird species, their nests, and their eggs are protected from injury or death, and any project-related disturbances during the nesting period. In addition, California Fish and Game Code §3503 and §3503.5 provide regulatory protection to resident and migratory birds and all birds of prey within the State.

Despite the close proximity to Buck Lake Road, the vegetative structure of the project area is relatively natural, with an overstory of large trees, a diverse shrub layer, and openings with herbaceous cover. Although no special-status bird species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, given the habitat characteristics, many non-status bird species are expected to be present and may nest in the project vicinity. Project construction has some potential to directly affect nesting birds due to vegetation removal, and could also indirectly affect nesting birds. Indirect effects such as nest abandonment by adults could occur in response to loud noise levels and other human-induced disturbances during construction. Section 8 of this document outlines recommended mitigation measure to reduce or eliminate direct and indirect effects on nesting birds.

7. NOXIOUS WEEDS

The introduction and spread of noxious weeds during construction activities has the potential to impact natural habitats in surrounding areas. A number of invasive weeds (Cal-IPC, 2021) were observed in the project area during the field survey, including Klamath weed, perennial sweet pea, English plantain, soft chess, and Kentucky bluegrass. These could be exported to other areas and/or other noxious weeds could be imported into the project area by unwashed construction vehicles.

Mitigation measures are recommended in Section 8 below to reduce or eliminate the potential to spread noxious weeds.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1. Conclusions

Based on the records search results, field observations of the study area, and the above analyses, we make the following findings:

- A riparian scrub wetland is present on the project site; the wetland is a sensitive natural community. Current plans call for full avoidance of the wetland. Potential indirect effects on the wetland would be avoided by implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, which would specify site-specific measures to reduce erosion and minimize the potential for spills of hazardous materials. If future on- site activities affect the wetland, resource-agency permits may be needed.

- No special-status plant species would be directly or indirectly affected by project implementation.

- With the possible exception of bats, project implementation has no potential for significant adverse impacts to special-status wildlife species. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 1 would avoid the potential for adverse effects to special-status bat species.

- The project site has a moderate potential to support nesting birds. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 2 would ensure that nesting birds are not adversely affected.

- The project has a moderate potential to result in the introduction and/or spread of noxious weeds. Implementation of Mitigation Measure 3 would adequately minimize the potential impact.

8.2. Recommended Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure 1. Avoid Impacts to Roosting Bats. In order to avoid impacts to the pallid bat and Townsend's big-eared bat, the following shall be implemented:

a. A qualified bat biologist[1] shall conduct a survey to identify the presence or absence of bats in the onsite buildings (dental clinic and shed) prior to demolition. If bats are present, CDFW shall be notified and appropriate

[1] A qualified bat biologist is one who holds a current scientific collecting permit for bats, issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

steps for humane eviction of the bats shall be implemented by the qualified bat biologist.

b. Trees greater than 12 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) shall be removed using a two-step process to allow bats the opportunity to abandon the roost prior to removal. The two-step removal process shall be as follows:

- Day 1: Remove small-diameter trees, brush, and non-habitat features of large trees (branches without cavities, crevices, or exfoliating bark), using chainsaws for cutting, and chippers wherever possible to cause a level of noise and vibration disturbance sufficient to cause bats to choose not to return to the tree for a few days after they emerge to forage.

- Day 2: Remove the remainder of the trimmed tree.

Tree removal shall occur only during the following time frames and subject to the following weather conditions, or as otherwise approved/ recommended by a qualified bat biologist:

- Between March 1 (or after evening temperatures rise above 45ºF, and/or no more than ½" of rainfall within 24 hours occurs), and April 15; and

- Between September 1 and October 15 (or before evening temperatures fall below 45ºF, and/or more than ½" of rainfall within 24 hours occurs).

Mitigation Measure 2. Avoid Impacts to Nesting Birds. In order to avoid impacts to nesting birds and/or raptors protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code §3503 and §3503.5, including their nests and eggs, one of the following shall be implemented:

a. Vegetation removal and other ground-disturbance activities associated with construction shall occur between September 1 and January 31 when birds are not nesting; or

b. If vegetation removal or ground disturbance activities occur during the nesting season, a pre-construction nesting survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to identify active nests in and adjacent to the work area.

The survey shall take into account acoustic impacts and line-of-sight disturbances occurring as a result of the project in order to determine a sufficient survey radius to avoid nesting birds.

At a minimum, the survey report shall include a description of the area surveyed, date and time of the survey, ambient conditions, bird species observed in the area, a description of any active nests observed, any evidence of breeding behaviors (e.g., courtship, carrying nest materials or food, etc.), and a description of any outstanding conditions that may have impacted the survey results (e.g., weather conditions, excess noise, the presence of predators, etc.).

The results of the survey shall be submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife upon completion. The survey shall be conducted no more than one week prior to the initiation of construction. If construction activities are delayed or suspended for more than one week after the pre-construction survey, the site shall be resurveyed.

If active nests are found, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be consulted regarding appropriate action to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code §3503. Compliance measures may include, but are not limited to, exclusion buffers, sound-attenuation measures, seasonal work closures based on the known biology and life history of the species identified in the survey, as well as ongoing monitoring by biologists.

Mitigation Measure 3. Minimize the Potential for Introduction and Spread of Noxious Weeds. The following measures shall be implemented to minimize the potential for the introduction and spread of noxious weeds:

a. Use only certified weed-free erosion control materials, mulch, and seed.
b. Limit any import or export of fill material to material that is known to be weed free.
c. The construction contractor shall thoroughly wash all equipment at a commercial wash facility prior to entering and upon leaving the work site.

9. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

RESUMES

Donald Burk, Environmental Services Manager

Allison Loveless, Wildlife Biologist

DONALD M. BURK

Environmental Services Manager

Education

M.S. Botany
California State University, Chico

B.A. Chemistry and Biological Sciences
California State University, Chico

Professional Affiliations and Certifications

Society of Wetland Scientists
California Botanical Society
California Native Plant Society
Association of Environmental Professionals

Donald Burk has an in-depth background in a broad spectrum of environmental studies. His academic background includes graduate studies in environmental analysis methodology, biological sciences, and community planning. He has continued his professional development through completion of specialized courses in wetland delineation; wetland impacts and mitigations; vernal pool restoration and creation; noise assessments; Surface Mining and Reclamation Act regulations; erosion control practices; and hazardous materials evaluation and remediation. As environmental services manager with ENPLAN, Mr. Burk is instrumental in the preparation of environmental documents such as site assessment reports, environmental impact reports, biological studies, and noise evaluations. His responsibilities include project team management, key decision-making, coordination with applicable agencies, and final review of environmental documents. Having worked in the environmental consulting field since 1981, Mr. Burk has the skills and experience to manage studies to achieve reliable data and concise, effective documentation in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

While attending CSU, Chico, Mr. Burk was recognized as “Outstanding Organic Chemist of the Year,” received an award of merit from the American Botanical Society, and delivered the valedictory address for the School of Natural Sciences. His Master’s thesis was granted the first annual “Outstanding Thesis Award” by CSU, Chico.

Representative Experience

- *CEQA/NEPA Compliance.* Prepared environmental impact reports, environmental impact statements, and other environmental compliance documentation for a multitude of projects, including 516- and 1,244-acre industrial parks; public facilities projects including several sewage treatment plants, a 90-foot-high earthen dam and 15-acre reservoir, a 6-mile-long, 8-lane roadway, other new road corridors, and water supply projects; shopping centers and highway commercial developments; a 10,000-seat church; a 475-acre recreation ranch; ski areas; a softball park; four new schools; a 1-million cubic yard reservoir dredging project; numerous residential developments and many other projects.

- *Environmental Site Assessments.* Managed preparation of Phase I, II and III site investigations for a number of commercial and industrial facilities. Investigations have addressed wood-products manufacturing facilities, a major clothing manufacturing operation, dry cleaners, a medical clinic, ranches, a regional transmission transformer site, automotive shops and service stations, abandoned sewage treatment ponds, office buildings, shopping centers, and other uses.
- *Biological Studies.* Managed preparation of technical field studies, including wildlife and botanical studies for a 1,016-acre site in Sacramento County; fisheries, aquatic macroinvertebrate, and riparian vegetation studies for a 38-mile reach of the North Fork Feather River; botanical surveys for 175-mile and 265-mile underground telephone cable corridors; botanical surveys for over 2,400 acres on Mount Shasta proposed for ski area development; biological surveys for a 200-acre park site; spotted owl surveys; vernal pool fairy/tadpole shrimp and valley elderberry longhorn beetle assessments; and numerous other projects.
- *Wetland Delineations.* Managed preparation of wetland delineations and/or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit applications for a 1,016-acre site east of Sacramento, a 200-acre site in north Redding, a 580-acre site in the City of Weed, a 100-acre site near the Redding Municipal Airport, a transmission corridor project in east Redding, a 78-acre industrial parcel in the City of Benicia, and many other parcels throughout northern California.
- *Noise Studies.* Prepared noise studies for a variety of projects, including numerous traffic corridors; large industrial facilities such as a co-generation plant, food processing plant, and a regional scrap metal recycling facility; recreation facilities such as a new ski area and a community sports complex; many new residential developments; schools; and other facilities. Testified as an expert witness in a court case involving noise generated by electric- and diesel-powered water well pumps.
- *Reclamation Plans/Stream Restoration Projects.* Prepared mine reclamation plans and/or technical studies for projects including an aggregate pit adjacent to Cow Creek in Shasta County, a pumice quarry in Napa County, and underground gold mines in Shasta and Trinity Counties. Managed preparation of a stream restoration project for a reach of the Susan River, which involved hydraulic analysis, preparation of an earth-work plan, supervision of all on-site construction activities, preparation of a revegetation/erosion control plan and supervision of its implementation, and preparation of a monitoring program. Developed a plan, and obtained all agency approvals, for creation of 10 acres of riparian forest habitat along the Sacramento River to mitigate losses on a nearby parcel.

Publications

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ALLISON LOVELESS

Environmental Scientist/Wildlife Biologist

Education

M.S. Zoology
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater

B.S. Geography (Environmental Studies)
University of California, Los Angeles

Prior to her career in the environmental services sector, Allison Loveless conducted field surveys for listed plants species with Sierra Pacific Industries, conducted morphological and geospatial research on mammals while at Oklahoma State University, and participated in genetic research on gray wolves during an internship with the Wyoming Fish and Game Wildlife Forensic Laboratory. Additionally, Allison has experience conducting genetic and morphological based research on isolated reptile and amphibian species, and in developing range predictions and assessments using both field and environmental modeling techniques.

Allison now has over three years of experience working in environmental services throughout northern California. Her projects have included biological studies such as endangered species surveys and nesting bird surveys, delivering on-site environmental trainings and monitoring, as well as delivering products by preparation of technical environmental documents including environmental impact reports, biological study reports, wetland delineations, biological assessments, and figure and map creation.

Representative Experience

- *Biological Studies*. Experience conducting habitat assessments, general wildlife surveys with an emphasis on species of concern, and pre-construction nesting bird surveys.
- *Wildlife Surveys.* Performed habitat assessments and general wildlife surveys, with an emphasis on species of concern. Such work has typically included pre-field review of available records including the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service IPAC reports, and other available data sources.
- *Wetland Studies*. Performed wetland delineations and report preparation in compliance with the standards as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- *GIS Mapping and Data Collection*. Skilled field data collection using GPS and Trimble units, map construction, managing, querying, and analyzing data within ArcGIS.
- *CEQA/NEPA Documentation*. Responsible for drafting environmental compliance documentation including biological study reports, natural environment studies, and biological sections of environmental impact reports and environmental impact statements.

Publications

Loveless, A.M. and K. McBee. 2017. *Nyctimene robinsoni* (Chiroptera: Pteropodidae). Mammalian Species 49 (949): 68-75.

Loveless, A.M., M. Papeş, D.M. Reding, and P.M. Kapfer. 2016. *Combining ecological niche modeling and morphology to assess the range-wide population genetic structure of bobcats (Lynx rufus).* The Biological Journal of the Linnean Society 117: 842-857.

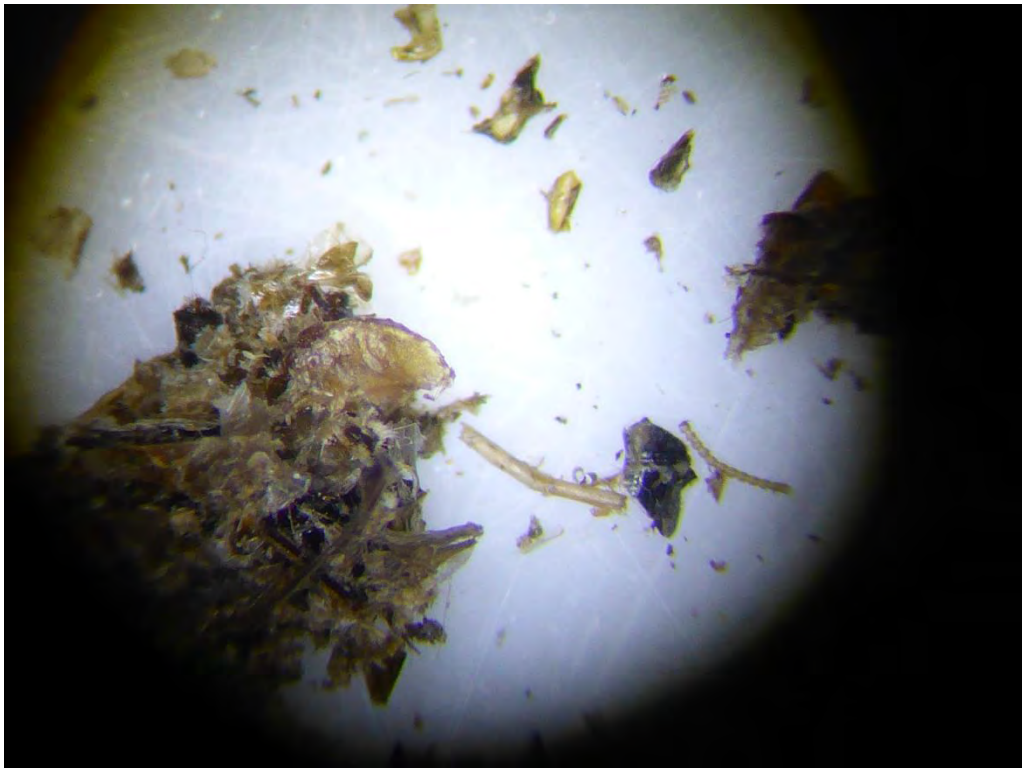
APPENDIX B

REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS

Dental clinic building, view to south

Storage containers behind dental clinic building, view to west

Shed behind dental clinic building, with bat guano staining near roof peak



Insect parts in crushed bat guano

Roadside ditch parallel to Bucks Lake Road with site access road in foreground, view to east

Apple trees to left of center, dry meadow to right, with mixed conifer forest behind, view to south

Dense small-diameter trees along southern property line

Wetland near spring discharge

Wetland near its midpoint, view to north

Bumble bee on sickle-keeled lupine, with full pollen baskets (corbiculae) on hind legs

APPENDIX C

SPECIES LISTS AND POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service List of Threatened and Endangered Species

Table 1. CNDDB Report Summary

Table 2: California Native Plant Society Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

Table 3. Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-1451
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2021-E-04226
Project Name: Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

April 05, 2021

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

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

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to

utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

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

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

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

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

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office
Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-1451
Event Code: 08ESMF00-2021-E-04226
Project Name: Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility
Project Type: DEVELOPMENT
Project Description: Hospital Facility
Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@39.93873205,-120.96236770323861,14z

Counties: Plumas County, California

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog *Rana draytonii* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891	Threatened
Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog *Rana sierrae* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9529	Endangered

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt *Hypomesus transpacificus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

TABLE 1
CNDDB Report Summary

Five-Mile Radius of Project Area
April 2021

Listed Element	Quadrangle [1]					Status [2]
	CM	MV	OV	QU	SG	
ANIMALS						
American badger				•		SSC
Bald eagle				•		FD, SE, SFP
Bank swallow				•		ST
California wolverine		•				FPT, ST, SFP
Foothill yellow-legged frog		•		•		SE, SSSC
Fringed myotis				•		None
Greater sandhill crane				•		FT, SFP
Long-legged myotis	•			•		None
North American porcupine		•		•		None
Northern goshawk	•			•		SSSC
Osprey		•				None
Pallid bat				•		SSSC
Sierra Nevada mountain-beaver		•				SSSC
Sierra Nevada red fox				•		FPE, ST
Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog		•	•			FE, ST
Southern long-toed salamander		•		•		SSSC
Townsend's big-eared bat		•		•		SSSC
Western bumble bee		•		•		SCE
Western pearlshell				•		None
Yellow rail				•		SSSC
PLANTS						
Brownish beaked-rush		•		•		2B.2
Caribou coffeeberry		•		•		1B.2
Constance's rockcress		•	•	•		1B.1
Flat-leaved bladderwort		•				2B.2
Follett's monardella		•	•	•		1B.2
Hairy marsh hedge-nettle		•				2B.3
Northern coralroot		•				2B.1
Plumas rayless daisy		•	•			1B.3
Pointed broom sedge		•				2A
Quincy lupine		•		•	•	4.2
Sticky pyrrocoma				•		1B.2
Tall alpine-aster		•		•		1B.2
Watershield		•				2B.3
Webber's ivesia				•		1B.1
NATURAL COMMUNITIES						
Darlingtonia Seep	•					None

Highlighting denotes the quadrangle in which the project site is located

[1]QUADRANGLE CODE

CM	Crescent Mills	OV	Onion Valley	SG	Spring Garden
MV	Meadow Valley	QU	Quincy		

[2]STATUS CODES

Federal

FE	Federally Listed – Endangered
FT	Federally Listed – Threatened
FC	Federal Candidate Species
FP	Federal Proposed Species
FD	Federally Delisted
FSC	Federal Species of Concern

State

SFP	State Fully Protected
SR	State Rare
SE	State Listed – Endangered
ST	State Listed – Threatened
SC	State Candidate Species
SD	State Delisted
SSSC	State Species of Special Concern

Rare Plant Rank

1A	Plants Presumed Extinct in California
1B	Plants Rare, Threatened or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
2	Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere
3	Plants About Which We Need More Information *(A Review List)* (generally not considered special-status, unless unusual circumstances warrant)
4	Plants of Limited Distribution *(A Watch List)* (generally not considered special-status, unless unusual circumstances warrant)

Rare Plant Threat Ranks

0.1 Seriously Threatened in California
0.2 Fairly Threatened in California
0.3 Not Very Threatened in California

TABLE 2

California Native Plant Society

Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California

USGS Quincy 7.5-Minute Quadrangle

July 2021

Common Name	Scientific Name	California Rare Plant Rank	State Status	Federal Status	Blooming Period
brownish beaked-rush	*Rhynchospora capitellata*	2B.2	None	None	Jul-Aug
California lady's-slipper	*Cypripedium californicum*	4.2	None	None	Apr-Aug (Sep)
California pitcherplant	*Darlingtonia californica*	4.2	None	None	Apr-Aug
Canyon Creek stonecrop	*Sedum paradisum ssp. paradisum*	1B.3	None	None	May-Jun
Caribou coffeeberry	*Frangula purshiana ssp. ultramafica*	1B.2	None	None	May-Jul
clustered lady's-slipper	*Cypripedium fasciculatum*	4.2	None	None	Mar-Aug
Constance's rockcress	*Boechera constancei*	1B.1	None	None	May-Jul
Follett's monardella	*Monardella follettii*	1B.2	None	None	Jun-Sep
Fresno ceanothus	*Ceanothus fresnensis*	4.3	None	None	(Apr) May-Jul
Geyer's sedge	*Carex geyeri*	4.2	None	None	May-Aug
hairy marsh hedge-nettle	*Stachys pilosa*	2B.3	None	None	Jun-Aug
marsh claytonia	*Claytonia palustris*	4.3	None	None	May-Oct
mountain lady's-slipper	*Cypripedium montanum*	4.2	None	None	Mar-Aug
narrow-petaled rein orchid	*Piperia leptopetala*	4.3	None	None	May-Jul
northern Sierra daisy	*Erigeron petrophilus var. sierrensis*	4.3	None	None	Jun-Oct
Plumas rayless daisy	*Erigeron lassenianus var. deficiens*	1B.3	None	None	Jun-Sep
pointed broom sedge	*Carex scoparia var. scoparia*	2B.2	None	None	Jul-Sep
Quincy lupine	*Lupinus dalesiae*	4.2	None	None	May-Aug
sticky pyrrocoma	*Pyrrocoma lucida*	1B.2	None	None	Jul-Oct
tall alpine-aster	*Oreostemma elatum*	1B.2	None	None	Jun-Aug
True's manzanita	*Arctostaphylos mewukka ssp. truei*	4.2	None	None	Feb-Jul
watershield	*Brasenia schreberi*	2B.3	None	None	Jun-Sep
Webber's ivesia	*Ivesia webberi*	1B.1	None	FT	May-Jul

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
PLANTS							
Brownish-beaked rush	*Rhynchospora capitellata*	2B.2	Brownish-beaked rush occurs in lower/upper montane coniferous forest, meadows, seeps, marshes, and swamps. The species is reported between 1,500 and 6,600 feet in elevation. The flowering period is July and August.	Yes	No	No	Although potentially suitable habitat is present on the site, brownish-beaked rush was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Canyon Creek stonecrop	*Sedum paradisum* ssp. *paradisum*	1B.3	Canyon Creek stonecrop is an herbaceous perennial that occurs on rock faces and in crevices of exposed granite within a variety of habitats between 2,700 feet and 6,200 feet in elevation. The flowering period is May and June.	No	No	No	No rock faces or exposed granite are present in the study area. Canyon Creek stonecrop was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Caribou coffeeberry	*Frangula purshiana* ssp. *ultramafica*	1B.2	Caribou coffeeberry occurs on serpentine soils in lower montane coniferous forest, chaparral, meadows, and seeps. The species is reported between 2,300 and 6,000 feet in elevation. The flowering period is April through June.	No	No	No	No serpentine soils are present on the site. Caribou coffeeberry was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Constance's rockcress	*Boechera constancei*	1B.1	Constance's rockcress, a perennial herb, occurs on rocky, serpentine soils in chaparral and montane coniferous forests. The species is reported between feet 3,200 and 6,700 feet in elevation. The flowering period is May through July.	No	No	No	No serpentine substrates are present on the site. Constance's rockcress was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Flat-leaved bladderwort	*Utricularia intermedia*	2B.2	Flat-leaved bladderwort occurs in bogs, fens, meadows, seeps, marshes, and swamps. The species is reported between 3,900 and 8,900 feet in elevation. The flowering period is July and August.	Yes	No	No	Although potentially suitable habitat is present on the site, flat-leaved bladderwort was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Follett's monardella	*Monardella folletti*	1B.2	Follett's monardella can be found on serpentine substrates in open mixed-conifer forests, sometimes on steep, rocky slopes, at elevations from 4,200 feet to 6,300 feet. The species blooms in July.	No	No	No	No serpentine substrates are present on the project site. Follett's monardella was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
Hairy marsh hedge-nettle	*Stachys pilosa*	2B.3	Hairy marsh hedge-nettle occurs in meadows and seeps, and in Great Basin scrub between 3,900 and 5,000 feet in elevation. The flowering period is June through August.	Yes	No	No	Although potentially suitable habitat is present on the site, hairy marsh hedge-nettle was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Northern coralroot	*Corallorhiza trifida*	2B.1	Northern coralroot, a perennial rhizomatous herb, occurs in association with meadows and seeps in lower montane coniferous forests. The species is reported between 4,500 and 5,800 feet in elevation. The flowering period is June and July.	No	No	No	Northern coralroot occurs at a substantially higher elevation than the project site. The species was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Plumas rayless daisy	*Erigeron lassenianus* var. *deficiens*	1B.3	Plumas rayless daisy occurs on open, rocky sites, barren flats, gravelly soils, and sometimes serpentine habitats. The species is reported between 4,000 and 6,200 feet in elevation. The flowering period is June through September.	No	No	No	Plumas rayless daisy was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Pointed broom sedge	*Carex scoparia* var. *scoparia*	2A	Pointed broom sedge is a perennial herb that occurs in marshes and wet meadows. The species is reported from 400 to 3,300 feet in elevation. The flowering period is May.	Yes	No	No	Pointed broom sedge was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Sticky pyrrocoma	*Pyrrocoma lucida*	1B.2	Sticky pyrrocoma occurs in meadows and alkali flats, usually on volcanic or mixed alluvial soils. The species is reported to occur between 1,900 and 6,400 feet in elevation. The flowering period is July and August.	Yes	No	No	Although marginally suitable habitat is present on the site, sticky pyrrocoma was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Tall alpine-aster	*Oreostemma elatum*	1B.2	Tall alpine-aster, a perennial herb, occurs in bogs, fens, meadows, and seeps in upper montane coniferous forests. The species is reported between 3,300 and 6,900 feet in elevation. The flowering period is June and July.	No	No	No	Tall alpine-aster was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
Watershield	*Brasenia schreberi*	2B.3	Watershield, a perennial rhizomatous herb, occurs in marshes and swamps. The species is reported between sea level and 7,300 feet in elevation. The flowering period is June through September.	No	No	No	Watershield was not observed during the botanical survey and is not expected to be present.
Webber's ivesia	*Ivesia webberi*	1B.1	Webber's ivesia, a perennial herb, is associated with an open, sparsely vegetated plant community on vernally moist volcanic derived soils with a high clay content. These habitats occur as inclusions within Great Basin scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and lower montane coniferous forest. The species is reported between 3,300 and 6,800 feet in elevation. The flowering period is May through July.	No	No	No	Although Webber's ivesia has been recorded by CNDDB as occurring in the vicinity of the project area, there is no suitable habitat on the project site. Additionally, this species was not observed during protocol-level botanical survey and is therefore not expected to be present.
INVERTEBRATES							
Western bumble bee	*Bombus occidentalis*	SCE	Western bumble bees are found in meadows and grasslands with abundant floral resources. In California, the species is largely confined to high-elevation sites in the Sierra Nevada and scattered sites on the coast. The flight period is generally from early February to late November. Nests are primarily in underground cavities on open west-southwest slopes bordered by trees, although a few aboveground nests have been reported. Very little is known about overwintering site; however, the species has been reported in overwintering sites that were two inches deep in a "steep west slope of the mound of earth."	Yes	No	Pot.	According to CNDDB the nearest sighting of western bumble bee is approximately one mile east of the project site. The project site provides suitable foraging habitat for the western bumble bee. Although the western bumble bee may forage on the site, it is not expected to nest on the site.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
BIRDS							
Bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	FD, SE, SFP	Bald eagles nest in large, old-growth trees or snags in mixed stands near open bodies of water. Adults tend to use the same breeding areas year after year and often use the same nest, though a breeding area may include one or more alternate nests. Bald eagles do not usually begin nesting if human disturbance is evident. In California, the bald eagle nesting season is from February through July.	No	No	No	No old-growth forest or potentially suitable nesting trees/snags near open bodies of water are present in the project site. No bald eagles or eagle nests were observed during the field survey. Thus, bald eagles are not expected to nest on the project site.
Bank swallow	*Riparia riparia*	ST	Bank swallows require vertical banks and cliffs with fine-textured or sandy soils near streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, or the ocean for nesting.	No	No	No	No vertical cliffs or banks are present on the project site to provide nesting habitat for the bank swallow. Therefore, this species is not expected to be present.
Northern goshawk	*Accipiter gentilis*	SSSC	Northern goshawks generally nest on north-facing slopes near water in old-growth coniferous and deciduous forests. Goshawks re-use old nests and maintain alternate nest sites.	No	No	No	Neither old-growth forest nor a large water feature is present on or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, this species is not expected to nest in the project vicinity.
Greater sandhill crane	*Antigone canadensis tabida*	FT, SFP	Greater sandhill cranes nest in wetland habitats near grain fields in northeastern California. Nests generally consist of large mounds of vegetation in shallow water. Shallow islands bordered by tules and cattails are ideal nesting sites; natural hummocks or muskrat houses may also be used as nest sites.	No	No	No	Suitable habitat for the greater sandhill crane does not occur on the project site, therefore this species is not expected to be present.
Yellow rail	*Coturnicops noveboracensis*	SSSC	In summer, yellow rails inhabit shallow marshes and large wet meadows dominated by sedges and grasses. In winter, they inhabit coastal salt marsh, especially drier areas with dense stands of spartina. The yellow rail is one of the most secretive birds in North America.	No	No	No	According to CNDDB, yellow rails were observed in Quincy prior to1900. The species is not currently known to breed in the area, and no suitable nesting habitat is present on the project site. The species would not be present.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
AMPHIBIANS							
California red-legged frog	*Rana draytonii*	FT	Suitable aquatic habitat for the California red-legged frog (CRLF) consists of permanent water bodies of virtually still or slow-moving fresh water, including natural and man-made ponds, backwaters within streams and creeks, marshes, lagoons, and dune ponds. The CRLF is not characteristically found in deep lacustrine habitats (e.g., deep lakes and reservoirs). Dense, shrubby riparian vegetation, e.g., willow (Salix) and bulrush (Scirpus) species, and bank overhangs are important features of CRLF breeding habitat. The CRLF tends to occur in greater numbers in deeper, cooler pools with dense emergent and shoreline vegetation.	No	No	No	According to CalHerps (http://www.californiaherps.com/frogs/pages/r.draytonii.html), the project area is outside the historical range of the California red-legged frog. In any case, this frog is primarily a pond species, and no suitable breeding habitat is present on or adjacent to the site.
Foothill yellow-legged frog	*Rana boylii*	SE, SSSC	Foothill yellow-legged frogs are typically found in shallow, partly shaded, perennial streams in areas with riffles and rocky substrates. This frog needs at least some cobble-sized substrate for egg-laying. Foothill yellow-legged frogs generally prefer low- to moderate-gradient streams, especially for breeding and egg-laying, although juvenile and adult frogs may utilize moderate- to steep-gradient streams during summer and early fall.	No	No	No	No suitable habitat for the foothill yellow-legged frog is present on the project site. Therefore, this species is not expected to occur within the proposed project area.
Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog	*Rana sierrae*	FE, ST	The Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog associates with perennial streams, lakes, ponds, and wet meadows between 4,500 and 12,000 feet above sea level along the western slope of the Sierra Nevada. Populations are reported from Fresno County north to Plumas County.	No	No	No	No suitable habitat for the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog occurs on the project site. Therefore, this species is not expected to be present.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
Southern long-toed salamander	*Ambystoma macrodactylum sigillatum*	SSSC	The southern long-toed salamander generally inhabits alpine meadows, and high-mountain ponds and lakes, where it is found under bark, rocks, and rotting woodpiles as well as in the quiet water of streams, ponds, and lakes. It ranges from south-eastern Alaska south to northern California, and from the Pacific coast east to north-central Idaho and western Montana.	No	No	No	Suitable habitat for the southern long-toed salamander is not present in the project area, thus this species is not expected to occur.
FISH							
Delta smelt	*Hypomesus transpacificus*	FT	Delta smelt primarily inhabit the brackish waters of Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Most spawning occurs in backwater sloughs and channel edgewaters.	No	No	No	The project site is outside of the known range of this species and no suitable habitat occurs in the project site for Delta smelt. The Delta smelt would thus not be present.
MAMMALS							
American badger	*Taxidea taxus*	SSSC	Badgers are most commonly found in dry, open areas in shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Badgers dig burrows in dry, sandy soil, usually in areas with sparse overstory.	No	No	No	Although badgers may occur throughout most of California, they generally avoid urban areas. No badger burrows were observed on the project site and the species is not expected to be present.
California wolverine	*Gulo gulo*	SPT, ST, SFP	Wolverines associate with high mountains, near the tree-line, where conditions are cold year-round and snow cover persists well into May. Females use birthing dens that are excavated in persistent, stable snowpacks greater than 1.5 meters deep. Birthing dens consist of tunnels with runways and bed sites and may naturally incorporate shrubs, rocks, and downed logs as part of their structure. Birthing dens may occur on rocky sites, such as north-facing boulder talus or subalpine cirques. Wolverines are very sensitive to human activities and often abandon den sites in response to human disturbance.	No	No	No	No suitable habitat for the California wolverine is present in the project area, therefore this species is not expected to occur.

TABLE 3

Potential for Special-Status Species to Occur on the Project Site

July 2021

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS [1]	GENERAL HABITAT DESCRIPTION	HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	CRITICAL HABITAT PRESENT (Y/N)	SPECIES PRESENT (Y/N/POT.)	RATIONALE/COMMENTS
Pallid bat	*Antrozous pallidus*	SSSC	Pallid bats inhabit grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests, but are most common in open, dry habitats. Day roosts include caves, rock crevices, mines, and occasionally trees and buildings. Buildings are often used for night roosting. The breeding period is October through February, and pups are born between April and July.	Yes	No	Pot.	The trees and existing buildings on the proposed project site provide suitable roosting habitat for the pallid bat. The nearest occurrence recorded in the CNDDB is approximately 0.5 miles northeast. There is moderate potential for this species to use the project site as roosting habitat.
Sierra Nevada mountain-beaver	*Aplodontia rufa californica*	SSSC	The Sierra Nevada mountain-beaver, a subspecies of the mountain-beaver, is found primarily in montane riparian habitats in the Sierra Nevada. Burrows are located in deep, friable soils shrouded by dense thickets of riparian vegetation near a stream or spring.	No	No	No	Suitable habitat for the Sierra Nevada mountain-beaver is not present on the proposed project site. Therefore, there this species would not occur on the site.
Sierra Nevada red fox	*Vulpes vulpes necator*	FPE, ST	The Sierra Nevada red fox inhabits remote mountainous areas where encounters with humans are rare. Preferred habitat appears to be red fir and lodgepole pine forests in the subalpine and alpine zones of the Sierra Nevada. This species may hunt in forest openings, meadows, and barren rocky areas associated with its high elevation habitats.	No	No	No	According CNDDB, the nearest sighting of a Sierra Nevada red fox is approximately four miles from the project site. Although, there is potential for the red fox to pass through the project site and vicinity, the level of human activity is too high for suitable denning; thus, the Sierra Nevada red fox is not expected to be present.
Townsend's big-eared bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*	SSSC	Townsend's big-eared bat is found throughout California except in subalpine and alpine habitats, and may be found in any season throughout its range. The species is most abundant in mesic habitats. The bat requires caves, mines, tunnels, buildings, or other human-made structures for roosting. This bat is especially sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites, and a single disturbance event may result in abandonment of the roost site.	Yes	No	Pot.	According to CNDDB, the Townsend's big-eared bat has been recorded approximately 0.5 miles from the project site. The existing buildings on the site could potentially provide suitable roosting habitat for the bat; there is a moderate potential for this species to roost on the site.

[1] Status Codes

Federal:

FE	Federally Listed – Endangered
FT	Federally Listed – Threatened
FC	Federal Candidate Species
FP	Federal Proposed Species
FD	Federal Delisted

State:

SFP	State Fully Protected
SR	State Rare
SE	State Listed - Endangered
ST	State Listed - Threatened
SC	State Candidate Species
SSSC	State Species of Special Concern

Rare Plant Rank

1A	Plants Presumed Extinct in California
1B	Plants Rare, Threatened or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
2A	Presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere
2B	Rare or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

Rare Plant Threat Rank

0.1	Seriously Threatened in California
0.2	Fairly Threatened in California
0.3	Not Very Threatened in California

APPENDIX D

List of Vascular Plants Observed During the Botanical Survey

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

May 7, June 4, and July 16, 2021

Agavaceae	**Century-plant Family**
Camassia leichtlinii ssp. *suksdorfii*	Common camas
Amaryllidaceae	**Amaryllis Family**
Narcissus pseudonarcissus	Daffodil
Apiaceae	**Carrot Family**
Ligusticum grayi	Gray's licorice-root
Lomatium nudicaule	Pestle lomatium
Osmorhiza berteroi	Mountain sweet-cicely
Apocynaceae	**Dogbane Family**
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Bitter dogbane
Vinca major	Greater periwinkle
Asteraceae	**Sunflower Family**
Achillea millefolium	Common yarrow
Adenocaulon bicolor	Trailplant
Agoseris grandiflora	Large-flowered agoseris
Ambrosia artemisiifolia	Annual ragweed
Antennaria argentea	Silver pussytoes
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort
Centaurea cyanus	Bachelor's button
Cichorium intybus	Chicory
Cirsium sp.	Thistle
Erigeron canadensis	Canadian horseweed
Erigeron divergens	Diffuse daisy
Erigeron inornatus var. *inornatus*	California rayless fleabane
Grindelia squarrosa var. *serrulata*	Resin-weed
Hieraceum sp.	Hawkweed
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy
Madia exigua	Thread-stemmed madia
Madia gracilis	Slender tarweed
Matricaria discoidea	Pineapple weed
Psilocarphus tenellus	Slender woolly marbles
Solidago velutina	California goldenrod
Tanacetum vulgare	Tansy
Taraxacum officinale	Dandelion
Tragopogon dubius	Goat’s beard
Berberidaceae	**Barberry Family**
Berberis aquifolium	Barberry
Betulaceae	**Birch Family**
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

Boraginaceae	**Borage Family**
Cryptantha torreyana	Torrey's cryptantha
Hydrophyllum occidentale	California waterleaf
Plagiobothrys tenellus	Slender popcorn-flower
Brassicaceae	**Mustard Family**
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's purse
Draba verna	Whitlow grass
Hirschfeldia incana	Shortpod mustard
Lepidium campestre	English peppergrass
Raphanus raphanistrum	Jointed charlock
Turritis glabra	Tower-mustard
Caprifoliaceae	**Honeysuckle Family**
Symphoricarpos mollis	Trailing snowberry
Caryophyllaceae	**Pink Family**
Lychnis coronaria	Rose campion
Stellaria media	Common chickweed
Chenopodiaceae	**Goosefoot Family**
Chenopodium album	Lambs quarters
Convolvulaceae	**Morning Glory Family**
Ipomea sp.	Morning glory (horticultural)
Cupressaceae	**Cypress Family**
Calocedrus decurrens	Incense-cedar
Cyperaceae	**Sedge Family**
Carex amplifolia	Big-leaved sedge
Carex feta	Green-sheathed sedge
Carex fracta	Fragile-sheathed sedge
Carex infirminervia	Weak-nerved sedge
Carex multicaulis	Many-stemmed sedge
Carex stipata var. *stipata*	Stiped sedge
Scirpus microcarpus	Small-fruited bulrush
Dennstaedtiaceae	**Bracken Family**
Pteridium aquilinum var. *pubescens*	Bracken fern
Equisetaceae	**Horsetail Family**
Equisetum arvense	Common horsetail
Ericaceae	**Heath Family**
Chimaphila umbellata	Pipsissewa

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

Fabaceae	**Legume Family**
Acmispon americanus var. *americanus*	Spanish lotus
Lathyrus sp.	Pea
Lathyrus latifolius	Perennial sweet pea
Lupinus albicaulis	Sickle keeled lupine
Medicago lupulina	Black medick
Melilotus albus	White sweetclover
Trifolium breweri	Brewer's clover
Trifolium hybridum	Alsike clover
Trifolium pratense	Red clover
Fagaceae	**Oak Family**
Quercus kelloggii	California black oak
Geraniaceae	**Geranium Family**
Erodium cicutarium	Red-stemmed filaree
Grossulariaceae	**Gooseberry Family**
Ribes nevadense	Pink mountain currant
Ribes roezlii var. *roezlii*	Sierra gooseberry
Hypericaceae	**St. John's-wort Family**
Hypericum anagalloides	Tinker's penny
Hypericum perforatum	Klamath weed
Iridaceae	**Iris Family**
Iris sp.	Iris (horticultural)
Iris hartwegii subsp. *hartwegii*	Hartweg's iris
Juncaceae	**Rush Family**
Juncus balticus subsp. *ater*	Baltic rush
Juncus ensifolius	Sword-leaved rush
Luzula comosa var. *laxa*	Pacific wood rush
Lamiaceae	**Mint Family**
Prunella vulgaris var. *lanceolata*	Mountain self-heal
Stachys pycnantha	Short-spiked hedge nettle
Liliaceae	**Lily Family**
Lilium pardalinum	Leopard lily
Malvaceae	**Mallow Family**
Sidalcea glaucescens	Glaucous checkerbloom
Montiaceae	**Miner's Lettuce Family**
Calandrinia menziesii	Red maids
Claytonia parviflora subsp. *parviflora*	Small-flowered miner's lettuce
Claytonia perfoliata	Common miner's lettuce
Claytonia rubra	Miner's lettuce

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

Onagraceae	**Evening-Primrose Family**
Clarkia purpurea ssp. *quadrivulnera*	Four-spot
Epilobium brachycarpum	Tall annual willowherb
Orchidaceae	**Orchid Family**
Platanthera dilata var. *leucostachys*	White bog orchid
Phrymaceae	**Lopseed Family**
Erythranthe guttata	Common monkey-flower
Pinaceae	**Pine Family**
Abies concolor	White fir
Pinus ponderosa	Ponderosa pine
Pseudotsuga menziesii var. *menziesii*	Douglas-fir
Plantaginaceae	**Plantain Family**
Collinsia parviflora	Small-flowered collinsia
Plantago lanceolata	English plantain
Plantago major	Broadleaf plantain
Veronica anagallis-aquatica	Water speedwell
Poaceae	**Grass Family**
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping bentgrass
Bromus commutatus	Meadow brome
Bromus diandrus	Ripgut grass
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft chess
Bromus sitchensis var. *carinatus*	California brome
Bromus tectorum	Downy brome
Cynosurus echinatus	Hedgehog dogtail
Dactylis glomerata	Orchard grass
Elymus glaucus subsp. *glaucus*	Blue wild rye
Elymus repens	Quack grass
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue
Festuca myuros	Foxtail fescue
Melica subulata	Alaska melic
Phleum alpinum	Mountain timothy
Phleum pratense	Cultivated timothy
Poa bulbosa	Bulbous bluegrass
Poa compressa	Canadian bluegrass
Poa pratensis	Kentucky bluegrass
Stipa lettermanii	Letterman's needlegrass
Triticum aestivum	Wheat
Polemoniaceae	**Phlox Family**
Collomia grandiflora	Large-flowered collomia
Collomia heterophylla	Variable-leaved collomia
Microsteris gracilis	Slender phlox
Polygonaceae	**Buckwheat Family**
Polygonum aviculare subsp. *depressum*	Common knotweed
Rumex acetosella	Sheep sorrel

CHECKLIST OF VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Quincy Skilled Nursing Facility

Ranunculaceae	**Buttercup Family**
Ranunculus occidentalis	Western buttercup
Rhamnaceae	**Buckthorn Family**
Ceanothus integerrimus	Deer brush
Frangula purshiana	Cascara
Rosaceae	**Rose Family**
Drymocallis lactea var. *austinae*	Mountain cinquefoil
Drymocallis glandulosa	Sticky cinquefoil
Fragaria virginiana	Mountain strawberry
Geum macrophyllum	Large-leaved avens
Malus pumila	Apple
Poteridium annuum	Western burnet
Prunus cerasifera	Cherry plum
Prunus domestica	European plum
Prunus virginiana var. *demissa*	Western choke-cherry
Rosa sp.	Wild rose
Rubus laciniatus	Cut-leaf blackberry
Rubus parviflorus	Thimbleberry
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan
Spiraea douglasii	Douglas' spiraea
Rubiaceae	**Madder Family**
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Galium parisiense	Wall bedstraw
Salicaceae	**Willow Family**
Salix sp.	Willow
Violaceae	**Violet Family**
Viola glabella	Stream violet
Viola sheltonii	Shelton's violet
Woodsiaceae	**Cliff Family**
Cystopteris fragilis	Fragile fern
Athyrium filix-femina var. *cyclosomum*	Western lady fern