

**LEAST BELL'S VIREO PRESENCE/ABSENCE
PROTOCOL SURVEY REPORT
2ND Street Expansion
Riverside County, Beaumont, California**

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) (LBVI) protocol presence/absence survey (protocol survey) was conducted in marginally suitable habitat within 500-feet of the proposed City of Beaumont, California (City) 2nd Street Expansion project (Study Area) by Searl Biological Services' (SBS) biologist Tim Searl (TE02351A-1) during the Spring and Summer 2021. Eight surveys were performed between April 19 and July 21, 2021 per the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) January 19, 2001 *Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines* (U. S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service 2001) (LBVI Survey Protocol). The overall habitat suitability within the Study Area was marginal, and LBVI was not detected within the Study Area.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this protocol survey was to determine if LBVI was present or absent within the Study Area for the City's 2nd Street Expansion/Improvements Project (Project). The protocol survey was performed, and this report prepared, according to the requirements of the LBVI Survey Protocol.

2.1 Project Location

The Study Area was located in the City of Beaumont (City), Riverside County, California, west of the existing 2nd Street between 1st Street and Interstate 10 (I-10) and east of Pennsylvania Avenue, approximately 0.2-mile aerial mile south/southeast of the Pennsylvania Avenue and I-10 intersection. *Figure 1 - Regional Map* (Page 2) depicts the 2nd Street Right-of-Way (RW) associated with the Project and the 500-foot buffer Study Area.

The Study Area was geographically located in Township 3 South, Range 1 West, Sections 10 and 11 of the Beaumont 7.5 Minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) California Quadrangle. *Figure 2 - USGS Topographic Map* (Page 3) depicts the Study Area's geographic location. Elevations on the Study Area ranged from approximately 2,600-feet to 2,560-feet above mean sea level (msl). The Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates of the approximate center of the Study Area was Zone 11; 503,571-meters East; 3,753,649-meters North; North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

2.2 Project Description

The City proposes to extend and improve 2nd Street between Pennsylvania Avenue to where recent improvements terminate to the east. Details of the Project specifics are currently unknown; however, the street layout will likely be similar to those of the recent improvements where 2nd Street terminates to the east.

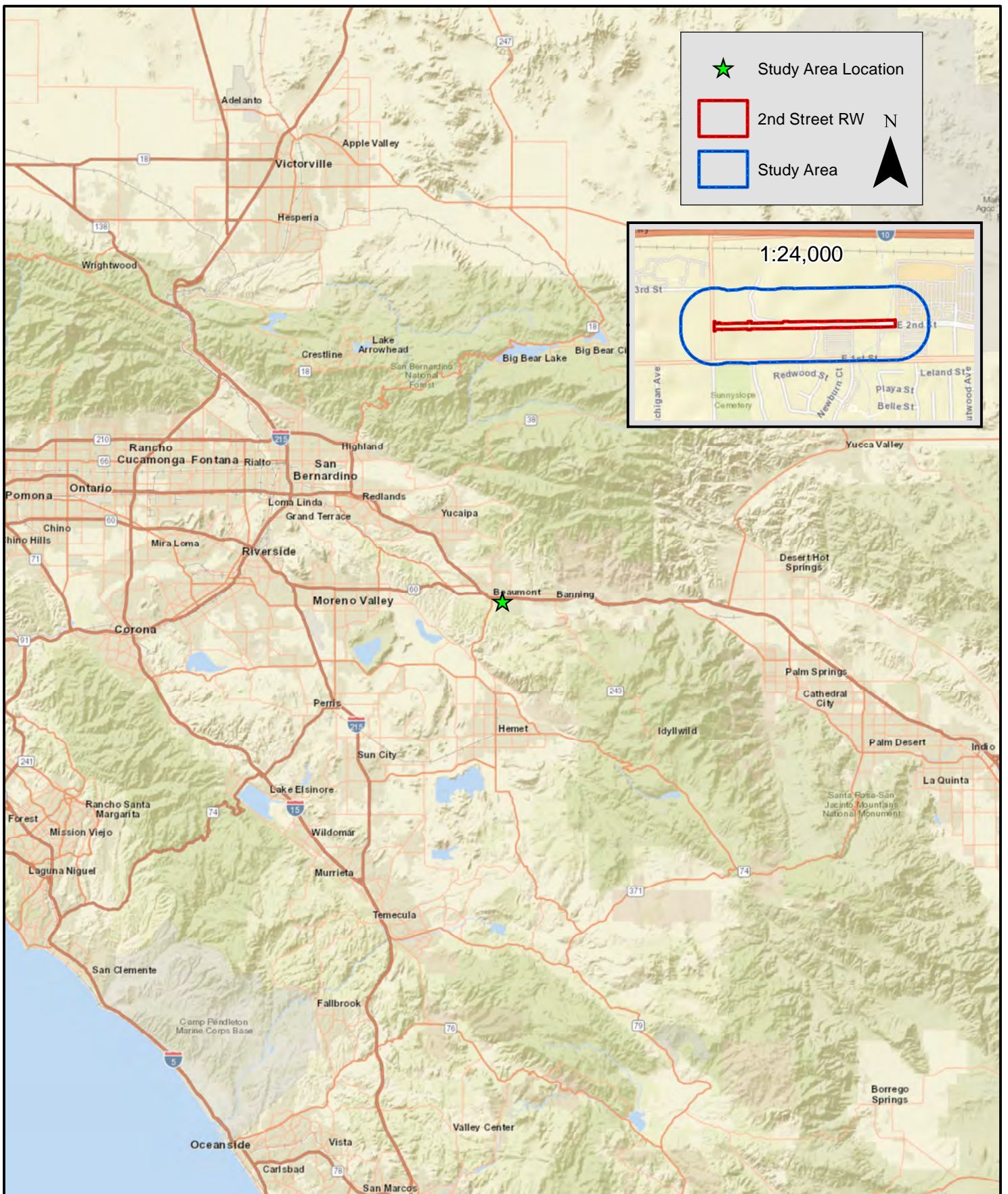
2.3 Regulatory Status

The USFWS listed the LBVI as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) on May 2, 1986 (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 2021). Critical habitat was revised and ultimately designated for LBVI by the USFWS on February 2, 1994 (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 2021).

The LBVI was designated by the California Department of Fish and Game Commission (CDFGC) as Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) prior to the federal listing on October 2, 1980 (California Department of Fish & Wildlife 2021).

2.4 Life History

The LBVI subspecies breeds within California and northern Baja California, Mexico. The wintering range of the subspecies includes southern Baja California, Mexico. Breeding habitats may include willow (*Salix* spp.) woodlands, stands of mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia* subsp. *salicifolia*), brushy fields, scrub oak



★ Study Area Location
 2nd Street RW N
 Study Area

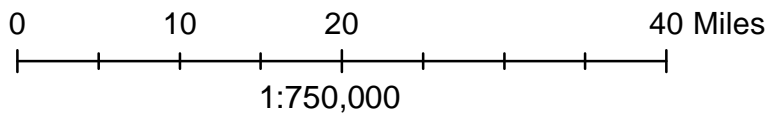
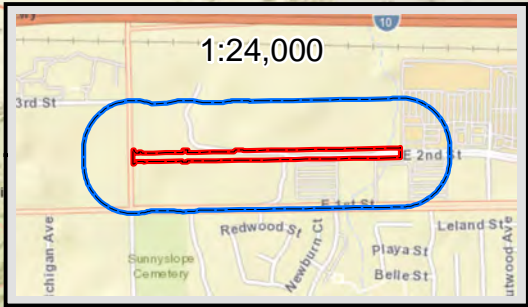
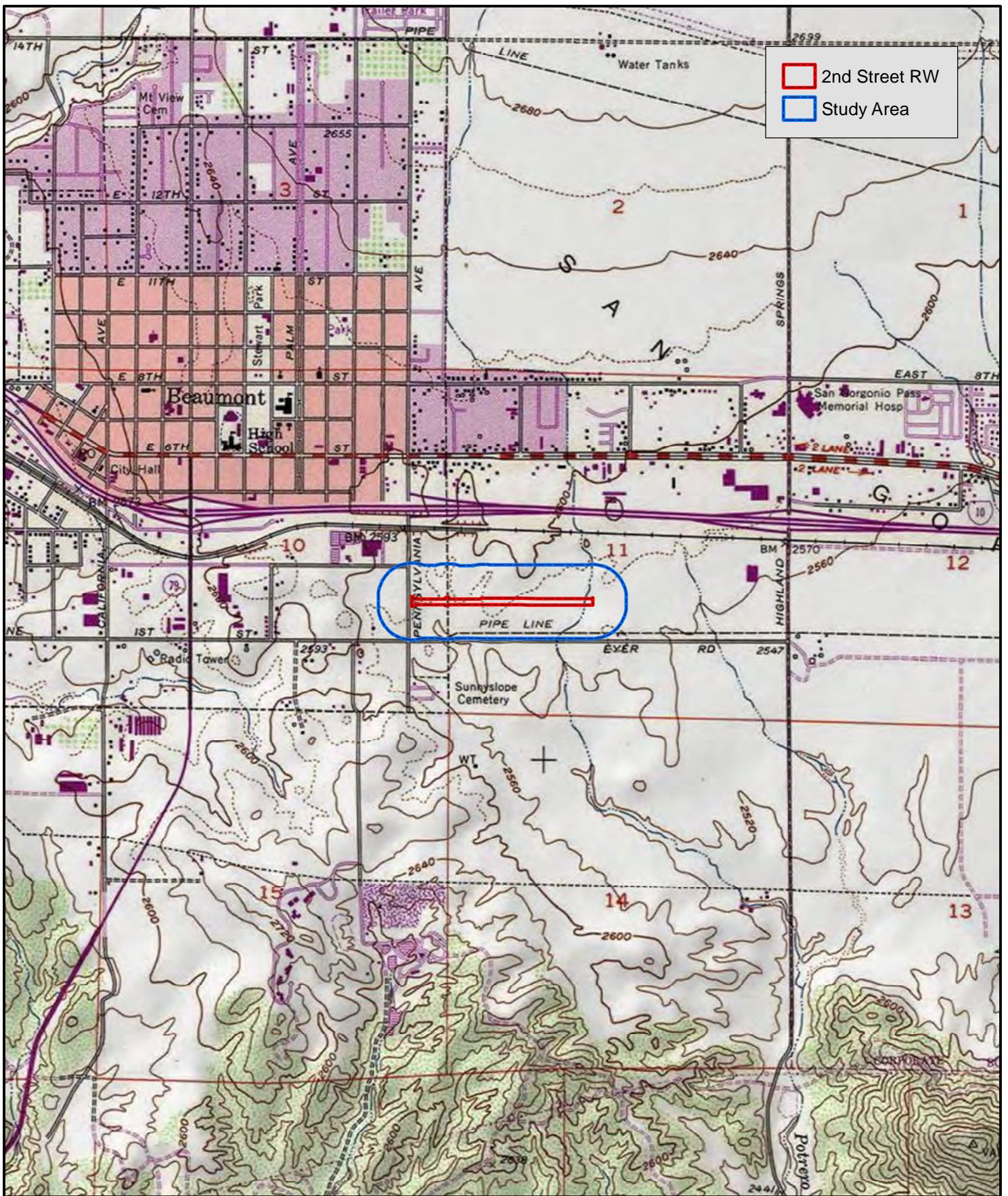


FIGURE 1
Regional Location





2nd Street RW
 Study Area



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
1:24,000

FIGURE 2
USGS Topographic Map

(*Quercus berberidifolia*), coastal chaparral, and mesquite (*Prosopis* spp.) patches with dense, early successional understories. Although it inhabits riparian woodlands, it was found that individuals benefited from using both riparian and non-riparian ecosystems (Kus, et al. 2020).

LBVI is a small, active songbird approximately 4.5 to 5 inches in length with a wingspan of 6.7 to 7.5 inches (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2021). It generally has drab gray plumage throughout, two pale wing bars, and a faint white eye ring. Males and females are sexually monomorphic in plumage coloration.

The breeding season for LBVI ranges from late March to the beginning of August, with the peak of nesting activity from the beginning of April through the end of July. Incubation takes 14 days, and young fledge 10 to 12 days after hatching.

LBVI is an insectivore that forages at all vegetative levels from the ground to approximately 60 feet above ground level, but concentrated in lower to mid-level canopies. LBVI exhibit preferences for black willow (*Salix gooddingii*) relative to its cover within territories, but forage on other plant species depending on availability (Kus, et al. 2020).

The two major factors in the decline of LBVI populations are loss of habitat and nest parasitism by the Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) (Kus, et al. 2020). Habitat restoration through removal of invasive non-native plants such as giant reed (*Arundo donax*) and re-planting of native riparian species, and brown-headed cowbird control have been the two primary measures to conserve LBVI populations (Kus, et al. 2020).

3.0 STUDY AREA

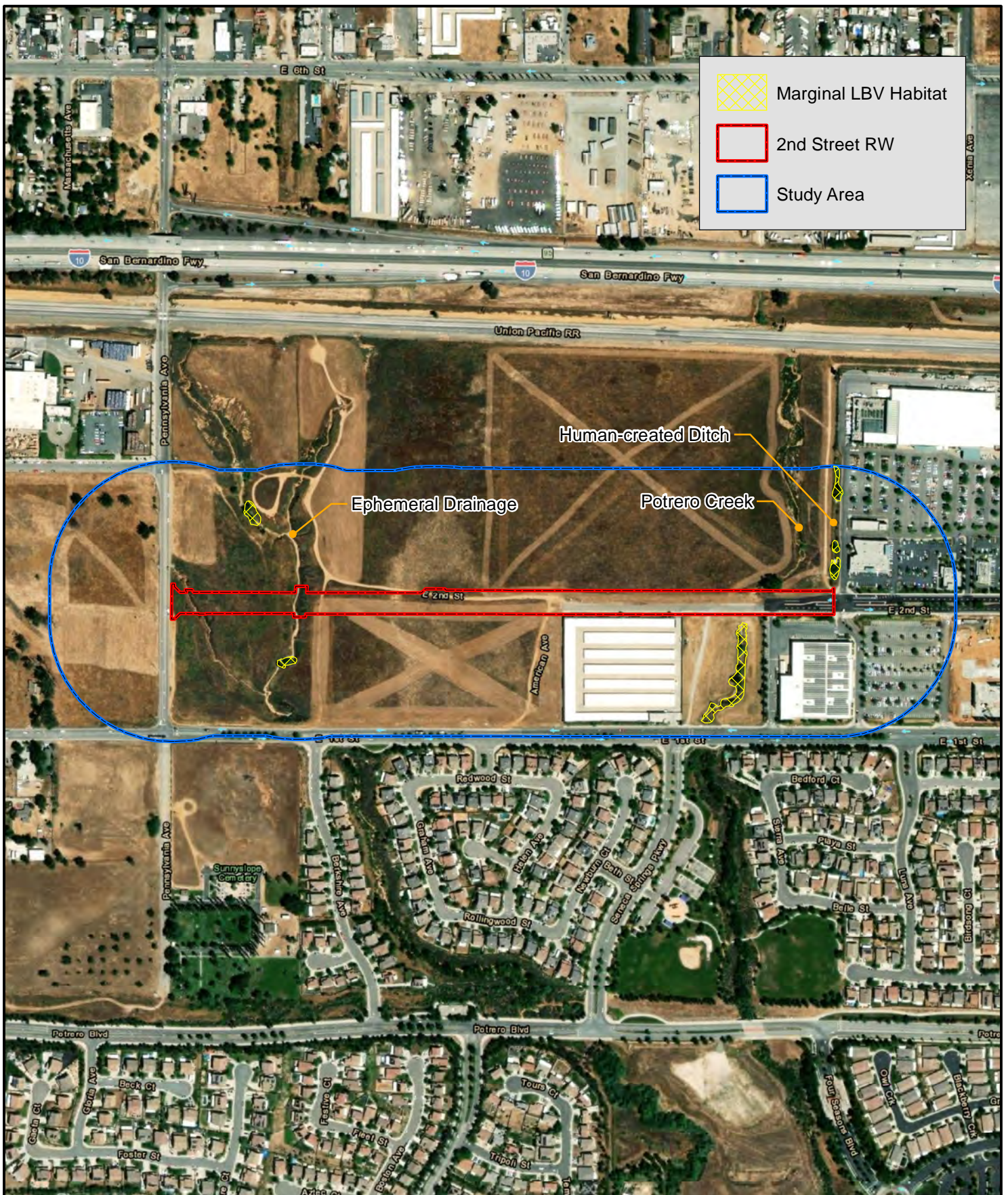
2.3 Study Area Description

The Study Area primarily consisted of upland habitat with commercial areas present in the eastern end. Three unnamed ephemeral drainages, where two of which converged into one, the headwaters of Potrero Creek which was also ephemeral, and a human-created drainage ditch that received runoff from the commercial center to the east were present within the Study Area. The small ephemeral wash in the far west of the Study Area was a deep incised gully and the result of storm runoff from Pennsylvania Avenue. This wash did not support riparian vegetation. The remaining washes and ditch only supported a total of 0.75-acre of marginally suitable habitat for LBVI, but protocol surveys were performed due to LBVI recently being documented by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), USFWS Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office Species Occurrence GIS data (CFWO), and eBird within one mile. The Study Area is depicted on *Figure 3 – Study Area Aerial Photograph* (Page 5). Representative photographs of the Study Area are provided in the attached Appendix A. Marginally suitable LBVI habitat is described below.

2.3.1 Ephemeral Drainage

The unnamed ephemeral drainage in the western portion of the Study Area primarily consisted of upland habitat with non-native, weedy vegetation such as red brome (*Bromus rubens*), riggut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), and wall barley (*Hordeum murinum*) dominant. Some native upland vegetation was present, with the majority occurring on the banks, and included interior goldenbush (*Ericameria linearifolia*) and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*).

The marginal LBVI habitat consisted of a black willow thicket in the upstream end that lacked an understory. Giant reed, an invasive species, and tree-of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), a non-native ornamental, were also present. Trespassers were often observed walking and sleeping in the drainage near






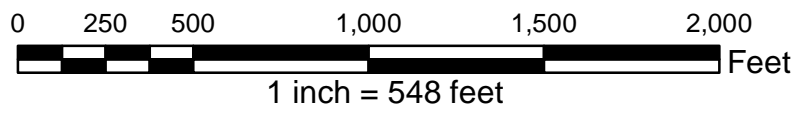
-  Marginal LBV Habitat
-  2nd Street RW
-  Study Area

FIGURE 3
Study Area
Aerial Photograph



the black willows. This notwithstanding, migrant birds such as Wilson’s Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) and Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) were detected foraging within the black willows.

A small stand of arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) was present in the downstream area. Though the patch was small, it was dense. The area around the patch consisted of upland habitat similar to that described above with a few scattered giant reed.

2.3.2 Potrero Creek

Potrero Creek was present in the eastern end of the Study Area. The drainage was divided by a culvert located under a paved portion of 2nd Street. The entirety of Potrero Creek upstream of 2nd Street consisted of upland habitat with a homogenous stand of California buckwheat in the upstream end then transitioned to more non-native vegetation near 2nd Street including a single, large blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*).

The marginal LBVI habitat downstream of 2nd Street included a mix of sparsely distributed willow species, that included arroyo willow, black willow, narrow-leaved willow (*Salix exigua*), and red willow (*Salix laevigata*). Mule fat was also present. Although the riparian plant diversity was high, species richness was low throughout the area. The habitat was also mixed with several non-native trees, such as Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*), Shamel ash (*Fraxinus uhdei*), and tree-of-heaven. Saltcedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*), an invasive species, was also present.

2.3.3 Human-Created Ditch

According to Google Earth, the commercial center, including the drainage ditch, to the east began construction in late 2005/early 2006. The majority of the ditch was earthen with a few concrete trapezoid aprons. The human-created ditch supported only a few, scattered black willow and generally lacked an understory though a few mule fat were present. The majority of the ditch consisted of non-native, weedy vegetation. Trash was prevalent throughout the ditch and was likely the result of being located adjacent to a commercial parking lot. The downstream terminus of the ditch was near 2nd Street. A large, vertical drainpipe was present at the terminus where ephemeral flow entered the underground drainage system.

4.0 METHODS

4.1 Office Analysis

Prior to initiating field surveys, SBS performed an office analysis of the Study Area and its vicinity by reviewing the Beaumont 7.5 Minute USGS California Quadrangle using ESRI ArcGIS, aerial imagery using Google Earth, LBVI designated critical habitat (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 2021), CDFW’s California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), USFWS Carlsbad Fish & Wildlife Office (CFWO) Species Occurrence Data (U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office 2021), and eBird Hotspots (The Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2021). The analysis was conducted to ascertain the potential for presence or absence of LBVI by analyzing the topography, current and historical habitat conditions, and the Study Area’s location relative to designated critical habitat. Further, the CNDDDB and CFWO Species Occurrence Data were queried to determine if LBVI had been documented within five miles of the Study Area. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s eBird’s “Hotspots” map was also analyzed to determine if LBVI had been reported in the vicinity.

4.2 Habitat Assessment

A habitat assessment was conducted by biologists Tim Searl and Arthur Davenport in July 2020. The habitat suitability for LBVI of the entire Study Area was assessed by conducting a “windshield survey” from a vehicle, a pedestrian survey, and scanning areas with 10 by 42 binoculars. Mapping and data collection were performed in the field utilizing both paper maps (i.e., aerial photographs and USGS topographic

maps), and Collector for ArcGIS installed on a smart phone (Collector)¹. Field observations were also noted such as plant communities, dominant plant species, vegetation height and density, and human disturbance levels. Habitat suitability for LBVI is typically classified by SBS as Not Suitable², Low/Marginal³, Moderate⁴, or High⁵.

The results of the habitat assessment were further assessed and confirmed during the first focused survey in 2021.

4.3 Focused Surveys

The eight focused surveys were performed by Tim Searl per the LBVI Survey Protocol on April 19, April 30, May 10, May 24, June 1, June 11, July 6, and July 21, 2021. Tim Searl was accompanied by field technician Colin Chapin during the May 10 survey. The surveys were conducted during weather conditions conducive for detecting LBVI while avoiding inclement weather such as excessive heat, high winds, and dense fog.

All suitable habitat within the Study Area, including adjacent upland areas, was surveyed by slowly walking along the margins while stopping often to scan the area with binoculars and listen for calls from LBVI.

Data collected on each of the surveys included start and stop times, start and stop weather conditions, survey routes, and a complete list of the wildlife detected. *Table 1 – LBVI Assessment Conditions* (Page 8) provides the survey conditions. A complete list of the wildlife detected over the course of the surveys is attached in Appendix B.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 Office Analysis

The office analysis confirmed the potential for LBVI to occupy the Study Area, and that a habitat assessment would be required, and protocol surveys would potentially be required.

5.1.1 Aerial Imagery Review

Based on review of aerial imagery, the naturally occurring drainages within the Study Area have transitioned from ephemeral washes with very little associated vegetation in 1996 to ephemeral washes that support more vegetation, though primarily occurring in patches, in more recent imagery. These same washes south of the Study Area were also ephemeral with very little vegetation present until the area was developed into a large residential project beginning in 2005. The washes appeared to have been enhanced, rehabilitated/restored, and/or through creation, planted with riparian vegetation such as cottonwood (*Populus* spp.), willow (*Salix* spp.), and mule fat.

¹ Some data is recorded with Collector connected to a SXBlue II + GNSS submeter unit and antenna.

² The habitat lacks the required characteristics to support LBVI. Examples include developed land, land that completely lacks riparian areas, etc.

³ The habitat is structurally suitable with sparse riparian habitat; however, factors such as the presence of non-native vegetation, habitat loss and severe fragmentation, very small habitat patch size, fire regime, human activity (i.e., disking, mowing, grazing, historical use), etc. have degraded the quality of the habitat.

⁴ The habitat is structurally suitable with less of the above degrading factors, and the presence of more contiguous riparian habitat.

⁵ This habitat is the preferred habitat of LBVI with dense riparian habitat with multi-structured canopy levels (i.e., forb/shrub/tree layers) and provides larger blocks of contiguous habitat.

Table 1 – LBVI Assessment Conditions

PROTOCOL SURVEY NUMBER	SURVEY TYPE ⁶	DATE	BIOLOGIST	TIME (24hr)	SUNRISE	TEMPERATURE (°F)	RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%)	CLOUD COVER (%)	WIND SPEED (mph)	PRECIP. ⁷ (Yes/No)	MOON PHASE
N/A	HA	7/20/2020	Tim Searl/Arthur Davenport	0600-1300	N/A	72-90	55-30	0-0	2-5	No	New Moon
1	HA/FS	4/19/2021	Tim Searl	0545-0700	0612	51-55	28-21	0-0	1-4	No	First Quarter
2	FS	4/30/2021	Tim Searl	0540-0745	0600	61-72	38-34	0-0	0-0	No	Waning Gibbous
3	FS	5/10/2021	Tim Searl/Colin Chapin	0600-0715	0551	58-62	78-68	100-100*	1-2	No	New Moon
4	FS	5/24/2021	Tim Searl	0555-0700	0542	51-64	48-33	30-20	4-5	No	Waxing Gibbous
5	FS	6/1/2021	Tim Searl	0530-0645	0539	62-73	47-35	40-40	4-2	No	Last Quarter
6	FS	6/11/2021	Tim Searl	0530-0730	0537	57-64	47-53	0-0	1-0	No	New Moon
7	FS	7/6/2021	Tim Searl	0530-0645	0544	67-73	38-31	90-50	1-1	No	Waning Crescent
8	FS	7/21/2021	Tim Searl	0545-0715	0553	70-79	47-40	10-10	2-4	No	Waxing Gibbous

*High fog w/good visibility

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⁶ HA: Habitat Assessment; FS: Focused Survey

⁷ If measurable rain occurred during the survey

5.1.2 Critical Habitat

The Study Area was not located within designated critical habitat for LBVI. The nearest critical habitat was approximately 26-miles west of the Study Area in the Santa Ana River.

5.1.3 Query Results

According to the CFWO and CNDDDB, 26 records (CFWO 22, CNDDDB 4) of LBVI have been reported within 5-miles of the Study Area over the past 30 years with the most recent record reported in 2016. The nearest documented record to the Study Area was in 2015 approximately 0.7-mile southeast in Potrero Creek. A total of eight records (CFWO 6, CNDDDB 2; overlapping records), including the 2015 record, were located within approximately 1.4-miles of the Study Area in Potrero Creek. According to the CFWO and CNDDDB, two breeding pairs of LBVI successfully fledged young at the nearest record. Singing males and a “probable” nesting pair were detected at the 1.4-mile record in 2016. *Figure 4 – Query Results* (Page 10) depicts the LBVI records within five miles of the Study Area.

An eBird hotspot, *Potrero Creek at Four Seasons Beaumont* (The Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2021), was located approximately 0.5-mile south/southeast of the Study Area within the gated community of Four Seasons. LBVI was reported and documented through photographs and sound recordings at the hotspot in April 2019. In addition to LBVI, Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (YBCU) and Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) (WIFL) have been reported at this location. The YBCU, listed as Endangered through the CESA and Threatened through the ESA, was documented in July 2020. An immature bird was observed dead as a result of a window strike. The WIFL, with all subspecies listed as Endangered by the CESA, and the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) (SWFL), a subspecies that nests in the southwestern U. S., is listed as Endangered through the ESA. The WIFL was reported in October 2018. The subspecies was not reported.

5.2 Habitat Assessment

The Study Area depicted on the Figure 3, which totaled 94.73-acres, was primarily comprised of ruderal upland habitat and developed areas. The Study Area, as described in Section 2.0, consisted of ephemeral washes and a human-created drainage ditch that supported 0.75-acre of marginally suitable habitat for LBVI. The LBVI habitat was considered unlikely to support LBVI; however, due to LBVI being documented recently at numerous locations within 0.5 to 1.4-miles of the Study Area, SBS determined LBVI protocol surveys were warranted.

5.3 Focused Surveys

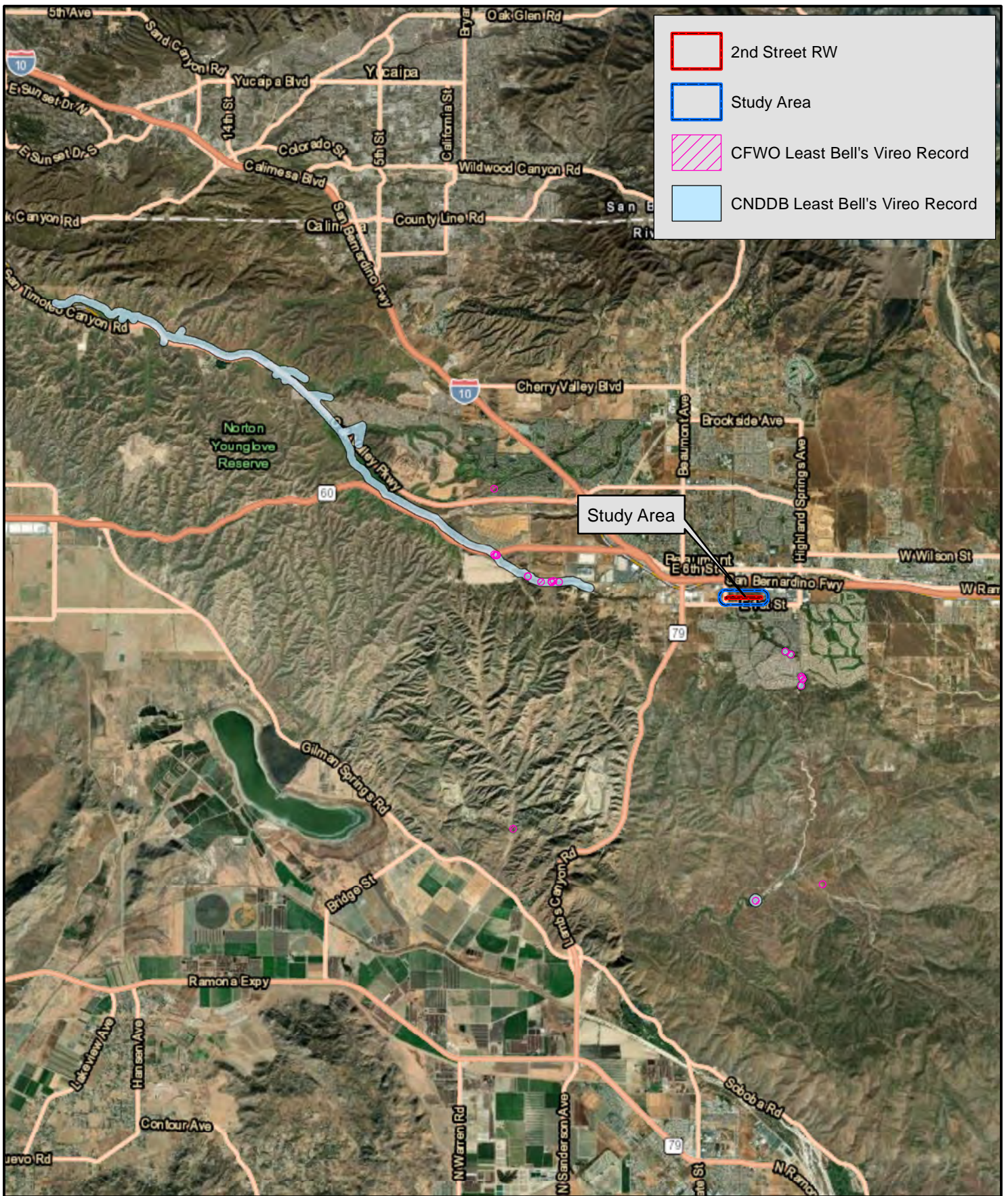
LBVI was not detected within or immediately adjacent to the Study Area during the 2021 focused surveys.

5.3.1 Other Regulatory-Status Species Detected

No federal and/or state listed Endangered, Threatened, or Candidate species were detected during the surveys. Five birds listed on the CDFW’s Special Animals List⁸ (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2021) with varying degrees of status from CDFW Species of Special Concern⁹ (SSC) and CDFW Watch List (WL), to no formal federal or state designation, were detected over the course of the surveys.

⁸ “Special Animals” is a broad term used to refer to all the animal taxa tracked by the CDFW CNDDDB, regardless of their legal or protection status (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2021).

⁹ [CDFW] has designated certain vertebrate species as “Species of Special Concern” because declining population levels, limited ranges, and/or continuing threats have made them vulnerable to extinction. The goal of designating SSCs is to halt or reverse their decline by calling attention to their plight and addressing the issues of concern early enough to secure their long-term viability (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2021).



- 2nd Street RW
- Study Area
- CFWO Least Bell's Vireo Record
- CNDDDB Least Bell's Vireo Record

Study Area

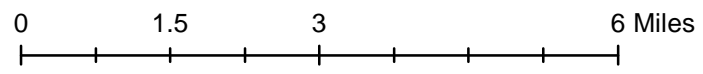


FIGURE 4
Query Results

A list of the regulatory-status species detected is presented in *Table 2 – Regulatory-Status Species Detected* (below).

Table 2 – Regulatory-Status Species Detected

SPECIES	REGULATORY STATUS	DETECTION DETAILS
Cooper’s Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>) (COHA)	CDFW WL - Nesting	COHA was observed perched in a black willow in the human-created feature and soaring overhead during protocol surveys 1 and 3. COHA nesting was not observed.
Northern Harrier (<i>Circus hudsonius</i>) (NOHA)	CDFW SSC - Nesting	NOHA was observed flying low above the upland field area in the northern portion of the Study Area during protocol survey 1. NOHA nesting was not observed.
California Horned Lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>) (HOLA)	CDFW WL	HOLA flocks were observed foraging in the upland field areas during protocol surveys 1, 3, and 6.
Lawrence’s Goldfinch (<i>Spinus lawrencei</i>) (LAGO)	CDFW Special Animal (No formal CDFW status designation)	A mixed flock of LAGO, Lesser Goldfinch (<i>Spinus psaltria</i>) (LEGO), and House Finch (<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>) (HOFI) was observed foraging in upland areas north of 2 nd Street during protocol surveys 1 and 3.
Yellow Warbler (<i>Setophaga petechia</i>) (YEWA)	CDFW SSC – Nesting	YEWA was detected foraging in black willows in the ephemeral drainage and human-created ditch during protocol surveys 2 and 3. YEWA nesting was not observed.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

LBVI was not detected during the habitat assessment or protocol survey in the Study Area. Based on the negative survey result of the protocol survey and the marginal quality of the habitat, LBVI is absent and not expected to utilize the Study Area as a breeding territory.

Tim Searl conducted a brief survey of three offsite areas depicted on *Figure 5 – LBVI Offsite Survey Areas* (Page 12) south of the Study Area within Potrero Creek on protocol surveys 1, 2, 3, and 5. The offsite surveys were conducted after completing the survey of the Study Area on each of the four dates.

Offsite Area 1 was a mix of willow thicket and scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*). Singing males were detected at the two locations depicted on Figure 5 on protocol surveys 1, 2, and 3. A third LBVI was observed in the same willow as the singing male at the southern-most detection on protocol survey 3. Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) was common in Offsite Area 1.

Offsite Area 2 was fenced and not accessible for a detailed visual inspection, and therefore, was surveyed aurally. The area consisted primarily of Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii* subsp. *fremontii*). LBVI was not detected.

The area between Offsite Area 2 and 3 was within a gated community and was not surveyed. Offsite Area 3 also consisted primarily of Fremont cottonwood, and much of the riparian habitat, particularly in the northern half, lacked an understory. LBVI was not detected. The riparian habitat was planted, likely for mitigation purposes, as noted above in section 5.1.1, and the structure of the habitat was more suitable for YBCU rather than LBVI. A dead YBCU was reported in 2020 between Offsite Areas 2 and 3 as noted above in section 5.1.3.

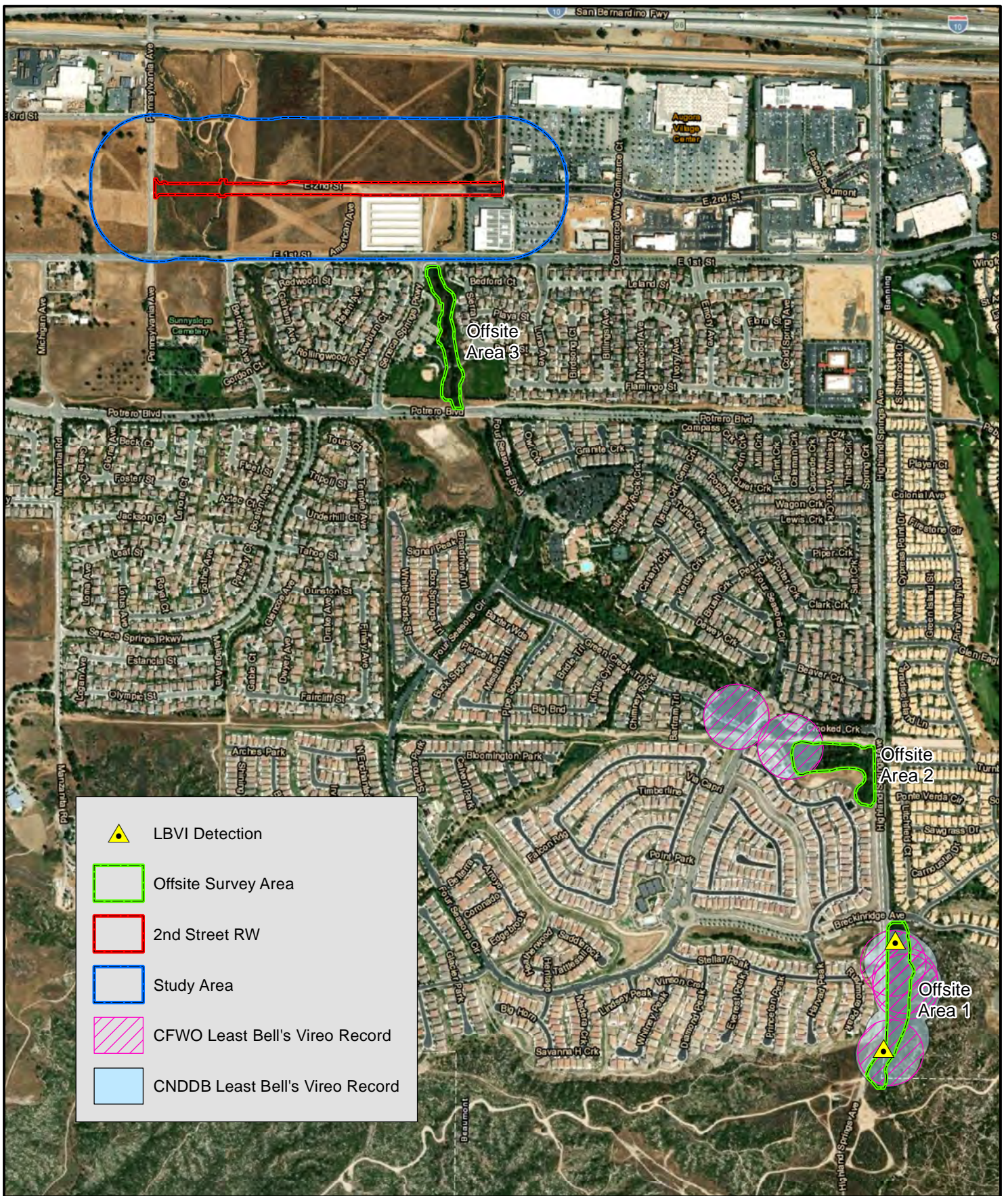
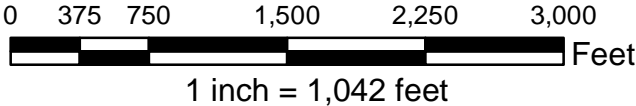


FIGURE 5
LBVI Offsite
Survey Areas



7.0 REFERENCES

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8.0 CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the statements furnished above, the associated figures, and the attached appendices present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

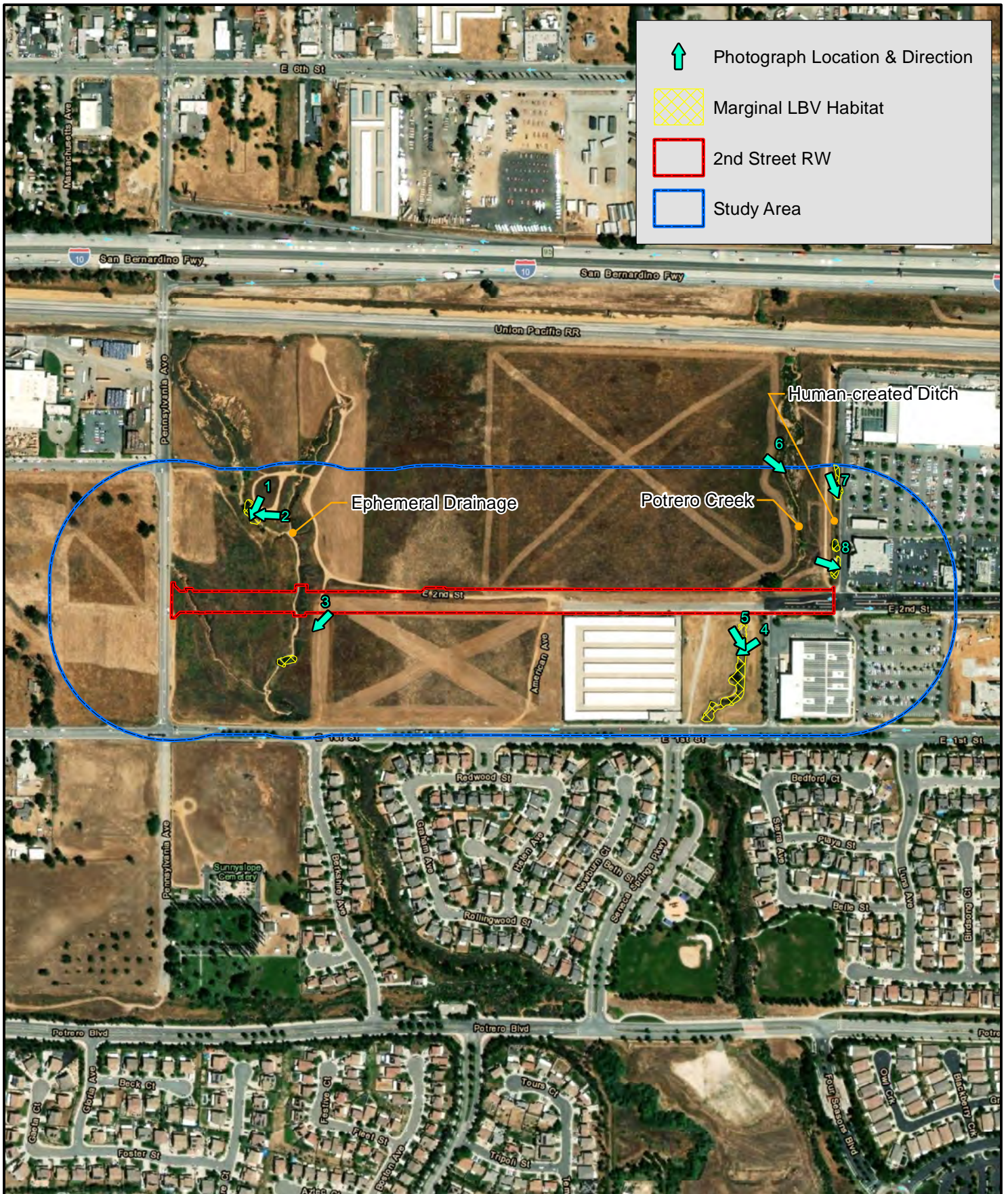
Signed: Tim Searl Date: September 2, 2021
 Tim Searl, Biologist, Searl Biological Services
 Permit Number: TE02351A-1





FIGURE DISCLAIMER

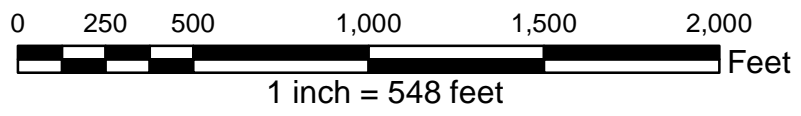
Figures and data are to be used for reference purposes only. Map features are approximate and are not necessarily accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Tim Searl, SBS makes no warranty or guarantee as to the content (the source is often third party), accuracy, timeliness, or completeness of any of the data provided, and assumes no legal responsibility for the information contained on any of the Figures associated with this report.

APPENDIX A

Assessment Photographs



-  Photograph Location & Direction
-  Marginal LBV Habitat
-  2nd Street RW
-  Study Area



APPENDIX A
Photograph
Key Map

DATE: September 1, 2021
 COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 State Plane California Zone VI FIPS 0406 (feet)
 SOURCE: ESRI World Imagery, ESRI World Transportation, Cozad & Fox

PROJECT:
 City of Beaumont
 2nd Street



Date & Time: Mon, Apr 19, 2021, 08:00:24 PDT
Position: 11 N 503256 3753766 (± 32.8 ft)
Altitude: 2578ft (± 62.3 ft)
Datum: WGS-84
Azimuth/Bearing: 205° S25W 3644mils True ($\pm 12^\circ$)
Elevation Angle: -25.2°
Horizon Angle: +04.1°
Zoom: 1.0X

PHOTOGRAPH 1: The black willow thicket in the upstream portion of the unnamed ephemeral drainage. An understory was lacking, and the area was utilized often by trespassers.



Date & Time: Mon, Apr 19, 2021, 08:00:56 PDT
Position: 11 N 503272 3753757 (± 32.8 ft)
Altitude: 2579ft (± 62.3 ft)
Datum: WGS-84
Azimuth/Bearing: 273° N87W 4853mils True ($\pm 12^\circ$)
Elevation Angle: -00.0°
Horizon Angle: -01.1°
Zoom: 1.0X

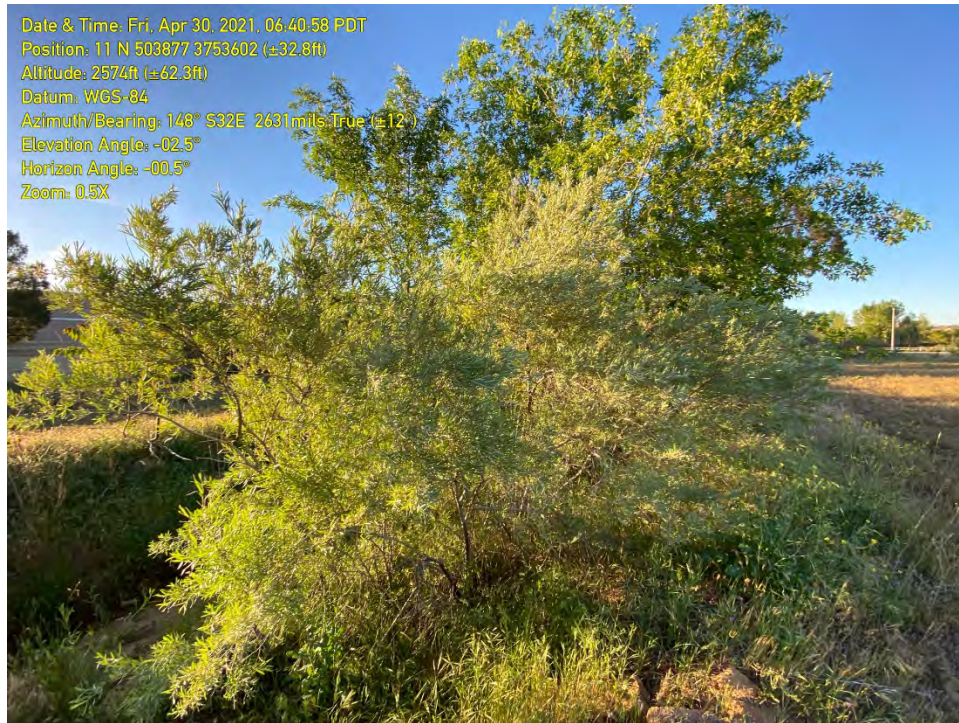
PHOTOGRAPH 2: The ephemeral drainage was a deep gully, approximately 30-feet in some locations. The canopy of the black willow thicket is pictured.



PHOTOGRAPH 3: A small patch of arroyo willow in the ephemeral drainage.



PHOTOGRAPH 4: Potrero Creek downstream of a culvert at 2nd Street. The habitat had a mix of willow species, including narrow-leaved, but occurred sparingly throughout and was mixed with non-natives, such as Chinese elm, Shamel ash, and tree-of-heaven.



PHOTOGRAPH 5: A patch of mixed willow downstream of 2nd Street.



PHOTOGRAPH 6: The entirety of Potrero Creek upstream of 2nd Street consisted of upland habitat with a homogenous stand of California buckwheat in the upstream end then transitioned to more non-native vegetation near 2nd Street.



PHOTOGRAPH 7: The human-created ditch supported only a few, scattered black willow and generally lacked an understory. Trash was prevalent throughout the ditch and was likely the result of being located adjacent to a commercial parking lot.



PHOTOGRAPH 8: The ditch was irrigated but ruderal, weedy vegetation was dominant.

APPENDIX B

Wildlife Observed

Birds

The bird species listed below were detected visually or aurally either on, above, or near the Study Area during a LBVI protocol survey in 2021. The list below is presented in alphabetic order. Nomenclature for the Family (i.e., Icteridae), Common Name, and Scientific Name follow the American Ornithological Society *Checklist of North and Middle American Birds*. Introduced species are indicated with an (I).

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Blackbirds	Icteridae
Hooded Oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
Western Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>
Caracaras and Falcons	Falconidae
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
Cardinals and Allies	Cardinalidae
Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>
Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>
Crows and Jays	Corvidae
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies	Fringillidae
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>
Lawrence's Goldfinch	<i>Spinus lawrencei</i>
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>
Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies	Accipitridae
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Hummingbirds	Trochilidae
Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>
Lapwings and Plovers	Charadriidae
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>
Larks	Alaudidae
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>
Long-tailed Tits and Bushtits	Aegithalidae
Bushtit	<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>
Mockingbirds and Thrashers	Mimidae
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>
New World Sparrows	Passerellidae
California Towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>
Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>
Old World Sparrows	Passeridae
House Sparrow (I)	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Pigeons and Doves	Columbidae
Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>
Rock Pigeon (I)	<i>Columba livia</i>

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Starlings	Sturnidae
European Starling (I)	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Swallows	Hirundinidae
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Swifts	Apodidae
White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>
Tyrant Flycatchers	Tyrannidae
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
Cassin's Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus vociferans</i>
Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>
Woodpeckers and Allies	Picidae
Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates nuttallii</i>
Wood-Warblers	Parulidae
Nashville Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis ruficapilla</i>
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>
Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>
Wrens	Troglodytidae
Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>

Mammals

The mammals listed below were observed on or near the Study Area through sign and/or physical sightings during a LBVI protocol survey in 2021. The list below is presented in alphabetic order. Nomenclature for the Family (i.e., Canidae), Common Name, and Scientific Name follow *Wilson & Reeder's Mammal Species of the World*.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Coyotes, Dogs, Foxes, Jackals, and Wolves	Canidae
coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
Hares and Rabbits	Leporidae
desert cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>
Pocket Gophers	Geomyidae
Botta's pocket gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>
Squirrels	Sciuridae
California ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus beecheyi</i>

Herpetofauna

The herpetofauna listed below were detected during a LBVI protocol survey in 2021. The list below is presented in alphabetic order. Nomenclature for the Family (i.e., Phrynosomatidae), Common Name, and Scientific Name follow the Society for the Study of Amphibian and Reptiles (SSAR) *Standard English and Scientific Names*.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Zebra-tailed, Earless, Fringe-toed, Spiny, Tree, Side-blotched, and Horned Lizards	Phrynosomatidae
Western Side-blotched Lizard	<i>Uta stansburiana elegans</i>