Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

We Make a Difference

June 28, 2023

RODEO CREDIT ENTERPRISES, LLC
Attn: *Ms. Kris Pinero*
9595 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 708
Beverly Hills, California 90212

SUBJECT: Results of a Biological Resources Assessment for the proposed Tentative Tract Map 62478 Project – City of Lancaster, County of Los Angeles, California

Dear Ms. Pinero:

Michael Baker International (Michael Baker) has prepared this report to document the results of a biological resources assessment for the proposed Tentative Tract Map 62478 Project (project or project site) located in the City of Lancaster, County of Los Angeles, California. The proposed project involves the construction of 74 single family detached homes in the R-7,000 zone (refer to Attachment A, *Tentative Tract Map 62478*). Michael Baker conducted a thorough literature review and a field survey to confirm existing site conditions and assess the potential for special-status plant and wildlife species[1] that have been documented or that are likely to occur on or within the immediate vicinity of the project site. Specifically, this report provides a detailed assessment of the suitability of the on-site habitat to support special-status plant and wildlife species that were identified in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database RareFind 5 (CNDDB; CDFW 2023a), the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CIRP; CNPS 2023), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation Project Planning Tool (IPaC; USFWS 2023a), and other databases as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project site.

Project Location

The project site is generally located north of State Route 138 (SR-138), east of Sierra Highway, west of U.S. Highway 395, and south of SR-58 in the City of Lancaster, County of Los Angeles, California. The project site occurs in Section 17 of Township 7 North, Range 11 West, on the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) *Lancaster East, California* 7.5-minute quadrangle. Specifically, the project site totals approximately 19.81 acres located north of East Lancaster Boulevard, east of 35th Street East, south of East Avenue I, and west of 40th Street East (refer to Attachment B).

[1] As used in this report, "special-status" refers to plant and wildlife species that are federally-/State-listed, proposed, or candidates; plant species that have been designated a California Rare Plant Rank species by the California Native Plant Society; wildlife species that are designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife as Fully Protected, Species of Special Concern, or Watch List species; State/locally rare vegetation communities; and species that warrant protection under local or regional preservation policies.

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Methodology

Literature Review

Prior to conducting the field survey, Michael Baker conducted new literature reviews and records searches to determine which special-status biological resources have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity (5-mile radius) of the project site. Previous special-status plant and wildlife species occurrence records within the USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangles were determined through a query of the CNDDB (CDFW 2023a), CIRP (CNPS 2023), and IPaC (USFWS 2023a).

Current conservation status of species was verified through lists and resources provided by the CDFW, specifically the *Special Animals List* (CDFW 2023b), *Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List* (CDFW 2023c), *State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California* (CDFW 2023d), and *State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California* (CDFW 2023e). In addition, Michael Baker reviewed previously prepared reports, survey results, and literature, as available, detailing the biological resources previously observed on or within the vicinity of the project site to gain an understanding of existing site conditions, confirm previous species observations, and note the extent of any disturbances that have occurred within the project site that would otherwise limit the distribution of special-status biological resources. Standard field guides and texts were reviewed for specific habitat requirements of special-status species, as well as the following resources:

- Google Earth Pro Historical Aerial Imagery from 1985 to 2021 (Google Inc. 2023)
- Species Accounts provided by Birds of the World (Billerman et. al 2020)
- *Custom Soil Resource Report for Antelope Valley Area, California* (U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] 2023)
- USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper and Environmental Conservation Online System (USFWS 2023b)

Habitat Assessment/Field Survey

Michael Baker biologist Tom Millington conducted a habitat assessment/field survey on June 23, 2023 to confirm existing site conditions within the project site. Weather conditions were sunny with no cloud cover and temperatures ranging from 67 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit, with wind speeds ranging from 0 to 4 miles per hour. Vegetation communities occurring within the project site were mapped on an aerial photograph and classified in accordance with the vegetation descriptions provided in *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009) and cross referenced with the *Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California* (Holland 1986) for the purposes of evaluating the presence or absence of special-status vegetation communities identified in the CNDDB records search, which uses the Holland vegetation classification system. In addition, site characteristics such as soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site vegetation communities, and the presence of potentially regulated jurisdictional features (e.g., streams, flood control channels) were noted within the project site. Michael Baker used Geographic Information Systems (GIS) ArcView software to digitize the mapped vegetation communities and then transferred these data onto an aerial photograph to further document existing conditions and quantify the acreage of each vegetation community.

All plant and wildlife species observed, as well as dominant plant species within each vegetation community, were recorded. Plant species observed during the habitat assessment/field survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field while unusual and less familiar plant species

were photographed and identified later using taxonomic guides. Plant nomenclature used in this report follows the *Jepson eFlora* (Jepson Flora Project 2023) and scientific names are provided immediately following common names of plant species (first reference only). Wildlife detections were made through aural and visual detection, as well as observation of sign including scat, trails, tracks, burrows, and nests. Field guides used to assist with identification of wildlife species during the habitat assessment included *The Sibley Guide to Birds* (Sibley 2014), *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians* (Stebbins 2003), *Bats of the United States and Canada* (Harvey et al. 2011), and *A Field Guide to Mammals of North America* (Reid 2006). Although common names of wildlife species are well standardized, scientific names are provided immediately following common names of wildlife species in this report (first reference only). To the extent possible, nomenclature of birds follows the most recent annual supplement of the American Ornithological Society's *Checklist of North American Birds* (Chesser et al. 2020), nomenclature of amphibians and reptiles follows *Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico, with Comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding* (Crother 2017), and nomenclature for mammals follows the *Revised Checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico* (Bradley et al. 2014).

Existing Site Conditions

According to the *Custom Soil Resource Report for Antelope Valley Area, California* (USDA 2023), the project site is underlain by the following soil units: Hesperia loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes (HgA); Rosamond loamy fine sand (Rm); Rosamond fine sandy loam (Ro); and Rosamond loamy fine sand, slightly saline (Rr). Topographically, the project site is flat, ranging from approximately 2,391 feet above mean sea level (amsl) to approximately 2,387 feet amsl. Refer to Attachment C for representative photographs of the survey area taken during the field survey.

Approximately 19.81 acres of disturbed habitat occurs within the project site (refer to Attachment B). Disturbed habitat within the project site does not comprise a natural vegetation community and instead consists of areas that have been heavily disturbed/mixed/compacted as a result of anthropogenic disturbances and are either devoid of vegetation or dominated by non-native, ruderal plant species including, but not limited to, Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), London rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), red-stem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), burclover (*Medicago polymorpha*), and fiddleneck (*Amsinckia* sp.). Native plant species including rubber rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nauseosa*), Mojave cottonthorn (*Tetradymia stenolepis*), sapphire woollystar (*Eriastrum sapphirinum*), Anderson thornbush (*Lycium andersonii*), winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), and Thurber's buckwheat (*Eriogonum thurberi*) were also sporadically observed on the southern half of the project site.

Wildlife

A total of twelve (12) wildlife species were observed or detected during the field survey and included Great Basin whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris tigris*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), and domestic dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*). Due to a lack of suitable flowing aquatic habitat within the survey area, fish and amphibians would not be expected to occur.

Nesting Birds

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 and the California Fish and Game Code (CFGC)[2]. To maintain compliance with the MBTA and CFGC, clearance surveys are typically required prior to any ground disturbance or vegetation removal activities to avoid direct or indirect impacts to active bird nests and/or nesting birds. Consequently, if an active bird nest is destroyed or if project activities result in indirect impacts (e.g., nest abandonment, loss of reproductive effort) to nesting birds, it is considered "take" and is potentially punishable by fines and/or imprisonment. The survey area provides limited nesting habitat for most year-round and seasonal avian residents other than those that nest on the open ground (e.g., killdeer [*Charadrius vociferus*]). However, no active nests or birds displaying overt nesting behavior were observed during the field survey.

Migratory Corridors and Linkages

Wildlife corridors and linkages are key features for wildlife movement between habitat patches. Wildlife corridors are generally defined as those areas that provide opportunities for individuals or local populations to conduct seasonal migrations, permanent dispersals, or daily commutes, while linkages generally refer to broader areas that provide movement opportunities for multiple keystone/focal species or allow for propagation of ecological processes (e.g., for movement of pollinators), often between areas of conserved land.

The project site is on the eastern edge of current development in the City of Lancaster. Although it is adjacent to other areas of undeveloped, relatively undisturbed land, extensive development is present just over 0.5 mile west of the project site. Similarly, areas to the south and to the east within a 5-mile radius, although mostly undeveloped, are primarily being used for agriculture and as a result provide relatively limited utility as wildlife movement corridors. Areas to the north between East Avenue I and East Avenue H are developed with residential homes but undeveloped open space generally occurs further north. Although wildlife may and probably do move throughout the general vicinity, because the project site is on the edge of extensive development to the west and relatively extensive agriculture to the south and east, the project site likely provides little use for largescale wildlife movement other than localized movement between parcels. Further, the project site is not located within any designated wildlife corridor or Significant Ecological Area (SEA) identified in the City of Lancaster General Plan 2030 or Los Angeles County General Plan (County of Los Angeles 2015).

State and Federal Jurisdictional Aquatic Resources

There are three agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into "waters of the U.S." pursuant to Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) regulates discharges to surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and Section 13263

[2] Section 3503 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by the California Fish and Game Code or any regulation made pursuant thereto; Section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey); and Section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory non-game bird except as provided by the rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 703 *et seq.*).

of the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated vegetation communities under Section 1600 *et seq*. of the CFGC.

Based on a review of aerial photographs, USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangle map, USFWS National Wetland Inventory maps, and observations made during the field survey, there are no drainage features within the project site that would fall under the jurisdictional authority of the USACE, RWQCB, or CDFW.

Special-Status Biological Resources

The CNDDB (CDFW 2023a), CIRP (CNPS 2023), and IPaC (USFWS 2023a) were queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species as well as sensitive natural vegetation communities in the USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangle. The field survey was conducted to assess the conditions of the habitat(s) within the boundaries of the project site and survey area to determine if the existing vegetation communities, at the time of the field survey, have the potential to provide suitable habitat(s) for special-status plant and wildlife species. Additionally, the potentials for special-status species to occur within the project site were determined based on the reported occurrence locations in the CNDDB and CIRP and the following criteria:

- **Present**: the species was observed or detected within the survey area during the field survey.
- **High**: Occurrence records (within 20 years) indicate that the species has been known to occur on or within 1 mile of the survey area and the site is within the normal expected range of this species. Intact, suitable habitat preferred by this species occurs within the survey area and/or there is viable landscape connectivity to a local known extant population(s) or sighting(s).
- **Moderate**: Occurrence records (within 20 years) indicate that the species has been known to occur within 1 mile of the survey area and the survey area is within the normal expected range of this species. There is suitable habitat within the survey area, but the site is ecologically isolated from any local known extant populations or sightings.
- **Low**: Occurrence records (within 20 years) indicate that the species has been known to occur within 5 miles of the survey area, but the site is outside of the normal expected range of the species and/or there is poor quality or marginal habitat within the survey area.
- **Not Expected**: There are no occurrence records of the species occurring within 5 miles of the survey area, there is no suitable habitat within the survey area, and/or the survey area is outside of the normal expected range for the species.

The CNDDB, CIRP, and IPaC databases identified eight (8) special-status plant species and twelve (12) special-status wildlife species as occurring within the USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangle. No sensitive vegetation communities were identified in the records search. Special-status plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to occur within the project site based on specific habitat requirements, availability/quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions of species/populations. Special-status biological resources identified during the literature review are presented in Attachment D.

Special-Status Plants

A total of eight (8) special-status plant species have been recorded in the USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangle by the CNDDB and CIRP, and for the project region by IPaC (refer to Attachment D). No special-status plant species were identified within the survey area during the field survey. Based on the results of the field survey and a review of specific habitat preferences, occurrence records, known distributions, and elevation ranges, Michael Baker determined that all of the special-status plant species identified by the CNDDB, CIRP, and IPaC databases are not expected to occur within the project site.

Special-Status Wildlife

A total of twelve (12) special-status wildlife species have been recorded in the USGS *Lancaster East*, C*alifornia* 7.5-minute quadrangle by the CNDDB and IPaC databases (refer to Attachment D). Although horned larks were detected on-site, the specific subspecies was not determined and due to the overlap of subspecies that occurs in the project region, it is unknown if the birds on-site represented the subspecies *Eremophila alpestris actia*, which is a California Watch List (WL) species, or a different subspecies. Additionally, a single Bell's sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli*) was heard singing just outside the site boundaries but was never observed. Based on known distribution alone, it is assumed that the bird detected was of the *A.b. canescens* subspecies, which resides on the desert slope and is not considered sensitive, rather than the nominate *A.b. belli* subspecies, which resides on the coastal slope and is also a California WL species. No other special-status species were detected during the field survey.

Based on the results of the field survey and a review of specific habitat preferences, occurrence records, known distributions, and elevation ranges, Michael Baker determined that the project site has a moderate potential to support burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; a California SSC) and loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*; a California SSC). There are numerous CNDDB records of burrowing owl in the general project vicinity, including at least two occurrences across the street from the project on the south side of Lancaster Boulevard (CDFW 2023a). The on-site habitat is open and provides low-growing vegetation with far fields of view preferred by this species, and the site was found to have multiple rodent burrow complexes potentially suitable for burrowing owl. However, foraging raptors and domestic dogs may predate on any owls that could occur on-site. Likewise, the extensive rabbitbrush and allscale vegetation on the project site provide ideal perching opportunities and habitat for loggerhead shrikes, another California SSC that is known to occur semi-regularly in the general project vicinity (eBird 2023). However, because the site is assumed to be occasionally mowed based on historic aerial imagery (Google Inc. 2023), repeated disturbances could potentially dissuade these species from occurring on-site as anything other than transients. Although there are records in the CNDDB for other special-status bird species in the surrounding area, such as mountain plover (*Charadrius montanus*; a California SSC), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*; a California Threatened species), and ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*; a California WL species), on-site habitat is not suitable to support these species and they are not expected to occur. Similarly, all remaining special-status wildlife species identified by the CNDDB and IPaC databases either have a low potential or are not expected to occur within the project site. The site is unlikely to support any other special-status passerine birds and does not have any nesting habitat for raptors, although raptors may opportunistically forage on-site.

Sensitive Vegetation Communities

No sensitive vegetation communities have been reported in the USGS *Lancaster East*, *California* 7.5-minute quadrangle by the CNDDB. Based on a review of the latest draft of the *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW 2023f), the disturbed habitat occurring on-site is not considered sensitive by CDFW (CDFW 2023f).

Critical Habitat

Under the definition used by the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), designated "Critical Habitat" refers to specific areas within the geographical range of a species that were occupied at the time it was listed, that contain the physical or biological features that are essential to the survival and eventual recovery of that species, and that may require special management considerations or protection, regardless of whether the species occurs in the area. Areas that were not known to be occupied at the time a species was listed can also be designated Critical Habitat if they contain one or more of the physical or biological features that are essential to that species' conservation and if the other areas that are occupied are inadequate to ensure the species' recovery. If a project may result in take or adverse modification to a species' designated Critical Habitat and the project has a federal nexus, the project proponent may be required to provide suitable mitigation. Projects with a federal nexus may include projects that occur on federal lands, require federal permits (e.g., CWA Section 404 permit), or receive any federal oversight or funding. If there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for providing funds or permits would be required to consult with the USFWS under the FESA. The project site is not located within designated Critical Habitat for any federally listed species.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the results of the literature review and field survey, it was determined that the project site has a moderate potential to support burrowing owl (a California SSC) and loggerhead shrike (a California SSC). No other special-status plant or wildlife species are expected to occur on-site. However, nesting habitat for ground-nesting birds as well as limited nesting habitat for birds that nest in shrubs and trees is present within the project site.

In order to avoid and/or minimize potential impacts to biological resources, it is recommended that the following Avoidance & Minimization Measures be implemented:

AMM BIO-1: If project-related activities are to be initiated during the nesting season (January 1 to August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than three (3) days prior to the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities. The qualified biologist shall survey all suitable nesting habitat within the project impact area, and areas within a biologically defensible buffer zone surrounding the project impact area. If no active bird nests are detected during the clearance survey, project activities may begin, and no additional avoidance and minimization measures shall be required. If an active bird nest is found, the species shall be identified, and a "no-disturbance" buffer shall be established around the active nest. The size of the "no-disturbance" buffer shall be increased or decreased based on the judgement of the qualified biologist and level of activity and sensitivity of the species. The qualified biologist shall periodically monitor any active bird nests to determine if project-related activities

occurring outside the "no-disturbance" buffer disturb the birds and if the buffer shall be increased. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, project activities within the "no-disturbance" buffer may occur following an additional survey by the qualified biologist to search for any new bird nests in the restricted area.

AMM BIO-2: A pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 30 days prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to avoid impacts to burrowing owls and/or occupied burrows. The pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist and in accordance with the methods outlined in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (California Department of Fish and Game 2012). Documentation of surveys and findings shall be submitted to the City of Lancaster for review and file. If no burrowing owls or occupied burrows are detected, project activities may begin, and no additional avoidance and minimization measures shall be required.

If an occupied burrow is found outside, but within 500 feet, of the development footprint, the qualified biologist shall establish a "no-disturbance" buffer around the burrow location(s). The size of the "no-disturbance" buffer shall be determined in consultation with CDFW and be based on the species status (i.e., breeding, non-breeding) and proposed level of disturbance. If an occupied burrow is found within the development footprint and cannot be avoided, a burrowing owl exclusion and mitigation plan shall be prepared and submitted to CDFW for approval prior to initiating project activities.

In addition, prior to the initiation of on-site project activities, the project proponent would be required to pay the City of Lancaster's Biological Impact Fee, which is a development fee used to mitigate the long-term incremental impact of new development within the City of Lancaster. The current Biological Impact Fee as of April 23, 2021 is $770 per gross acre of new development on vacant land[3].

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (949) 855-3646 or arthur.popp@mbakerintl.com should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Art Popp
Natural Resources Manager

Tom Millington
Senior Biologist

Attachments:

A. *Tentative Tract Map 62478*
B. *Figure 1 – Project Site*
C. *Site Photographs*
D. *Literature Review Results*
E. *References*

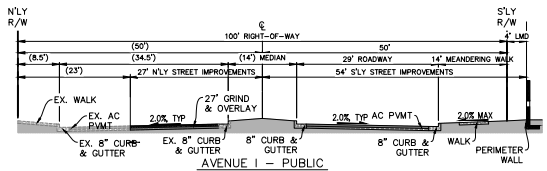
[3] City of Lancaster Fee Schedule: https://www.cityoflancasterca.org/home/showpublisheddocument/43416/637686855310168407

Attachment A

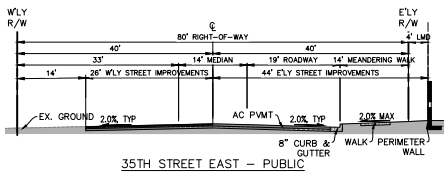
Tentative Tract Map 62478

IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

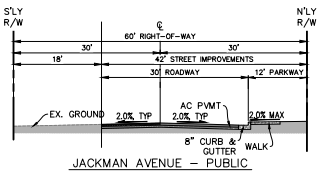
TENTATIVE TRACT MAP 62478



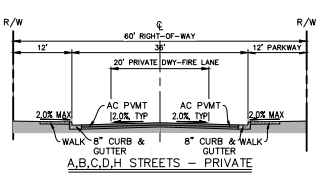
AVENUE I – PUBLIC
100' R/W – PRIMARY ARTERIAL
NTS



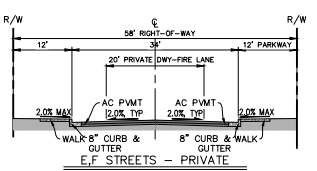
35TH STREET EAST – PUBLIC
80' R/W – SECONDARY ARTERIAL
NTS



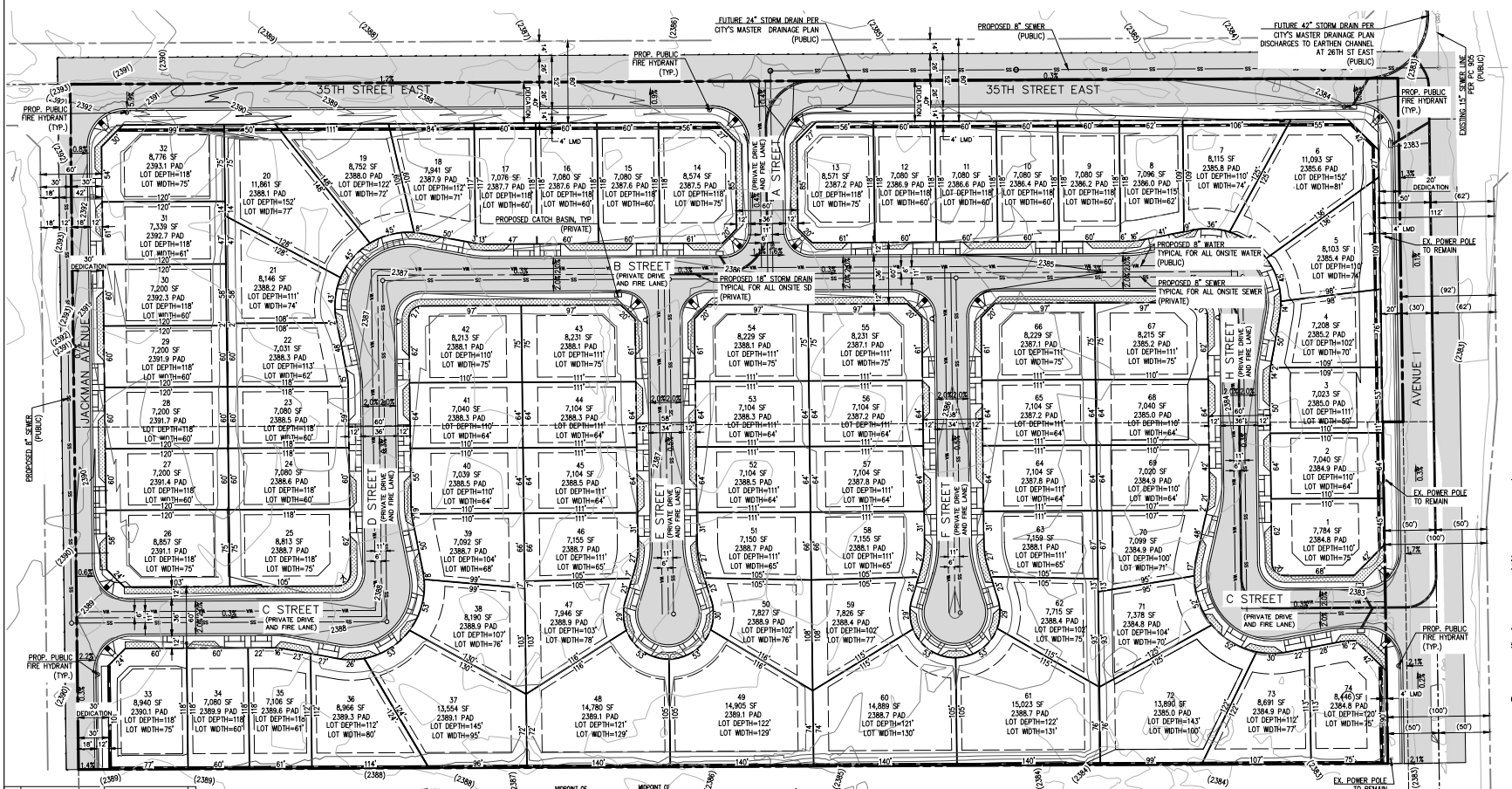
JACKMAN AVENUE – PUBLIC
60' R/W – LOCAL RESIDENTIAL
NTS



A,B,C,D,H STREETS – PRIVATE
60' R/W – LOCAL RESIDENTIAL
NTS



E,F STREETS – PRIVATE
58' R/W – CUL-DE-SAC RESIDENTIAL
NTS



OWNER:

RODEO CREDIT ENTERPRISES
9595 WILSHIRE BLVD
SUITE 706
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212
ATTN: KRIS PINERO

ENGINEER:

D&D ENGINEERING INC.
119 W HYDE PARK BLVD
INGLEWOOD, CA 90302
ATTN: HENRIK MAZARIAN

NOTE

DRIVEWAY WIDTH AND LOCATIONS, CUL-DE-SACS, KNUCKLES, CATCH BASINS AND MANHOLES WILL COMPLY WITH THE CITY'S ENGINEERING DESIGN GUIDELINES AND SHALL BE DESIGNED PER THE CITY'S STANDARD.

LEGEND:

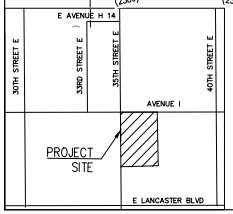
FS	FINISH SURFACE
FL	FLOW LINE
EG	EDGE OF PAVEMENT
PE	PAD ELEVATION
	TRACT BOUNDARY
	PROP R/W
	FUTURE/APPROX R/W EASEMENT
	PROP. CURB & GUTTER
	FUTURE CURB & GUTTER
	EX. CURB & GUTTER
	RETAINING/SITE WALL
8" SS	PROP. SEWER LINE
8" WA	PROP. WATER LINE
SD	PROP. STORM DRAIN
(SS)	EX. SEWER LINE
(WA)	EX. WATER LINE
	EX. MAJOR CONTOUR
	EX. MINOR CONTOUR LINE
(XXXX.XX)	EX. ELEVATION
XX.XX	PROP. ELEVATION
MSBL	MINIMUM SETBACK LINES
	PROP. A.C. PAVEMENT
	PROP. SIDEWALK
	PROP. OPEN SPACE
	PROP. PUBLIC FIRE HYDRANT

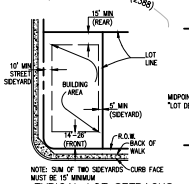
GENERAL NOTES:

1. LEGAL DESCRIPTION

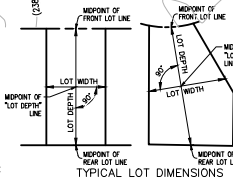
   THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER, IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
   PARCEL 3: APN: 3150-003-001
   PARCEL 4: APN: 3150-003-002

2. DATE OF SURVEY DECEMBER, 2003
3. EXISTING LAND USE (ONSITE) VACANT
   EXISTING LAND USE (OFFSITE) NORTH-SFR & LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
   SOUTH- VACANT
   EAST-LIGHT INDUSTRIAL & VACANT
   WEST-VACANT
4. EXISTING ZONING R-7,000
   PROPOSED ZONING R-7,000
5. GROSS AREA 19.8 AC±
   NET AREA 18.0 AC±
   TOTAL RESIDENTIAL LOTS 74
   GROSS DENSITY 3.7 DU/ACRE
   NET DENSITY 4.1 DU/ACRE
   FLOOD ZONE ZONE B
6. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 3150-003-001 &3150-003-002

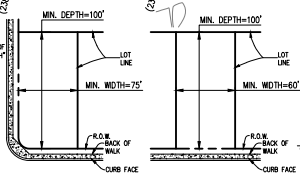




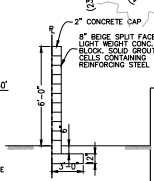
TYPICAL LOT SETBACKS
N.T.S.



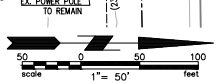
TYPICAL LOT DIMENSIONS
PER CITY OF LANCASTER MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 17.04.240
N.T.S.



MINIMUM LOT DIMENSIONS
N.T.S.



PERIMETER WALL DETAIL
N.T.S.



D & D ENGINEERING, INC.
119 W HYDE PARK BLVD
INGLEWOOD, CA 90302
Phone: 424-351-6800

CITY OF LANCASTER
AVENUE I AND 35TH STREET EAST

TENTATIVE TRACT MAP 62478

SCALE: 1"=50'
DATE: 3/7/2023
SHT NO.: 01 OF 01

Drawing Name: M:\2201\Eng\2201\Conceptual-Entitlements\TTM\TTM_62478.dwg
Last Opened: Mar 07, 2023 - 11:21am by: Robert Dizon

Attachment B

Figure 1 – Project Site

6/23/2023 JN I:\pdata\000000100\10PI\Ryan Phaneuf\GIS\000032 - TTM 62478\GIS\APRX\TTM62478_Natural_Resources\TTM62478_Natural_Resources.aprx

Legend

- Project Site (19.81 acres)
- Disturbed Habitat (19.81 acres)
- ⊕ Reference Point

Michael Baker INTERNATIONAL

0 100 200 Feet

Source: Nearmap (09/2021)

TENTATIVE TRACT MAP 62478
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Project Site

Figure 1

Attachment C

Site Photographs

Photograph 1: View from the northwest corner of the project site, facing southeast.

Photograph 2: View from the northeast corner of the project site, facing southwest.

Photograph 3: View from the eastern portion of the project site, facing west.

Photograph 4: View from the southeast corner of the project site, facing south.

Photograph 5: View from the southwest corner of the project site, facing northeast.

Photograph 6: View from the western boundary of the project site, facing east.

Photograph 7: View from the central portion of the project site, facing north.

Photograph 8: View from the central portion of the project site, facing south.

Attachment D

Literature Review Results

Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: Quad IS (Lancaster East (3411861))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Anniella pulchra Northern California legless lizard	ARACC01020	None	None	G3	S2S3	SSC
Astragalus preussii var. laxiflorus Lancaster milk-vetch	PDFAB0F721	None	None	G4T2	S1	1B.1
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
Buteo regalis ferruginous hawk	ABNKC19120	None	None	G4	S3S4	WL
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S4	
Calochortus striatus alkali mariposa-lily	PMLIL0D190	None	None	G3	S2S3	1B.2
Canbya candida white pygmy-poppy	PDPAP05020	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	4.2
Charadrius montanus mountain plover	ABNNB03100	None	None	G3	S2S3	SSC
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi Parry's spineflower	PDPGN040J2	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
Helminthoglypta fontiphila Soledad shoulderband	IMGASC2250	None	None	G1	S1	
Lanius ludovicianus loggerhead shrike	ABPBR01030	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum sagebrush loeflingia	PDCAR0E011	None	None	G5T3	S2	2B.2
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
Xerospermophilus mohavensis Mohave ground squirrel	AMAFB05150	None	Threatened	G3	S2	

Record Count: 14

California Native Plant Society

Search Results

8 matches found. Click on scientific name for details

Search Criteria: Quad is one of [**3411861**]

▲ SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FAMILY	LIFEFORM	BLOOMING PERIOD	FED LIST	STATE LIST	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	CA RARE PLANT RANK	GENERAL HABITATS	MICROHABITATS	LOWEST ELEVATION (FT)	HIGHEST ELEVATION (FT)
Astragalus preussii var. *laxiflorus*	Lancaster milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Mar-May	None	None	G4T2	S1	1B.1	Chenopod scrub		2295	2295
Calochortus striatus	alkali mariposa-lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jun	None	None	G3	S2S3	1B.2	Chaparral, Chenopod scrub, Meadows and seeps, Mojavean desert scrub	Alkaline, Mesic	230	5235
Canbya candida	white pygmy-poppy	Papaveraceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	4.2	Joshua tree "woodland", Mojavean desert scrub, Pinyon and juniper woodland	Granitic, Gravelly, Sandy	1970	4790
Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi*	Parry's spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland	Openings, Rocky (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)	900	4005
Chorizanthe spinosa	Mojave spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jul	None	None	G4	S4	4.2	Chenopod scrub, Joshua tree "woodland", Mojavean desert scrub, Playas	Alkaline (sometimes)	20	4265

Goodmania luteola	golden goodmania	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	None	None	G3	S3	4.2	Meadows and seeps, Mojavean desert scrub, Playas, Valley and foothill grassland	Alkaline (sometimes), Clay (sometimes)	65	7220
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	sagebrush loeflingia	Caryophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-May	None	None	G5T3	S2	2B.2	Desert dunes, Great Basin scrub, Sonoran desert scrub	Sandy	2295	5300
Yucca brevifolia						CC	GNR	SNR	CBR				

Showing 1 to 8 of 8 entries

Suggested Citation:
California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2023. Rare Plant Inventory (online edition, v9.5). Website https://www.rareplants.cnps.org [accessed 23 June 2023].

IPaC **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

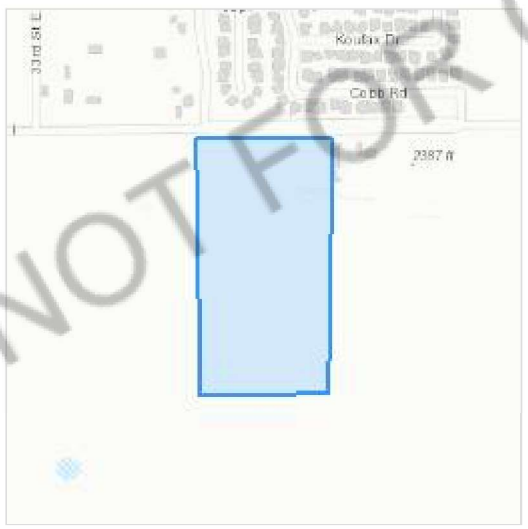
IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Los Angeles County, California



Local office

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

(760) 431-9440
(760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species[1] and their critical habitats are managed by the Ecological Services Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries[2]).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact NOAA Fisheries for species under their jurisdiction.

---

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the listing status page for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. 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.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Birds

NAME	STATUS
California Condor Gymnogyps californianus There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Desert Tortoise Gopherus agassizii There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4481	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Managment https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found below.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Lawrence's Goldfinch Carduelis lawrencei This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9464	Breeds Mar 20 to Sep 20
Mountain Plover Charadrius montanus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3638	Breeds elsewhere
Tricolored Blackbird Agelaius tricolor This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3910	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 10

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week

12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

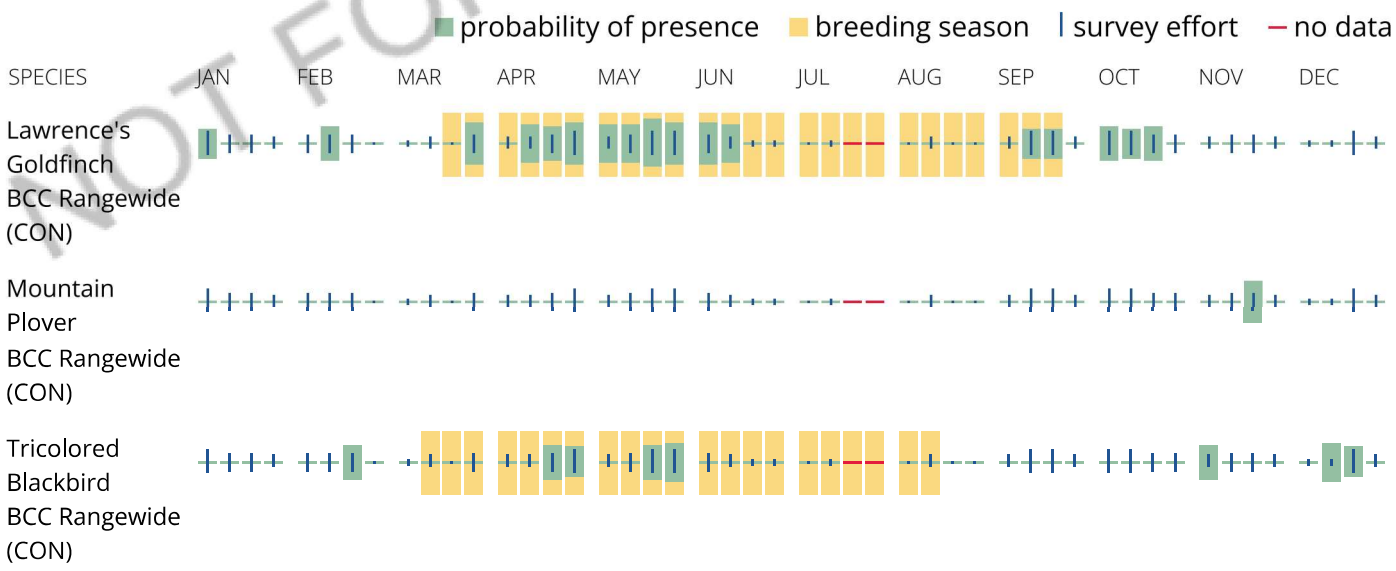
Breeding Season (▪)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). This data is derived from a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);

2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the Eagle Act requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the Diving Bird Study and the nanotag studies or contact Caleb Spiegel or Pam Loring.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

Wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries

Refuge and fish hatchery information is not available at this time

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and

nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

Attachment E

References

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