

# GENERAL BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP CONSISTENCY ANALYSIS FOR ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBERS 465-140-042 & -043

# CITY OF HEMET COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

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#### 1.0 Introduction

HES was contracted to prepare a General Biological Assessment (GBA) and Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Consistency Analysis for Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 465-140-042 and 465-140-043. The project site consists of approximately 74.88 gross acres (71.11 net acres) located east of the intersection of Simpson Road and California Avenue in the City of Hemet, County of Riverside, California.

#### 1.1 Project Site Location

The 74.88-acre project site includes Riverside County Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 465-140-042 and 465-140-043 and approximately 2.12 acres of Simpson Road along the northern border of the site and approximately 1.65 acres of Warren Road which intersects APNs 465-140-042 and 465-140-043. The 74.88-acre project site is located south of Simpson Road, east of El Fuego Road, and is crossed by Warren Road in the City of Hemet, County of Riverside, California. Specifically, the project site is located within Township 5 South, Range 2 West in Section 25 of the *Winchester* United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic quadrangle. The center point latitude and longitude for the project site are 33°42'18.9609" North and 117°02'18.9205" West (Figures 1 and 2, *Location Map* and *Vicinity Map*).

#### 1.2 Project Description

The proposed project includes the construction of two warehouse buildings with office buildings with related parking lots, driveways, landscaping, and catch basins (Figure 3, *Project Plans*). The proposed project also includes approximately 2.12 acres of roadway improvements on Simpson Road, north of APN 465-140-043 and -042, and approximately 1.65 acres of roadway improvements on Warren Road will be adjacent to the eastern border of APN 465-140-043 and the western border of APN 465-140-042. The proposed project also includes the installation of a new 1,650 linear foot sewer line within the Simpson right-of-way that will connect to the existing San Diego Pipeline (Appendix E, *Sewer Exhibit*). The project will result in impacts to the entire 74.88-acre site (Figure 5, *Impacts Map*).

#### 2.0 Methodology

#### 2.1 Literature Review

HES conducted a literature review and reviewed aerial photographs and topographic maps of the project site and surrounding areas. A five-mile radius was used to identify sensitive species with the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Endangered Species Lists, and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) rare plant lists to obtain species information for the project area. The CNDDB and USFWS critical habitat databases were utilized, together with Geographic Information System (GIS) software, to locate the previously recorded locations of sensitive plant and wildlife occurrences and designated

critical habitat and determine the distance from the project site. Additionally, the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan was reviewed for information on known occurrences of sensitive species within Riverside County.

#### 2.1.1 Western Riverside County MSHCP

The Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (Dudek and Associates 2003) is a comprehensive, multijurisdictional habitat conservation planning program for western Riverside County, California. The purpose of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is to preserve native habitats, and to this end, the plan focuses upon the habitat needs of multiple species rather than one species at a time. The Western Riverside County MSHCP provides coverage/take authorization for some species listed under the federal or state Endangered Species Act (ESA) as well as non-listed special-status plant and wildlife species. It also provides mitigation for impacts to special-status species and their associated habitats.

Through agreements with the USFWS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFWG), 146 listed and special-status plant and animal species receive some level of coverage under the Western Riverside County MSHCP. Of the 146 covered species, the majority have no additional survey needs or conservation requirements. Furthermore, the Western Riverside County MSHCP provides mitigation for project-specific impacts to these species, thereby reducing the degree of impact to below a level of significance, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Several of the species covered under the Western Riverside County MSHCP have additional survey requirements. These include the riparian communities and associated species addressed in Section 6.1.2 of the Western Riverside County MSHCP document ("Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools"), plants identified in Section 6.1.3 ("Narrow Endemic Plant Species"); and plants and animal species addressed in Section 6.3.2 ("Additional Survey Needs and Procedures").

#### 2.1.2 Project Relationship to the Western Riverside County MSHCP

The project area is located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) boundaries. The City of Hemet, acting as the lead agency for the proposed project, is a permittee under the Western Riverside County MSHCP and, therefore, is afforded coverage under the state or federal ESAs for impacts to listed species covered by the plan. The City is required to document consistency with the Western Riverside County MSHCP in conjunction with any discretionary approvals for the project. As such, this report was prepared to provide all necessary information required to determine project consistency with the Western Riverside County MSHCP.

The project site is located within the Harvest Valley/Winchester Area Plan of the Western Riverside County MSHCP. The project site is not located within a MSHCP Criteria Cell or Cell Group. The project site is not located within plan-defined areas requiring surveys for criteria area species, amphibian species, or mammalian species. Additionally, the project area does not contain any habitat that would be considered riparian/riverine areas as defined in Section 6.1.2 of the Western Riverside MSHCP, and no vernal pools were observed within the project boundaries.

The site is located within plan-defined areas requiring surveys for narrow endemic plant species and burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*). Habitat assessments were conducted for the following narrow endemic plant species: Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*), Many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*), California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*), and Wright's trichocoronis (*Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii*). The habitat assessments found that no suitable habitat for these narrow endemic species occurs on site.

A habitat assessment was conducted for burrowing owl on July 8, 2022, following Step 1 of the Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside MSHCP. The habitat assessment determined that the site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for burrowing owl; therefore, focused protocol surveys were conducted. The surveys found that no burrowing owls are present within the project site; however, a pair of burrowing owls are present within the surrounding 500-foot buffer (Refer to Appendix E).

#### 2.2 Field Survey

On July 8, 2022, HES conducted a field survey of the site. Ambient temperature at 7:00 A.M. was 55 degrees Fahrenheit, clear skies, with winds ranging from 0 to 1 mile per hour from the south. The purpose of the field survey was to document the existing habitat conditions, obtain plant and animal species information, view the surrounding land uses, assess the potential for state and federal waters, assess the potential for wildlife movement corridors, and assess the presence of constituent elements for critical habitat if present.

Linear transects were walked across the project site for 100 percent coverage. All species observed were recorded. Global Positioning System (GPS) waypoints were taken to delineate specific habitat types, species locations, state or federal waters, and any other information that would be useful for the assessment of the project site. A comprehensive list of all plant and wildlife species that were detected during the field survey within the project site is included in Appendix A, *Species List*. Sensitive plant and wildlife species with the potential to occur within the project area are listed in Appendix B, *Species Probability List*. Representative site photographs were taken and are included within Appendix C, *Site Photographs*.

#### 3.0 Existing Conditions and Results

#### 3.1 Environmental Setting

The 74.88-acre project site consists of active agricultural fields and busy roads. The site is relatively flat with onsite elevations ranging from 1,417 feet to 1,427 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). The site is located east of El Fuego Road, east and west of Warren Road, and south of Simpson Road in the City of Hemet, County of Riverside, California. The site is surrounded by agricultural land to the north and northwest, the Hemet Model Masters Airpark to the southwest, and Salt Creek Channel to the south and east.

#### 3.2 Soils

Nine soil classes are identified to occur on the project site by the USDA Web Soil Survey (Appendix D, *Soils Map*). Soils at the project site are classified as follows:

- Domino fine sandy loam (Dt), saline-alkali;
- Domino silt loam (Dv), saline-alkali;
- Exeter sandy loam (EoB), slightly saline-alkaline, 0 to 5 percent slopes;
- Greenfield sandy loam (GyA), 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Hanford coarse sandy loam (HcA), 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Hanford coarse sandy loam (HcC), 2 to 8 percent slopes;
- Pachappa fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes;
- Traver loamy fine sand (Tr2), saline alkali, eroded; and
- Traver fine sandy loam (Ts), saline alkali.

None of the mapped soils are classified as hydric soils.

#### 3.3 Plant and Habitat Communities

The 74.88-acre project site consists of agricultural fields and disturbed or developed areas, as described below and depicted on Figure 4, *Habitat Map*.

#### Agricultural

The project site contains approximately 62.40 acres of agricultural fields. These areas were being actively cultivated during the field survey and consisted of tilled dirt. Sparse non-native vegetation such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*) occurred on the boundaries of these areas.

#### Disturbed/Developed Areas

The project site contains approximately 12.28 acres of disturbed/developed areas. The onsite disturbed/developed areas include previously graded areas such as dirt roads that have very sparse vegetation such as Russian thistle. The roadway improvement and sewer line areas, approximately 2.12 acres of Simpson Road north of the site and approximately 1.65 acres of Warren Road which intersects APNs 465-140-042 and 465-140-043, consist of paved areasthat have no vegetation.

#### 3.4 Wildlife

General wildlife species documented on the project site or within a 500-foot buffer around the site includes the common raven (*Corvus corax*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) and desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*).

#### 3.5 Regional Connectivity/Wildlife Movement

Wildlife movement corridors link together areas of suitable habitat that are otherwise separated by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbances. Usually, mountain canyons or riparian corridors are used by wildlife as corridors.

The project area was evaluated for its function as a wildlife corridor that species use to move between wildlife habitat zones. The project site consists of active agricultural fields surrounded by agricultural lands, residential development, and busy roads. No wildlife movement corridors were found to be present on the project site.

#### 3.6 Sensitive Biological Resources

According to the CNDDB, a total of 53 sensitive species of plants and 61 sensitive species of animals has the potential to occur on or within the vicinity of the project area. These include those species listed or candidates for listing by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS). All habitats with the potential to be used by sensitive species were evaluated during the site visit and a determination has been made for the presence or probability of presence within this report. This section will address those species listed as Candidate, Rare, Threatened, or Endangered under the state and federal endangered species laws or directed to be evaluated under the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). Sensitive species which have a potential to occur will also be discussed in this section. Other special status species are addressed within Appendix B, *Species Probability List*.

#### 3.6.1 Sensitive Plant Resources

A total of eighteen plant species are listed as state and/or federal Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate species; are 1B.1 listed plants on the CNPS Rare Plan Inventory; or have been found to have a potential to exist on the project site. Below are descriptions of these species:

#### Chaparral sand-verbena

Chaparral sand-verbena (*Abronia villosa var. aurita*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is found in sandy areas of chaparral, coastal scrub, and desert dunes habitats. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Munz's onion

Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*) is a federally Endangered, state Threatened, and CNPS 1B.1 listed plant species. It is found in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, cismontane woodland, and pinyon and juniper woodland. The project site does not have suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### San Diego ambrosia

San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*) is listed as federally Endangered and ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. Its habitat includes wetlands in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland. It is commonly found in sandy loam or clay soil and sometimes in alkaline soils. This species persists where disturbance has been superficial. It is also sometimes found on margins or near vernal pools. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Rainbow manzanita

Rainbow Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos rainbowensis*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is usually found in gabbro chaparral habitat. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Jaeger's milk-vetch

Jaeger's milk-vetch (*Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is often found in dry ridges and valleys and open sandy slopes. Its habitat includes coastal scrub, chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, and cismontane woodland. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### San Jacinto Valley crownscale

San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata var. notatior*) is a federally listed endangered species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS rare plant inventory. Its habitat includes playas, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. It is commonly found in the alkaline areas in the San

Jacinto River Valley. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. This species is not present.

#### Parish's brittlescale

Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant inventory. Its habitat includes shadescale scrub, alkali sink, riparian, playas, vernal pools and wetland. It is usually found on drying alkali flats with fine soils. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### **Nevin's barberry**

Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*) is a federally and state listed Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is typically found on steep, north facing slopes or in low grade sandy washes. Its habitat includes chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Thread-leaved brodiaea

The thread-leaved brodiaea (brodiaea filifolia) is a federally Threatened and state Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is found in chaparral, cismontane woodlands, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, vernal pools and wetland. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### **Smooth tarplant**

Smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. The species occurs in habitats that include alkali playa, chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, riparian woodlands, wetlands, and valley and foothill grasslands. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Parry's spineflower

Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. The species occurs in dry, sandy soils on dry slopes and flats, sometimes at the interface of two vegetations types, such as chaparral and oak woodland. Its habitat includes coastal scrub, chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Mojave tarplant

Mojave tarplant (*Deinandra mohavensis*) is a state listed Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.3 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. This species is typically found in low sand bars in river beds and most commonly in riparian or ephemeral grassy areas. Its habitat includes chaparral, coastal

scrub, and riparian scrub. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species** is not present.

#### Slender-horned spineflower

Slender - horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) is a federally and state listed Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. Its habitat includes chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub (alluvial fan sage scrub). No habitat for this species exists on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### San Diego button-celery

San Diego button-celery (*Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii*) is a federally and state listed Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. Its habitat includes coastal scrub, valley & foothill grasslands, vernal pools, and wetlands. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Coulter's goldfields

Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata ssp.coulteri*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. This species is usually found on alkaline soils in playas, sinks, and grasslands and flowers during April through May. Its habitat includes alkali playas, marsh, swamp, salt marsh, vernal pool, and wetland. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### Spreading navarretia

Spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*) is a federally listed Threatened Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. Its habitat includes alkali playa, chenopod scrub, marsh and swamp, vernal pools, and wetlands. This species is typically found in swales and vernal pools, often surrounded by other habitat types. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### California Orcutt grass

California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*) is a federally and state listed Endangered Species and is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is found in vernal pools. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### **Bottle liverwort**

Bottle liverwort (*Sphaerocarpos drewiae*) is ranked 1B.1 in the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. It is typically found in chaparral and coastal scrub in openings on soil. No habitat for this species is present on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### 3.6.2 Sensitive Animal Resources

A total of twelve animal species listed as state and/or federal Threatened, Endangered, Candidate will be reviewed in this section. Sensitive species which have a potential to occur will also be discussed in this section. All sensitive species within a 5-mile radius of project area were reviewed and a complete list of those species are discussed within Appendix B, *Species Probabilty List*. Below are descriptions of these species:

#### Tricolored blackbird

Tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) is a state listed Threatened Species and listed by the CDFW as a Species of Special Concern. The species occupies freshwater marshes with canopies of willows and other riparian trees. This species requires open accessible water and suitable foraging space. There is no habitat for this species on the project site. **This species is not present.** 

#### **Burrowing owl**

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) is a CDFW Species of Special Concern. This species is found in coastal prairie, coastal scrub, great basin grassland, great basin scrub, Mojave Desert scrub, Sonoran Desert scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. This species is typically found in open and dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. It is a subterranean nester and is dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably the California ground squirrel. A habitat assessment was conducted for burrowing owl following Step 1 of the Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside MSHCP. Although the project site consists of active agricultural lands continually disturbed for agricultural purposes, the habitat assessment determined that the site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for burrowing owl. Focused protocol surveys following the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* were conducted from July 8 to July 29, 2022. The surveys found that no burrowing owl are present within the project site; however, a pair of burrowing owls are present within the surrounding 500-foot buffer (Refer to Appendix E). **This species has the potential to be present.** 

#### Vernal pool fairy shrimp

Vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*) is a federally listed Threatened Species. This species is found in seasonal pools of water in valley and foothill grasslands. This species typically inhabits small, clear-water sandstone-depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt-flow depression pools. The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### San Diego fairy shrimp

San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*) is a federally listed Endangered Species. This species is found in chaparral, coastal scrub, vernal pool, and wetland habitats. There is no habitat for this species on the project site. **The species is not present.** 

#### Swainson's hawk

Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is a state listed Threatened Species. This species favors open grasslands for foraging but also occurs in agricultural settings. It relies on scattered stands of trees near agricultural fields and grasslands for nesting sites. Its habitats include great basin grassland, riparian forest, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grassland. The project site does not contain suitable nesting habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Western yellow-billed cuckoo

Western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) is a federally listed Threatened and state listed Endangered Species. This species typically nests in riparian jungles of willows, often mixed with cottonwoods, with a lower story of blackberry, nettles, or wild grape. It is found in riparian forest habitat. The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### San Bernardino kangaroo rat

San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) is a federally listed Endangered Species, state listed Candidate Endangered Species, and a CDFW Species of Special Concern. It is found in coastal scrub habitat. This species is found in alluvial scrub vegetation on sandy loam substrates, characteristic of alluvial fans and flood plains. It needs early to intermediate seral stages. The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Stephen's kangaroo rat

Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) is a federally and state listed Threatened Species. This species is found in coastal sage scrub with sparse vegetation cover, and in valley and foothill grasslands. This species prefers buckwheat, chamise, brome grass, and filaree and will burrow into firm soil. The project site does not have suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### **Quino checkerspot butterfly**

Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) is a federally listed Endangered Species. It is found in chaparral and coastal sage scrub. This species requires high densities of food plants, including *Plantago erecta*, *P. insularis*, and *Orthocarpus purpurescens*. The project site does not have suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Bald eagle

Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is a state listed Endangered and CDFW Fully Protected species. This species is found in lower montane coniferous forest and old growth. They nest in large old-growth or tress with open branches, especially ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Coastal California gnatcatcher

Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) is a federally listed Threatened Species and CDFW Species of Special Concern. This species is found in coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub habitat. This species is typically found in low, coastal sage scrub in arid washes, on mesas and slopes. The project site does not have suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Riverside fairy shrimp

Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*) is a federally listed Endangered Species. This species is found in coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pool, and wetland habitat. This species typically inhabits seasonally astatic pools filled by winter/spring rains. The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### Least Bell's vireo

Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) is a federal and state listed Endangered Species. This species is found in riparian forest, riparian scrub, and riparian woodland. Nesting habitat of this species is restricted to willow and/or mulefat dominated riparian scrub along permanent or nearly permanent streams. The project site does not contain suitable habitat for this species. **This species is not present.** 

#### 3.6.3 Nesting Birds

Migratory non-game native bird species are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Additionally, Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit take of all birds and their active nests. The project site contains shrubs that can support nesting songbirds during the nesting bird season of February 1 through September 15. Bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act have the potential to occur on site during the nesting bird season.

#### 3.7 Jurisdictional Waters

No riparian woodland and streams or drainages or riparian habitat occur on site. No CDFW, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), or Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) jurisdictional waters occur on site. No wetlands or vernal pools were found on site.

#### 4.0 Project Impacts

#### 4.1 Impacts to Habitats

The proposed project is expected to impact approximately 62.40 acres of agricultural fields and 12.28 acres of disturbed/developed areas for a total of 74.88 acres. This includes impacts to the approximately 2.12 acres of Simpson Road for roadway improvements north of APN 465-140-043 and -042, and the installation of a new 1,650 linear foot sewer line within the Simpson right-of-way that will connect to the existing San Diego Pipeline west of the project site. The 74.88 acres of impacts also includes the approximately 1.65 acres of roadway improvements on Warren Road adjacent to the eastern border of APN 465-140-043 and the western border of APN 465-140-042 (Figure 5, *Impacts Map*).

#### 4.2 Impacts to Sensitive Species

The species discussed below have the potential to occur on site. Project activities were evaluated to determine the potential for impacts to these species.

#### **Burrowing owl**

Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) is a CDFW Species of Special Concern. The habitat assessment found that the project site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for burrowing owl. Focused surveys found no burrowing owl or sign of burrowing owl were present on the project site; however, evidence of ground squirrels and ground squirrel activities and approximately three suitable burrows were observed within the 500-foot buffer area surrounding the site (Appendix E). A pair of burrowing owls were observed near and within two burrows located south of the project site within the 500-foot buffer during all four of the focused surveys. Implementation of the measures identified in the Recommendations section of this report will ensure that potential impacts to this species are less than significant.

#### 4.3 Impacts to Nesting Birds

The project site contains shrubs that can support nesting songbirds during the nesting bird season of February 1 through September 15. Implementation of the measures identified in the Recommendations section of this report (Section 6) will ensure that potential impacts to nesting birds are less than significant.

#### 4.4 Impacts to Critical Habitat

The project is not located within designated federal critical habitat. No impact to critical habitat is expected to occur.

#### 4.5 Impacts to Wildlife Movement Corridors

Wildlife movement corridors link together areas of suitable habitat that are otherwise separated by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbances. The project site was evaluated for its function as a wildlife corridor that species would use to move between wildlife habitat zones. Typically, mountain canyons or riparian corridors are used by wildlife as corridors; the project site does not contain these features. The project site consists of flat, active agricultural lands. No wildlife movement corridors were found to be present on the project site. No impacts to wildlife movement corridors are expected.

# 4.6 Conflict with the Provisions of an Adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or Other Approved Local, Regional, or State Habitat Conservation Plan

The project is within the Western Riverside MSHCP. The proposed project shall follow all Western Riverside MSHCP guidelines and requirements, no conflicts are expected.

#### 4.7 State and Federal Drainages

No jurisdictional waters or associated riparian habitat occurs on the site. Therefore, no impacts to state or federal jurisdictional drainages will result from project implementation.

#### 5.0 Western Riverside County MSHCP Consistency Analysis

#### 5.1 MSHCP Requirements

The project site is located within the Harvest Valley/Winchester Area Plan of the Western Riverside County MSHCP. The project site is not located within a MSHCP Criteria Cell or Cell Group. A discussion of the applicable Western Riverside County MSHCP requirements follows:

Section 6.1.2 Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Habitat and Vernal Pools

The project site does not contain habitat that may be considered riparian/riverine areas as defined in Section 6.1.2 of the Western Riverside County MSHCP. Due to the lack of suitable riparian habitat on the project site, focused surveys for riparian/riverine bird species listed in Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP are not warranted.

Vernal pools are seasonal depressional wetlands that occur under Mediterranean climate conditions of the west coast and in glaciated conditions of northeastern and midwestern states. They are covered by shallow water for variable periods from winter to spring but may be completely dry most of the summer and fall. Vernal pools are usually associated with hard clay layers or bedrock, which helps keep water in the pools. Vernal pools and seasonal depressions usually are dominated by hydrophytic plans, hydric soils, and evidence of hydrology.

The entire site was evaluated for the presence of habitat capable of supporting branchiopods. The site was evaluated as described in the USFWS Survey Guidelines for the Listed Large Branchiopods (May 31, 2016). The project area is primarily comprised of sandy loam. The onsite soils do not allow for water pooling on the site for any significant length of time after rain events. No vernal pools, swales, or vernal pool mimics such as ditches, borrow pits, cattle troughs, or cement culverts with signs of pooling water were found on the site. In addition, the site does not contain areas that showed signs of ponding water, hydrophytic vegetation, or soils typical of vernal pools that would be suitable for large branchiopods.

#### Section 6.1.3 Sensitive Plant Species

The project site is located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (NEPSSA) pursuant to Section 6.1.3 of the MSHCP. The project site is within the survey areas for the following narrow endemic plant species: Munz's onion, San Diego ambrosia, Many-stemmed dudleya, Spreading navarretia, California Orcutt grass, and Wright's trichocoronis. No suitable habitat for these narrow endemic species occurs on site (Refer to Table 1).

Table 1. Habitat Assessments for Narrow Endemic Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	Blooming Period	Habitat Assessment
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	Occurs in wetlands. Habitats include vernal pools in the following communities: freshwater wetlands, valley grassland, and wetland-riparian	April- August	No wetlands or vernal pools occur on site.  No suitable habitat for this species occurs on site.
Dudleya multicaulis	many- stemmed dudleya	Often found on clay in chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland	April-June	No clay soils occur on site.  No suitable soils or habitat for this species occurs on site.

Allium munzii	Munz's onion	Found on mesic and clay soils in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, valley and foothill grassland	March- May	No clay soils occur on site.  No suitable soils or habitat for this species occurs on site.
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego ambrosia	Occurs usually in non wetlands, occasionally in wetlands. Found on sandy loam or clay soil often in disturbed areas in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools	April- October	The project site predominantly consists of agricultural fields. The disturbed areas on site are not within native habitats. No vernal pools were found on site. No suitable habitat for this species occurs on site.
Navarretia fossalis	spreading navarretia	Occurs in wetlands. found in chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps (assorted shallow freshwater), playas, and vernal pools	April-June	No wetlands or vernal pools occur on site.  No suitable habitat for this species occurs on site.
Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii	Wright's trichocoronis	Occurs usually in wetlands, occasionally in non wetlands. Found on alkaline soils in meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, riparian forest, and vernal pools	May- September	No wetlands or vernal pools occur on site.  No suitable habitat for this species occurs on site.

#### Section 6.1.4 Urban/Wildlands Interface Guidelines

The project site is not located within or adjacent to a Western Riverside County MSHCP Conservation Area; therefore, the project site is not required to address Section 6.1.4 of the Western Riverside County MSHCP.

#### Section 6.3.2 Additional Surveys and Procedures

The project site is not located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP Additional survey areas for amphibians, mammals, or any special linkage areas. In addition, the project site is not located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species Survey Area (CAPSSA) pursuant to Section 6.3.2 of the Western Riverside County MSHCP. However, the project site is located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP Additional survey area for burrowing owl.

The habitat assessment found that the project site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for burrowing owl. Focused surveys found no burrowing owl or sign of burrowing owl present on the project site; however, evidence of ground squirrels and ground squirrel activities were observed and approximately three suitable burrows were identified and recorded within the 500-foot buffer area surrounding the site. A pair of burrowing owl were observed near and within two burrows located south of the project site within the 500-foot buffer during all four of the focused surveys. Refer to Appendix E.

Based on the results of the focused surveys, no burrowing owl are present within the project site; however, a pair of burrowing owl are present within the surrounding 500-foot buffer. Implementation of the measures identified in the Recommendations section of this report will ensure that potential impacts to this species are less than significant.

#### 6.0 Recommendations

Implementation of the following measures will mitigate any potential impacts resulting from project activities.

#### **Burrowing Owl**

- Focused BUOW surveys conducted on the project site found that burrowing owls are not currently present on the project site. However, due to the fact that BUOW were observed within the 500-foot buffer area surrounding the site, a 30-day preconstruction survey is required prior to the commencement of project activities (e.g. vegetation clearing, clearing and grubbing, tree removal, site watering) to ensure that no owls have colonized the site in the days or weeks preceding project activities.
- If BUOW are found to have colonized the project site prior to the initiation of construction, the project proponent shall immediately inform RCA and the Wildlife

Agencies and shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Protection and Relocation Plan for approval by RCA and the Wildlife Agencies prior to initiating ground disturbance.

• If ground-disturbing activities occur but the site is left undisturbed for more than 30 days, a pre-construction survey shall again be necessary to ensure burrowing owl has not colonized the site since it was last disturbed. If burrow owl is found, the same coordination described above shall be necessary.

#### Nesting Birds

- It is recommended that vegetation removal be conducted during the non-nesting season for migratory birds to avoid direct impacts. The nesting season is between February 1 and September 15.
- If vegetation removal shall occur during the migratory bird nesting season, between February 1 and September 15, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be performed within three days prior to vegetation removal.
- If active nests are found during nesting bird surveys, they shall be flagged, and a 200-foot buffer shall be fenced around the nests.
- A biological monitor shall visit the site once a week during ground disturbing activities to ensure all fencing is in place and no sensitive species are being impacted.

#### 7.0 Certification

ASSOCIATE BIOLOGIST

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

D	5.00.2024	g: 1	Shown Catchel Humanals	
Date	5-02-2024	Signed		
			PROJECT MANAGER	
Fieldw	vork Performed By:			
Elizab	eth Gonzalez			
SENIC	OR BIOLOGIST			
Sarah	Vasquez			

#### 8.0 References

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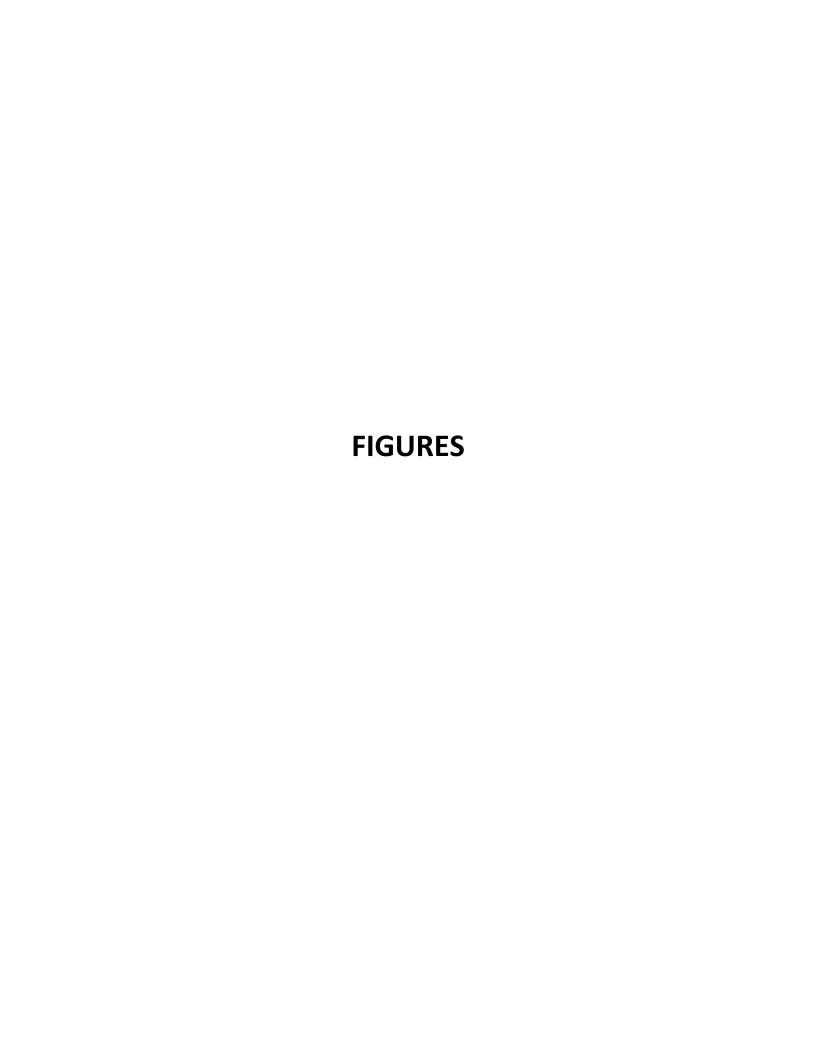
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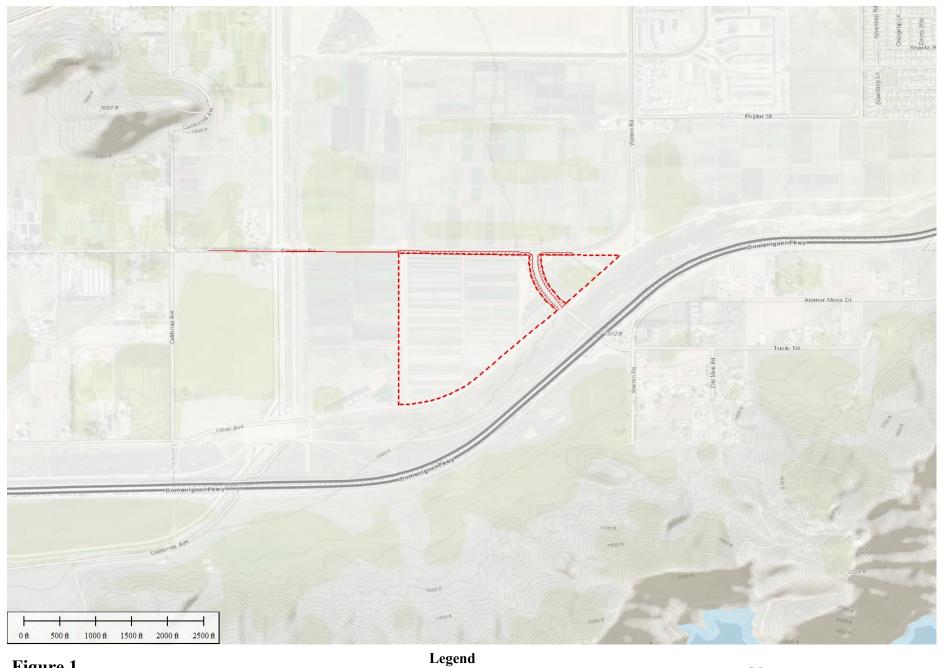
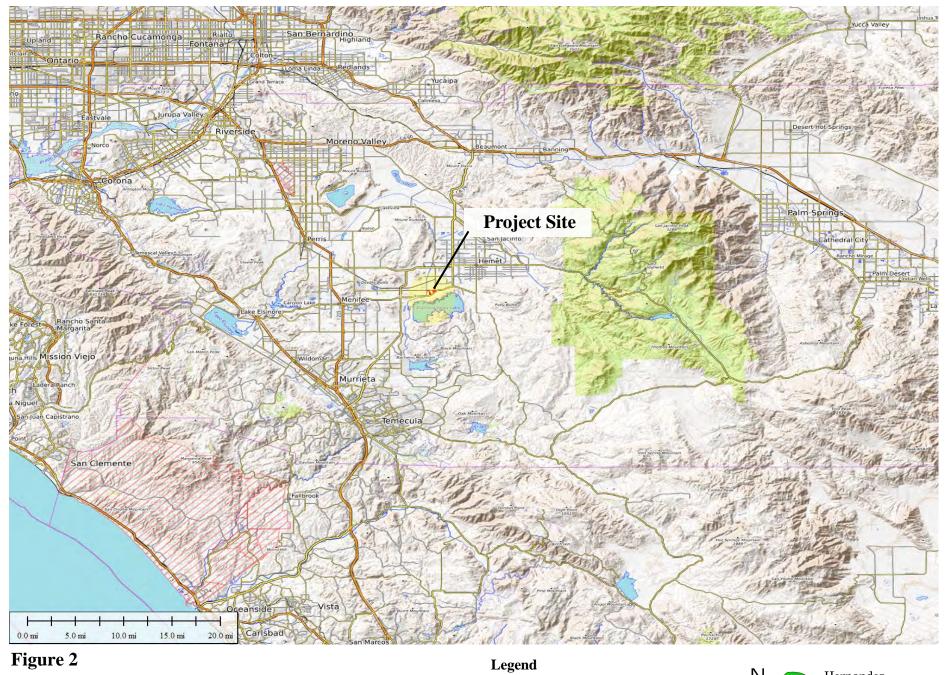


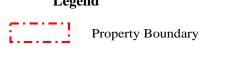
Figure 1
Location Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, CA



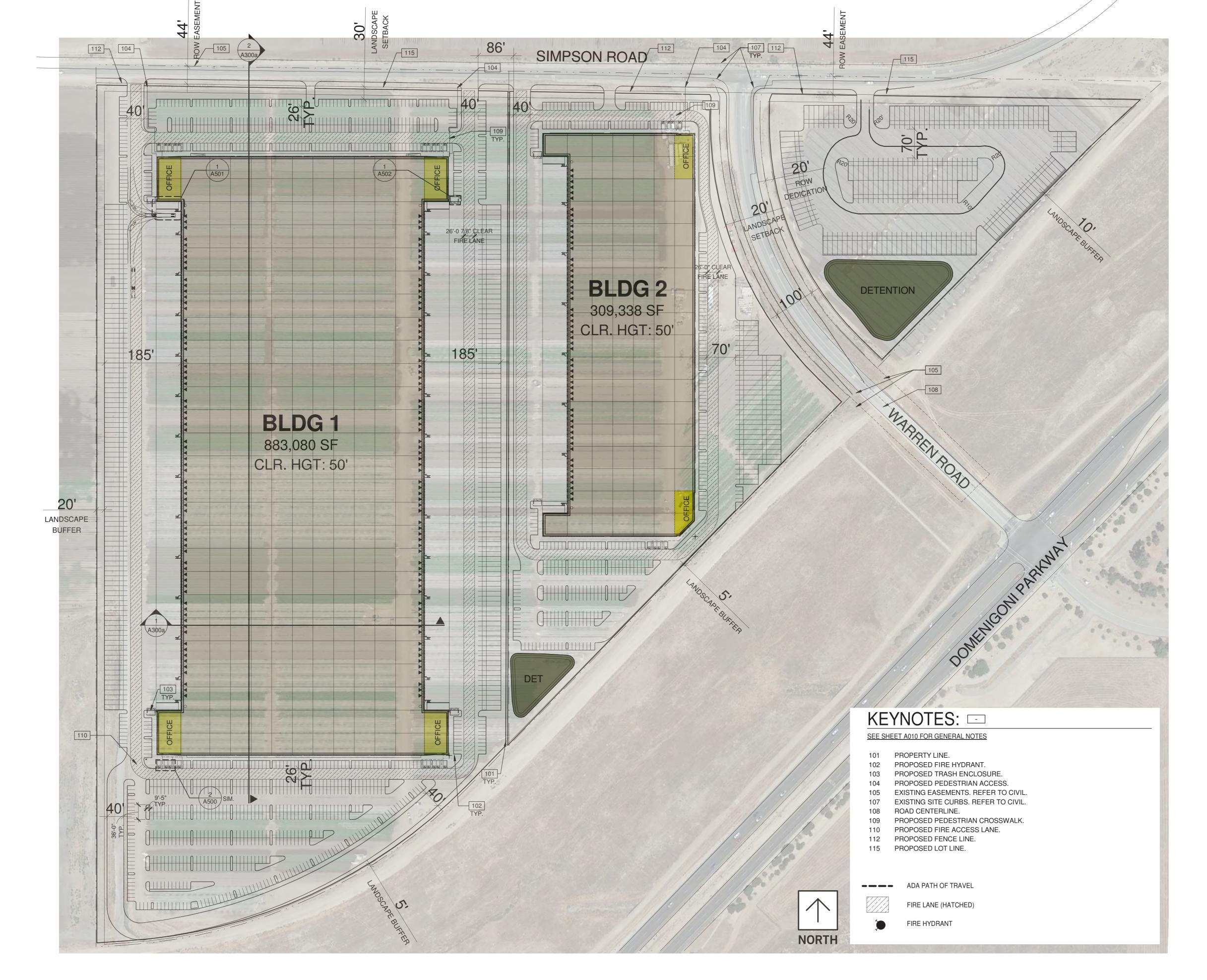


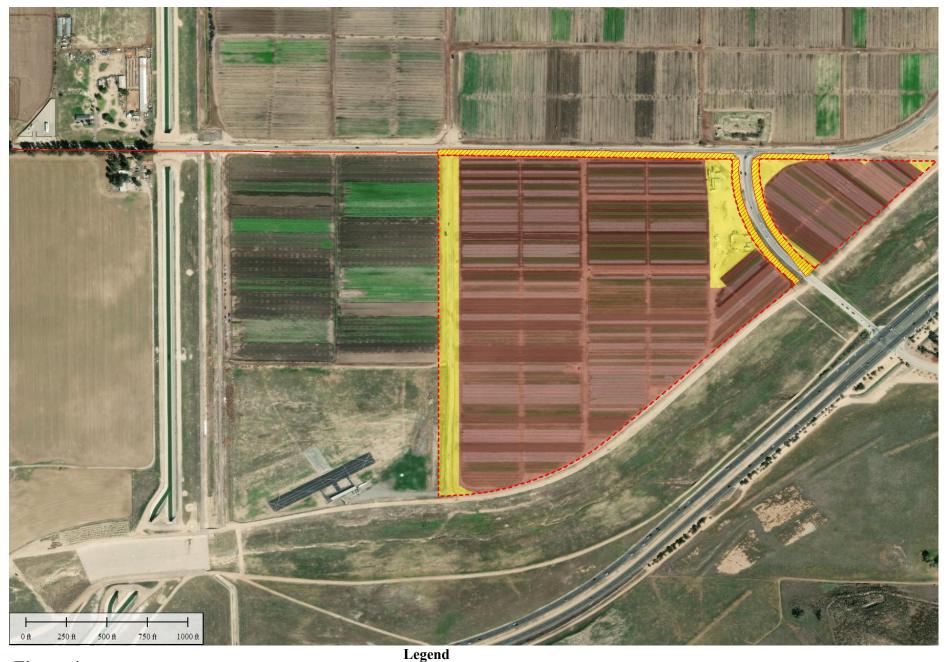


Vicinity Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, California









**Figure 4**Habitat Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, CA

Property Boundary

Agricultural Fields (62.40 Acres)

Disturbed/Developed Area (12.28 Acres)





Hernandez Environmental Services

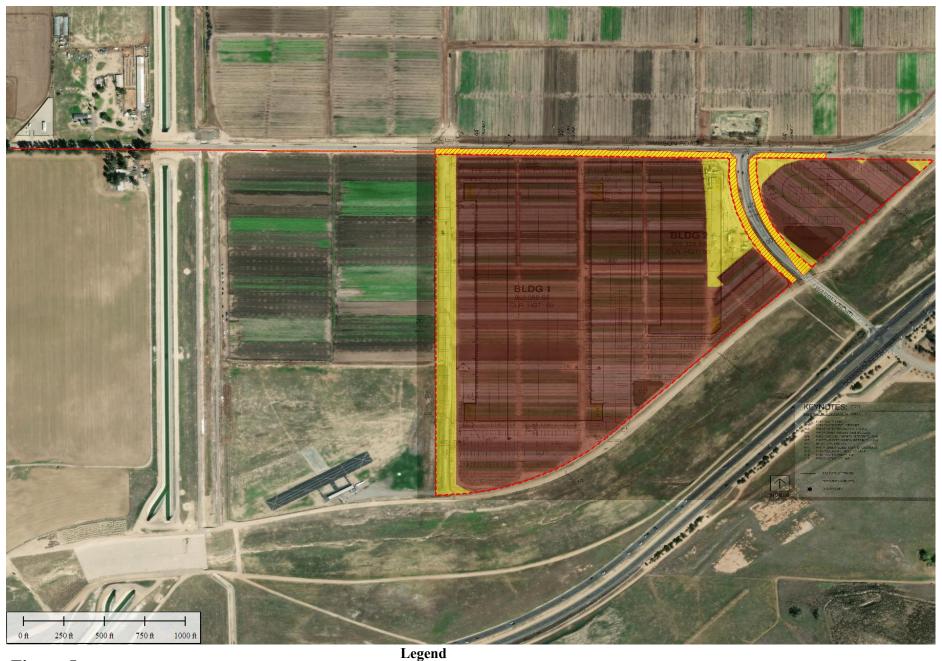


Figure 5
Impacts Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, CA

Property Boundary

Agricultural Fields (62.40 Acres)

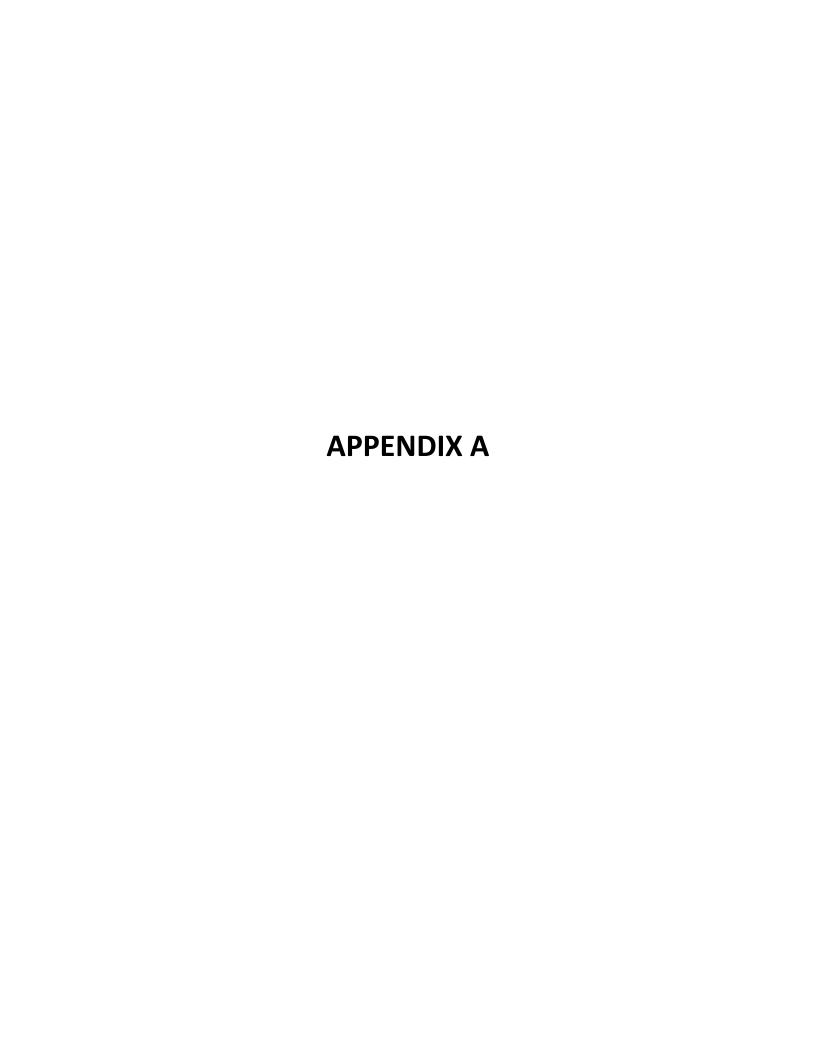
Disturbed/Developed Area (12.28 Acres)



Offiste Area

N

Hernandez Environmental Services



## **Species List**

### Plant List

Amsinckia intermedia Common fiddleneck

Bromus sp. Brome grass

Hirschfeldia incana Shortpod mustard

Hordeum sp. Barley

Salsola tragus Russian thistle

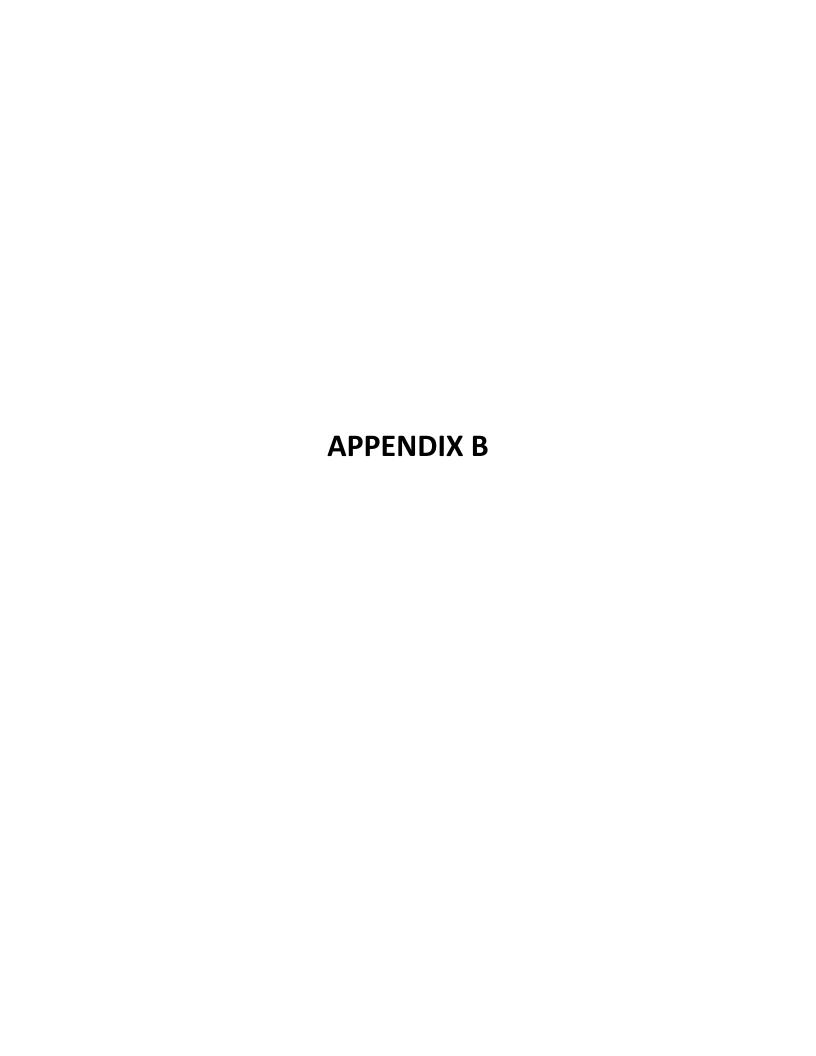
## **Animal List**

Athene cunicularia Burrowing owl

Corvus corax Common raven

Otospermophilus beecheyi California ground squirrel

Sylvilagus audubonii Desert cottontail



Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	Rare Plant Rank	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Presence/ Absence
Abronia villosa var. aurita	chaparral sand- verbena	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Desert dunes	Chaparral, coastal scrub, desert dunes.	Sandy areas60-1570 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Allium marvinii	Yucaipa onion	Monocots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral	Chaparral.	In openings on clay soils. 850-1070 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Allium munzii	Munz's onion	Monocots	Endangered	Threatened	18.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Pinon & juniper woodlands   Valley & foothill grassland	and juniper	Heavy clay soils; grows in grasslands and openings within shrublands or woodlands. 375-1040 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Almutaster pauciflorus	alkali marsh aster	Dicots	None	None	2B.2	Meadow & seep	Meadow and seeps.	Alkaline. 60-765 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego ambrosia	Dicots	Endangered	None	18.1	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland.	Sandy loam or clay soil; sometimes alkaline. In valleys; persists where disturbance has been superficial. Sometimes on margins or near vernal pools. 3-580 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>
Arctostaphylo s rainbowensis	Rainbow manzanita	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Chaparral   Ultramafic	Chaparral.	Usually found in gabbro chaparral. 100- 870 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri	Jaeger's milk- vetch	Dicots	None	None	18.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Coastal scrub, chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, cismontane woodland.	Dry ridges and valleys and open sandy slopes; often in grassland and oak- chaparral. 365-1040 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Atriplex coronata var. notatior	San Jacinto Valley crownscale	Dicots	Endangered	None	1B.1	Alkali playa   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools.	Alkaline areas in the San Jacinto River Valley. 35-460 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Atriplex parishii	Parish's brittlescale	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Alkali playa   Chenopod scrub   Meadow & seep   Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools, chenopod scrub, playas.	Usually on drying alkali flats with fine soils. 4- 1420 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's saltscale	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub   Coastal scrub	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub.	Alkaline soil. 0-480 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	Dicots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Riparian scrub	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian scrub.	On steep, N-facing slopes or in low grade sandy washes. 90- 1590 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Brodiaea filifolia	thread-leaved brodiaea	Monocots	Threatened	Endangered	1B.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Chaparral (openings), cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools.	Usually associated with annual grassland and vernal pools; often surrounded by shrubland habitats. Occurs in openings on clay soils. 15-1030 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This species is not present.</b>
Brodiaea santarosae	Santa Rosa Basalt brodiaea	Monocots	None	None	1B.2	Valley & foothill grassland	Valley and foothill grassland.	Santa Rosa Basalt. 585- 1045 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's mariposa-lily	Monocots	None	None	4.2	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Lower montane coniferous forest   Valley & foothill grassland	cismontane	Occurs on rocky and sandy sites, usually of granitic or alluvial material. Can be very common after fire. 60-2500 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>

Calochortus weedii var. intermedius	intermediate mariposa-lily	Monocots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Coastal scrub, chaparral, valley and foothill grassland.	Dry, rocky calcareous slopes and rock outcrops. 60-1575 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Caulanthus simulans	Payson's jewelflower	Dicots	None	None	4.2	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Chaparral, coastal scrub.	Frequently in burned areas, or in disturbed sites such as streambeds; also on rocky, steep slopes. Sandy, granitic soils. 90-2200 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis	smooth tarplant	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Alkali playa   Chenopod scrub   Meadow & seep   Riparian woodland   Valley & foothill grassland   Wetland	Valley and foothill grassland, chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland.	Alkali meadow, alkali scrub; also in disturbed places. 5- 1170 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This species is not present.</b>

Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi	Parry's spineflower	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Coastal scrub, chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland.	Dry slopes and flats; sometimes at interface of 2 vegetation types, such as chaparral and oak woodland. Dry, sandy soils. 90-1220 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>
Chorizanthe polygonoides var. longispina	long-spined spineflower	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Meadow & seep   Ultramafic   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool	Chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools.	Gabbroic clay. 30-1630 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Clinopodium chandleri	San Miguel savory	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Riparian woodland   Ultramafic   Valley & foothill grassland	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland.	Rocky, gabbroic or metavolcanic substrate. 120-975 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>

Cryptantha wigginsii	Wiggins' cryptantha	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Coastal scrub	Coastal scrub.	Often on clay soils. 45- 110 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Deinandra mohavensis	Mojave tarplant	Dicots	None	Endangered	1B.3	Chaparral   Coastal Riparian scrub, coastal scrub, scrub chaparral.		Low sand bars in river bed; mostly in riparian areas or in ephemeral grassy areas. 640-1645 m.	on site. <b>This</b>
Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland	Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland	Riparian	None	None		Riparian woodland			This is not present.
Dodecahema leptoceras	slender-horned spineflower	Dicots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub (alluvial fan sage scrub).	Flood deposited terraces and washes; associates include Encelia, Dalea, Lepidospartum, etc. Sandy soils. 200-765 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Dudleya multicaulis	many-stemmed dudleya	Dicots	None	None	18.2	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland.	In heavy, often clayey soils or grassy slopes. 1-910 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii	San Diego button-celery	Dicots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pools, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland		No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>
Githopsis diffusa ssp. filicaulis	Mission Canyon bluecup	Dicots	None	None	3.1	Chaparral	Chaparral.	Probably in open, grassy places and mesic, disturbed areas; much overlooked. 450-700 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Harpagonella palmeri	Palmer's grapplinghook	Dicots	None	None	4.2	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland.	Clay soils; open grassy areas within shrubland. 20-955 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Imperata brevifolia	California satintail	Monocots	None	None	2B.1	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Meadow & seep   Mojavean desert scrub   Riparian scrub   Wetland	Coastal scrub, chaparral, riparian scrub, mojavean desert scrub, meadows and seeps (alkali), riparian scrub.	Mesic sites, alkali seeps, riparian areas. 3 1495 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> species is not present.

Juncus luciensis	Santa Lucia dwarf rush	Monocots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Great Basin scrub   Lower montane coniferous forest   Meadow & seep   Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools, meadows and seeps, lower montane coniferous forest, chaparral, Great Basin scrub.	Vernal pools, ephemeral drainages, wet meadow habitats and streamsides. 280- 2035 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This species is not present.</b>
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	Coulter's goldfields	Dicots	None	None	1B.1	Alkali playa   Marsh & swamp   Salt marsh   Vernal pool   Wetland		Usually found on alkaline soils in playas, sinks, and grasslands. 1-1375 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii	Robinson's pepper-grass	Dicots	None	None	4.3	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Chaparral, coastal scrub.	Dry soils, shrubland. 4- 1435 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Myosurus minimus ssp. apus	little mousetail	Dicots	None	None	3.1	Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools, valley and foothill grassland.	Alkaline soils. 20-640 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Nama stenocarpa	mud nama	Dicots	None	None	2B.2	Marsh & swamp   Wetland	Marshes and swamps.	Lake shores, river banks, intermittently wet areas. 15-815 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Navarretia fossalis	spreading navarretia	Dicots	Threatened	None	1B.1	Alkali playa   Chenopod scrub   Marsh & swamp   Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools, chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps, playas.	San Diego hardpan and San Diego claypan vernal pools; in swales and vernal pools, often surrouded by other habitat types. 15 850 m.	on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b>
Navarretia prostrata	prostrate vernal pool navarretia	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Coastal scrub   Meadow & seep   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools, meadows and seeps.	Alkaline soils in grassland, or in vernal pools. Mesic, alkaline sites. 3-1235 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	Monocots	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	Vernal pool   Wetland	Vernal pools.	10-660 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Penstemon californicus	California beardtongue	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Lower montane coniferous forest   Pinon & juniper woodlands	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland.	Stony slopes and shrubby openings; sandy or granitic soils. 240-2290 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This species is not present.</b>
Pseudognapha lium leucocephalu m	white rabbit- tobacco	Dicots	None	None	2B.2	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Riparian woodland	Riparian woodland, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, chaparral.	Sandy, gravelly sites. 35-515 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. austromontan a	southern mountains skullcap	Dicots	None	None	1B.2	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest.	In gravelly soils on streambanks or in mesic sites in oak or pine woodland. 425- 2000 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Sidalcea neomexicana	salt spring checkerbloom	Dicots	None	None	2B.2	Alkali playa   Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Lower montane coniferous forest   Mojavean desert scrub   Wetland	Playas, chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub.	Alkali springs and marshes. 3-2380 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest	Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest	Riparian	None	None	Riparian forest		This is not present.
Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	Riparian	None	None	Riparian forest		This is not present.
Southern Interior Basalt Flow Vernal Pool	Southern Interior Basalt Flow Vernal Pool	Herbaceous	None	None	Vernal pool   Wetland		This is not present.
Southern Mixed Riparian Forest	Southern Mixed Riparian Forest	Riparian	None	None	Riparian forest		This is not present.
Southern Riparian Scrub	Southern Riparian Scrub	Riparian	None	None	Riparian scrub		This is not present.
Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland	Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland	Riparian	None	None	Riparian woodland		This is not present.
Southern Willow Scrub	Southern Willow Scrub	Riparian	None	None	Riparian scrub		This is not present.

Sphaerocarpo s drewiae	bottle liverwort	Bryophytes	None	None	18.1	Chaparral   Coastal Chaparral, coasta scrub scrub.		Liverwort in openings; on soil. 60-585 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Symphyotrich um defoliatum	San Bernardino aster	Dicots	None	None	18.2	Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Lower montane coniferous forest   Marsh & swamp   Meadow & seep   Valley & foothill grassland	woodland, coastal	Vernally mesic grassland or near ditches, streams and springs; disturbed areas. 3-2045 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>
Texosporium sancti-jacobi	woven-spored lichen	Lichens	None	None	3	Chaparral	Chaparral.	Open sites; in California with Adenostoma fasciculatum, Eriogonum, Selaginella. Found on soil, small mammal pellets, dead twigs, and on Selaginella. 60- 870 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. <b>This</b> <b>species is not</b> <b>present.</b>

Tortula californica	California screw moss	Bryophytes	None	None	1B.2	Chenopod scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland.	Moss growing on sandy soil. 45-750 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii	Wright's trichocoronis	Dicots	None	None	2B.1	Marsh & swamp   Meadow & seep   Riparian forest   Vernal pool   Wetland	Marshes and swamps, riparian forest, meadows and seeps, vernal pools.	Mud flats of vernal lakes, drying river beds, alkali meadows. 5-435 m.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Valley Needlegrass Grassland	Valley Needlegrass Grassland	Herbaceous	None	None		Valley & foothill grassland			This is not present.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxon Group	Federal List	State List	Other Status	Habitats	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Presence/ Absence
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Cismontane woodland   Riparian forest   Riparian woodland   Upper montane coniferous forest	Woodland, chiefly of open, interrupted or marginal type.	Nest sites mainly in riparian growths of deciduous trees, as in canyon bottoms on river flood-plains; also, live oaks.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Agelaius tricolor	tricolored blackbird	Birds	None	Threatened	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_EN- Endangered   NABCI_RWL- Red Watch List   USFWS_BCC- Birds of Conservation Concern	Freshwater marsh   Marsh & swamp   Swamp   Wetland	Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley and vicinity. Largely endemic to California.	Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Aimophila ruficeps canescens	southern California rufous- crowned sparrow	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Resident in Southern California coastal sage scrub and sparse mixed chaparral.	Frequents relatively steep, often rocky hillsides with grass and forb patches.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Anniella stebbinsi	Southern California legless lizard	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Broadleaved upland forest   Chaparral   Coastal dunes   Coastal scrub	Generally south of the Transverse Range, extending to northwestern Baja California. Occurs in sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation. Disjunct populations in the Tehachapi and Piute Mountains in Kern County.	Variety of habitats; generally in moist, loose soil. They prefer soils with a high moisture content.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	Mammals	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Desert wash   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Mojavean desert scrub   Riparian woodland   Sonoran desert scrub   Upper montane coniferous forest   Valley & foothill grassland	woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting.	Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Aquila chrysaetos	golden eagle	Birds	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDF_S-Sensitive   CDFW_FP- Fully Protected   CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Broadleaved upland forest   Cismontane woodland   Coastal prairie   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Lower montane coniferous forest   Pinon & juniper woodlands   Upper montane coniferous forest   Valley & foothill grassland	mountain areas, sage-juniper flats, and desert.	Cliff-walled canyons provide nesting habitat in most parts of range; also, large trees in open areas.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Arizona elegans occidentalis	California glossy snake	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern		Patchily distributed from the eastern portion of San Francisco Bay, southern San Joaquin Valley, and the Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular ranges, south to Baja California.	Generalist reported from a range of scrub and grassland habitats, often with loose or sandy soils.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Artemisiospiza belli belli	Bell's sage sparrow	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Nests in chaparral dominated by fairly dense stands of chamise. Found in coastal sage scrub in south of range.	Nest located on the ground beneath a shrub or in a shrub 6-18 inches above ground. Territories about 50 yds apart.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Aspidoscelis hyperythra	orange- throated whiptail	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub	Inhabits low- elevation coastal scrub, chaparral, and valley- foothill hardwood habitats.	Prefers washes and other sandy areas with patches of brush and rocks. Perennial plants necessary for its major food: termites.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri	coastal whiptail	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern		Found in deserts and semi-arid areas with sparse vegetation and open areas. Also found in woodland and riparian areas.	Ground may be firm soil, sandy, or rocky.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	Birds	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFWS_BCC- Birds of Conservation Concern	Coastal prairie   Coastal scrub   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Mojavean desert scrub   Sonoran desert scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	deserts, and	Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	Suitable habitat is present on site. This species is present within the 500-ft buffer.
Bombus crotchii	Crotch bumble bee	Insects	None	None	IUCN_EN- Endangered		Coastal California east to the Sierra- Cascade crest and south into Mexico.	Food plant genera include Antirrhinum, Phacelia, Clarkia, Dendromecon, Eschscholzia, and Eriogonum.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Branchinecta lynchi	vernal pool fairy shrimp	Crustaceans	Threatened	None	IUCN_VU- Vulnerable	Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Endemic to the grasslands of the Central Valley, Central Coast mountains, and South Coast mountains, in astatic rain-filled pools.	Inhabit small, clear-water sandstone- depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt- flow depression pools.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Branchinecta sandiegonensis	San Diego fairy shrimp	Crustaceans	Endangered	None	IUCN_EN- Endangered	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Vernal pool   Wetland	Endemic to San Diego and Orange County mesas.	Vernal pools.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Buteo regalis	ferruginous hawk	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Pinon & juniper woodlands   Valley & foothill grassland	Open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills and fringes of pinyon and juniper habitats.	Eats mostly lagomorphs, ground squirrels, and mice. Population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	Birds	None	Threatened	BLM_S- Sensitive   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Great Basin grassland   Riparian forest   Riparian woodland   Valley & foothill grassland	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees.	Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Campylorhynch us brunneicapillus sandiegensis	coastal cactus wren	Birds	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive   USFWS_BCC- Birds of Conservation Concern	Coastal scrub	Southern California coastal sage scrub.	Wrens require tall opuntia cactus for nesting and roosting.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Chaetodipus californicus femoralis	Dulzura pocket mouse	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chaparral   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Variety of habitats including coastal scrub, chaparral and grassland in San Diego County.	Attracted to grass- chaparral edges.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Chaetodipus fallax fallax	northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Coastal scrub, chaparral, grasslands, sagebrush, etc. in western San Diego County.	Sandy, herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Circus hudsonius	northern harrier	Birds	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFWS_BCC- Birds of Conservation Concern	Coastal scrub   Great Basin grassland   Marsh & swamp   Riparian scrub   Valley & foothill grassland   Wetland	Coastal salt and freshwater marsh. Nest and forage in grasslands, from salt grass in desert sink to mountain cienagas.	Nests on ground in shrubby vegetation, usually at marsh edge; nest built of a large mound of sticks in wet areas.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	western yellow-billed cuckoo	Birds	Threatened	Endangered	BLM_S- Sensitive   NABCI_RWL- Red Watch List   USFS_S- Sensitive	Riparian forest	Riparian forest nester, along the broad, lower flood-bottoms of larger river systems.	Nests in riparian jungles of willow, often mixed with cottonwoods, with lower story of blackberry, nettles, or wild grape.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Coleonyx variegatus abbotti	San Diego banded gecko	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Coastal and cismontane Southern California.	Found in granite or rocky outcrops in coastal scrub and chaparral habitats.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	Mammals	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Broadleaved upland forest   Chaparral   Chenopod scrub   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Joshua tree woodland   Lower montane coniferous forest   Meadow & seep   Mojavean desert scrub   Riparian forest   Riparian woodland   Sonoran desert scrub   Sonoran thorn woodland   Upper montane coniferous forest   Valley & foothill	Throughout California in a wide variety of habitats. Most common in mesic sites.	Roosts in the open, hanging from walls and ceilings. Roosting sites limiting. Extremely sensitive to human disturbance.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Crotalus ruber	red-diamond rattlesnake	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Chaparral   Mojavean desert scrub   Sonoran desert scrub	Chaparral, woodland, grassland, and desert areas from coastal San Diego County to the eastern slopes of the mountains.	Occurs in rocky areas and dense vegetation. Needs rodent burrows, cracks in rocks or surface cover objects.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Diadophis punctatus modestus	San Bernardino ringneck snake	Reptiles	None	None	USFS_S- Sensitive		Most common in open, relatively rocky areas.    Often in somewhat moist microhabitats near intermittent streams.	Avoids moving through open or barren areas by restricting movements to areas of surface litter or herbaceous veg.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Dipodomys merriami parvus	San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Mammals	Endangered	Candidate Endangered	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Coastal scrub	Alluvial scrub vegetation on sandy loam substrates characteristic of alluvial fans and flood plains.	Needs early to intermediate seral stages.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Dipodomys stephensi	Stephens' kangaroo rat	Mammals	Threatened	Threatened	IUCN_VU- Vulnerable	Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Primarily annual and perennial grasslands, but also occurs in coastal scrub and sagebrush with sparse canopy cover.	Prefers buckwheat, chamise, brome grass and filaree. Will burrow into firm soil.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Elanus leucurus	white-tailed kite	Birds	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_FP-Fully Protected   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	woodland	Rolling foothills and valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottomlands or marshes next to deciduous woodland.	Open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense- topped trees for nesting and perching.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	Reptiles	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_VU- Vulnerable   USFS_S- Sensitive	Aquatic   Artificial flowing waters   Klamath/North coast flowing waters   Klamath/North coast standing waters   Marsh & swamp   Sacramento/San Joaquin flowing waters   Sacramento/San Joaquin standing waters   South coast flowing waters   South coast standing	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation.	Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Eremophila alpestris actia	California horned lark	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Marine intertidal & splash zone communities   Meadow & seep	Coastal regions, chiefly from Sonoma County to San Diego County. Also main part of San Joaquin Valley and east to foothills.	Short-grass prairie, "bald" hills, mountain meadows, open coastal plains, fallow grain fields, alkali flats.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	Mammals	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland	Many open, semi- arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.	Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees and tunnels.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Euphydryas editha quino	quino checkerspot butterfly	Insects	Endangered	None		Chaparral   Coastal scrub	Sunny openings within chaparral and coastal sage shrublands in parts of Riverside and San Diego counties.	Hills and mesas near the coast. Need high densities of food plants Plantago erecta, P. insularis, and Orthocarpus purpurescens.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Gila orcuttii	arroyo chub	Fish	None	None	AFS_VU- Vulnerable   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_VU- Vulnerable   USFS_S- Sensitive	Aquatic   South coast flowing waters	Native to streams from Malibu Creek to San Luis Rey River basin. Introduced into streams in Santa Clara, Ventura, Santa Ynez, Mojave and San Diego river basins.	Slow water stream sections with mud or sand bottoms. Feeds heavily on aquatic vegetation and associated invertebrates.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	bald eagle	Birds	Delisted	Endangered	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDF_S-Sensitive   CDFW_FP- Fully Protected   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Lower montane	Ocean shore, lake margins, and rivers for both nesting and wintering. Most nests within 1 mile of water.	Nests in large, old- growth, or dominant live tree with open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Roosts communally in winter.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Lanius Iudovicianus	loggerhead shrike	Birds	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_NT- Near Threatened	Broadleaved upland forest   Desert wash   Joshua tree woodland   Mojavean desert scrub   Pinon & juniper woodlands   Riparian woodland   Sonoran desert scrub	Broken woodlands, savannah, pinyon-juniper, Joshua tree, and riparian woodlands, desert oases, scrub and washes.	Prefers open country for hunting, with perches for scanning, and fairly dense shrubs and brush for nesting.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Desert wash	Found in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats.	Roosts in trees, particularly palms. Forages over water and among trees.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Lepus californicus bennettii	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	Mammals	None	None		Coastal scrub	Intermediate canopy stages of shrub habitats and open shrub / herbaceous and tree / herbaceous edges.	Coastal sage scrub habitats in Southern California.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Linderiella occidentalis	California linderiella	Crustaceans	None	None	IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	Vernal pool	Seasonal pools in unplowed grasslands with old alluvial soils underlain by hardpan or in sandstone depressions.	Water in the pools has very low alkalinity, conductivity, and total dissolved solids.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Linderiella santarosae	Santa Rosa Plateau fairy shrimp	Crustaceans	None	None		Vernal pool	Found only in the vernal pools on Santa Rosa Plateau in Riverside County.	Southern basalt flow vernal pools.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Neolarra alba	white cuckoo bee	Insects	None	None			Known only from localities in Southern California.	Cleptoparasitic in the nests of perdita bees.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Coastal scrub	Coastal scrub of Southern California from San Diego County to San Luis Obispo County.	Moderate to dense canopies preferred. They are particularly abundant in rock outcrops, rocky cliffs, and slopes.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Onychomys torridus ramona	southern grasshopper mouse	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Chenopod scrub	Desert areas, especially scrub habitats with friable soils for digging. Prefers low to moderate shrub cover.	Feeds almost exclusively on arthropods, especially scorpions and orthopteran insects.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Coastal scrub	Lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage communities in and around the Los Angeles Basin.	Open ground with fine, sandy soils. May not dig extensive burrows, hiding under weeds and dead leaves instead.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Perognathus longimembris internationalis	Jacumba pocket mouse	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Coastal scrub   Desert wash   Sonoran desert scrub	Desert riparian, desert scrub, desert wash, coastal scrub and sagebrush.	Rarely found on rocky sites; uses all canopy coverages.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	Reptiles	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Chaparral   Cismontane woodland   Coastal bluff scrub   Coastal scrub   Desert wash   Pinon & juniper woodlands   Riparian scrub   Riparian woodland   Valley & foothill grassland	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes.	Open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and abundant supply of ants and other insects.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	Birds	None	None	CDFW_WL- Watch List   IUCN_LC-Least Concern	Marsh & swamp   Wetland	Shallow freshwater marsh.	Dense tule thickets for nesting, interspersed with areas of shallow water for foraging.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	Birds	Threatened	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   NABCI_YWL- Yellow Watch List	Coastal bluff scrub   Coastal scrub	Obligate, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2500 ft in Southern California.	Low, coastal sage scrub in arid washes, on mesas and slopes. Not all areas classified as coastal sage scrub are occupied.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	coast patch- nosed snake	Reptiles	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern	Coastal scrub	Brushy or shrubby vegetation in coastal Southern California.	Require small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering sites.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

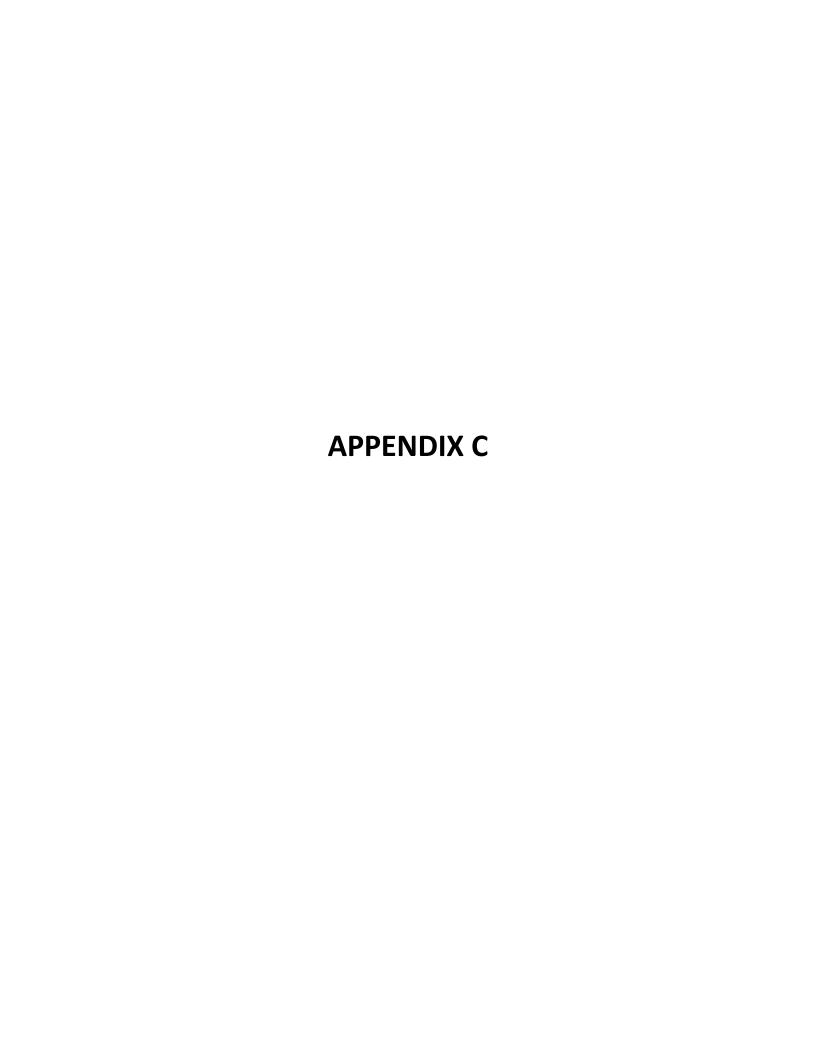
Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	Birds	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Riparian forest   Riparian scrub   Riparian woodland	Riparian plant associations in close proximity to water. Also nests in montane shrubbery in open conifer forests in Cascades and Sierra Nevada.	Frequently found nesting and foraging in willow shrubs and thickets, and in other riparian plants including cottonwoods, sycamores, ash, and alders.	
Socalchemmis icenoglei	Icenogle's socalchemmis spider	Arachnids	None	None		Coastal scrub	Known only from the type locality in the vicinity of Winchester, Riverside County.		No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Spea hammondii	western spadefoot	Amphibians	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_NT- Near Threatened	Cismontane woodland   Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Occurs primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands.	Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg- laying.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Streptocephalu s woottoni	Riverside fairy shrimp	Crustaceans	Endangered	None	IUCN_EN- Endangered	Coastal scrub   Valley & foothill grassland   Vernal pool   Wetland	Endemic to Western Riverside, Orange, and San Diego counties in areas of tectonic swales/earth slump basins in grassland and coastal sage scrub.	Inhabit seasonally astatic pools filled by winter/spring rains. Hatch in warm water later in the season.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Taricha torosa	Coast Range newt	Amphibians	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern		Coastal drainages from Mendocino County to San Diego County.	Lives in terrestrial habitats and will migrate over 1 km to breed in ponds, reservoirs and slow moving streams.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.

Taxidea taxus	American badger	Mammals	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Alkali marsh   Alkali playa   Alpine   Alpine dwarf scrub   Bog & fen   Brackish marsh   Broadleaved upland forest   Chaparral   Chenopod scrub   Cismontane woodland   Closed-cone coniferous forest   Coastal bluff scrub   Coastal dunes   Coastal prairie   Coastal scrub   Desert dunes   Desert dunes   Desert dunes   Desert dunes   Great Basin grassland   Great Basin scrub   Interior dunes   Iosbua tree	Most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils.	Needs sufficient food, friable soils and open, uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
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Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped gartersnake	Reptiles	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern   USFS_S- Sensitive	Marsh & swamp   Riparian scrub   Riparian woodland   Wetland	Coastal California from vicinity of Salinas to northwest Baja California. From sea to about 7,000 ft elevation.	Highly aquatic, found in or near permanent fresh water. Often along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Toxostoma bendirei	Bendire's thrasher	Birds	None	None	BLM_S- Sensitive   CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_VU- Vulnerable   NABCI_RWL- Red Watch List   USFWS_BCC- Birds of Conservation Concern	Joshua tree woodland   Mojavean desert scrub	Migratory; local spring/summer resident in flat areas of desert succulent shrub/Joshua tree habitats in Mojave Desert.	Nests in cholla, yucca, palo verde, thorny shrub, or small tree, usually 0.5 to 20 feet above ground.	nabitat is present on site.

Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	Birds	Endangered	Endangered	NABCI_YWL- Yellow Watch List	Riparian forest   Riparian scrub   Riparian woodland	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 ft.	Nests placed along margins of bushes or on twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, Baccharis, mesquite.	No suitable habitat is present on site. This species is not present.
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus		Birds	None	None	CDFW_SSC- Species of Special Concern   IUCN_LC- Least Concern	Marsh & swamp   Wetland	Nests in freshwater emergent wetlands with dense vegetation and deep water. Often along borders of lakes or ponds.	Nests only where large insects such as Odonata are abundant, nesting timed with maximum emergence of aquatic insects.	No suitable habitat is





View of agricultural fields on the site.



View of agricultural fields on the site



View of disturbed areas consisting of dirt roads on site.

Hernandez
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Services



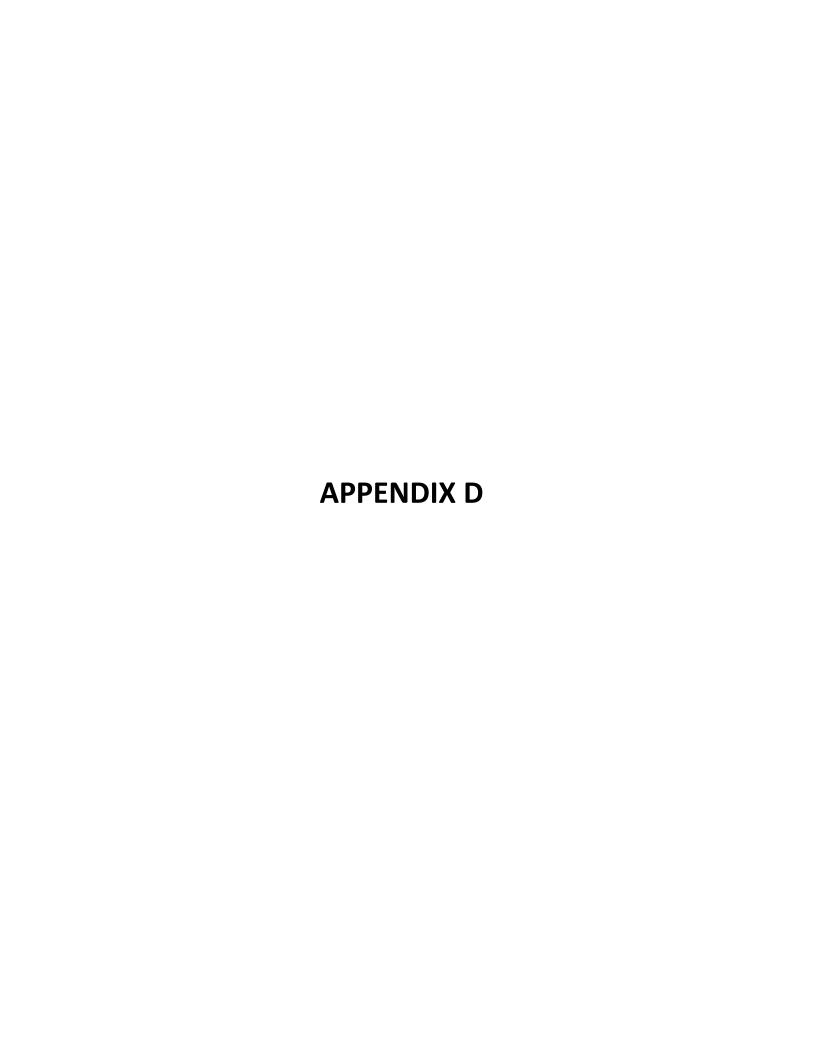
View of a portion of Simpson Road

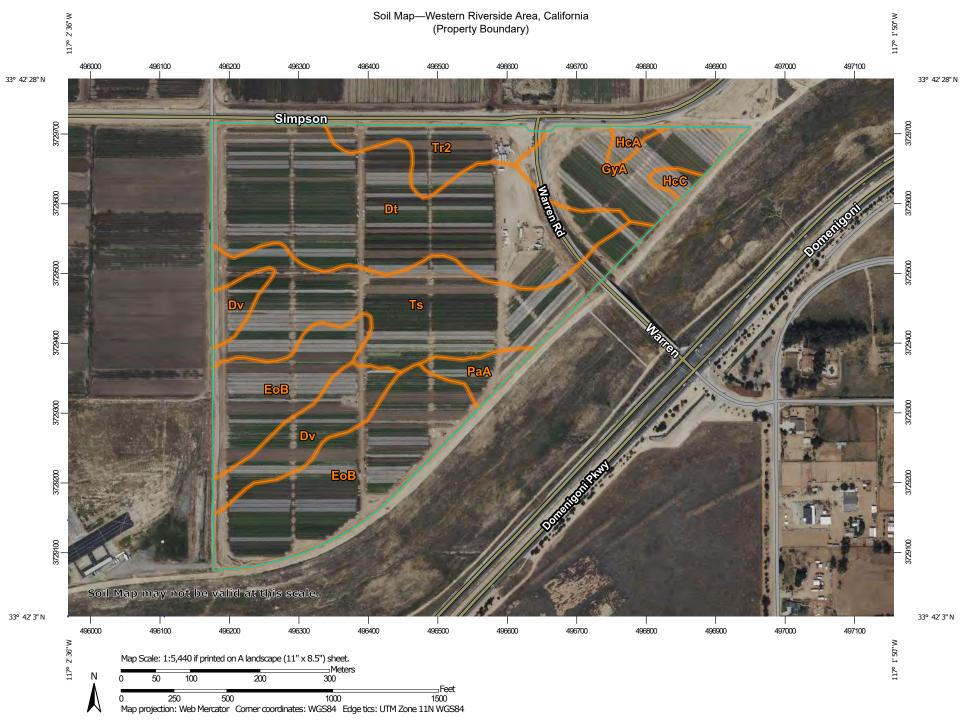


View of disturbed areas adjacent to the agricultural fields on the site.



View of disturbed areas on the site.





### MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)

Area of Interest (AOI)

#### Soils

Soil Map Unit Polygons



Soil Map Unit Lines



Soil Map Unit Points

#### **Special Point Features**

Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



**Gravelly Spot** 



Landfill



Lava Flow Marsh or swamp





Mine or Quarry Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot

Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole





Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot

Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot Other



Special Line Features

### Water Features



Streams and Canals

### Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



**US Routes** 



Major Roads



Local Roads

### Background



Aerial Photography

### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15.800.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Western Riverside Area, California Survey Area Data: Version 15, Sep 6, 2022

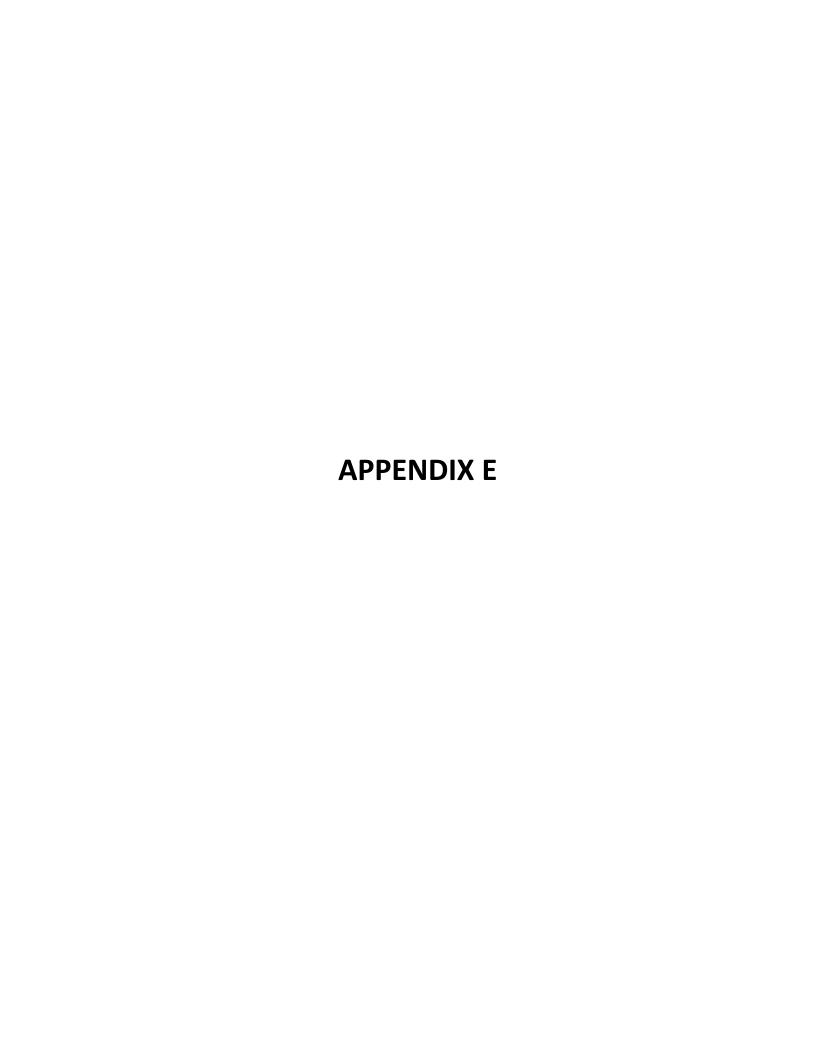
Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50.000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Mar 14, 2022—Mar 17. 2022

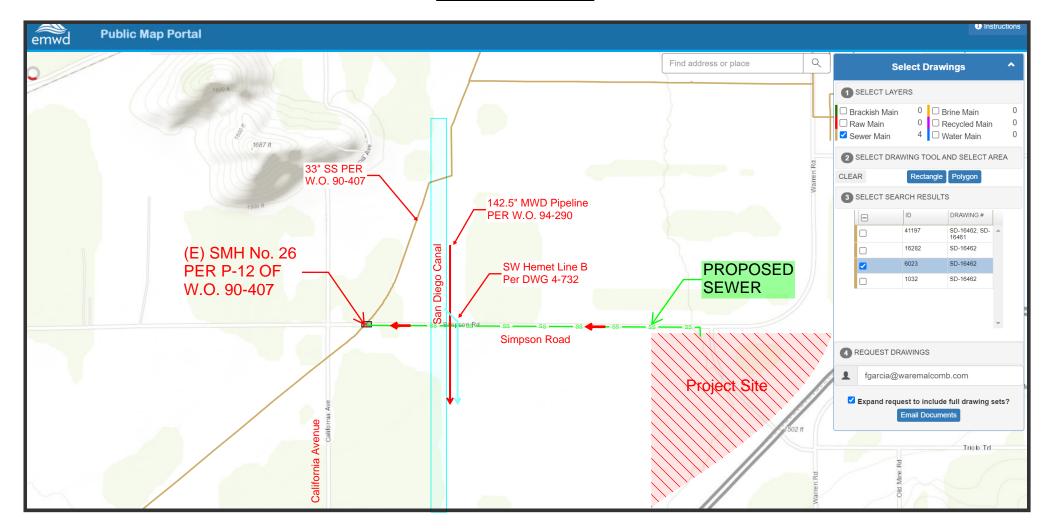
The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

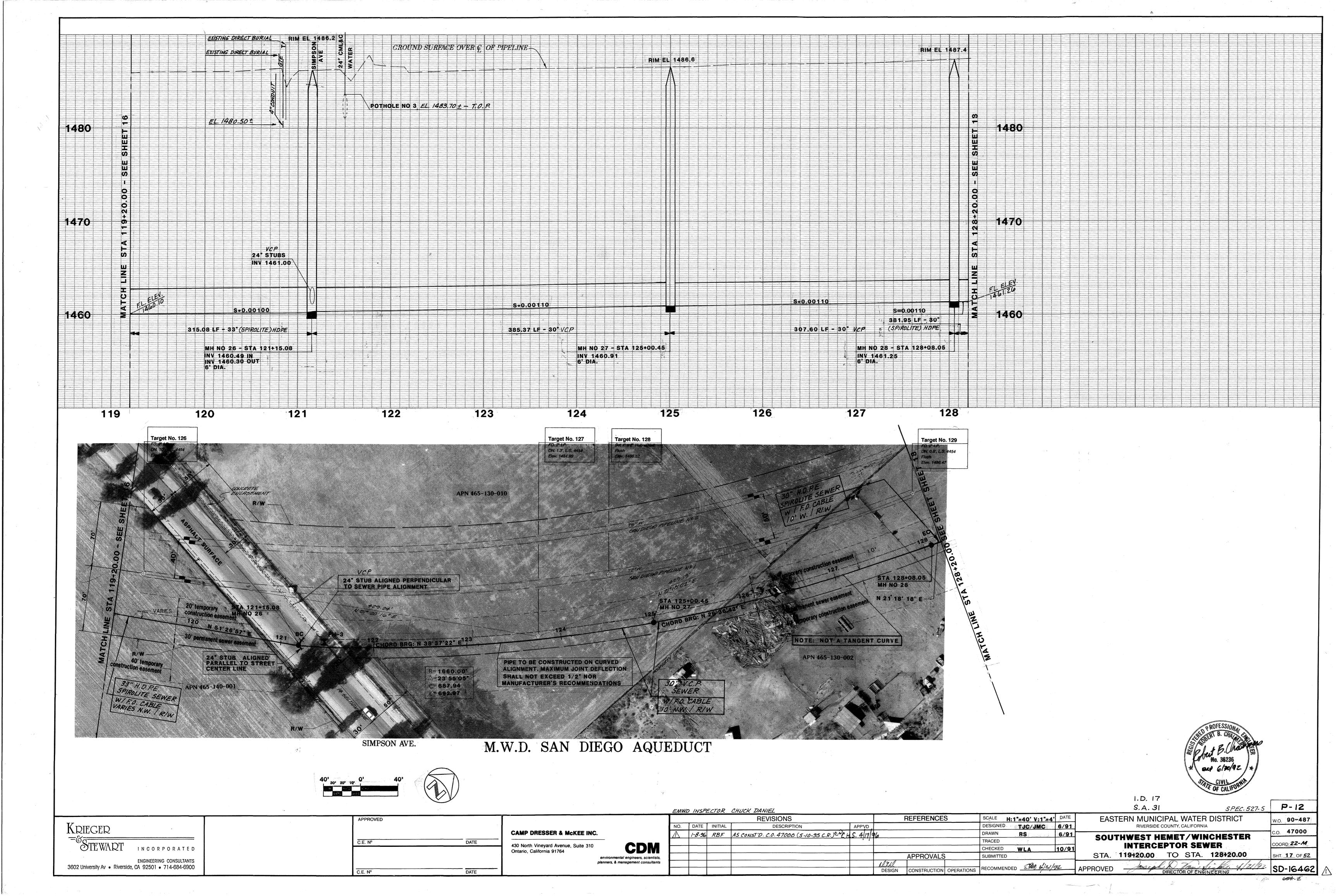
# **Map Unit Legend**

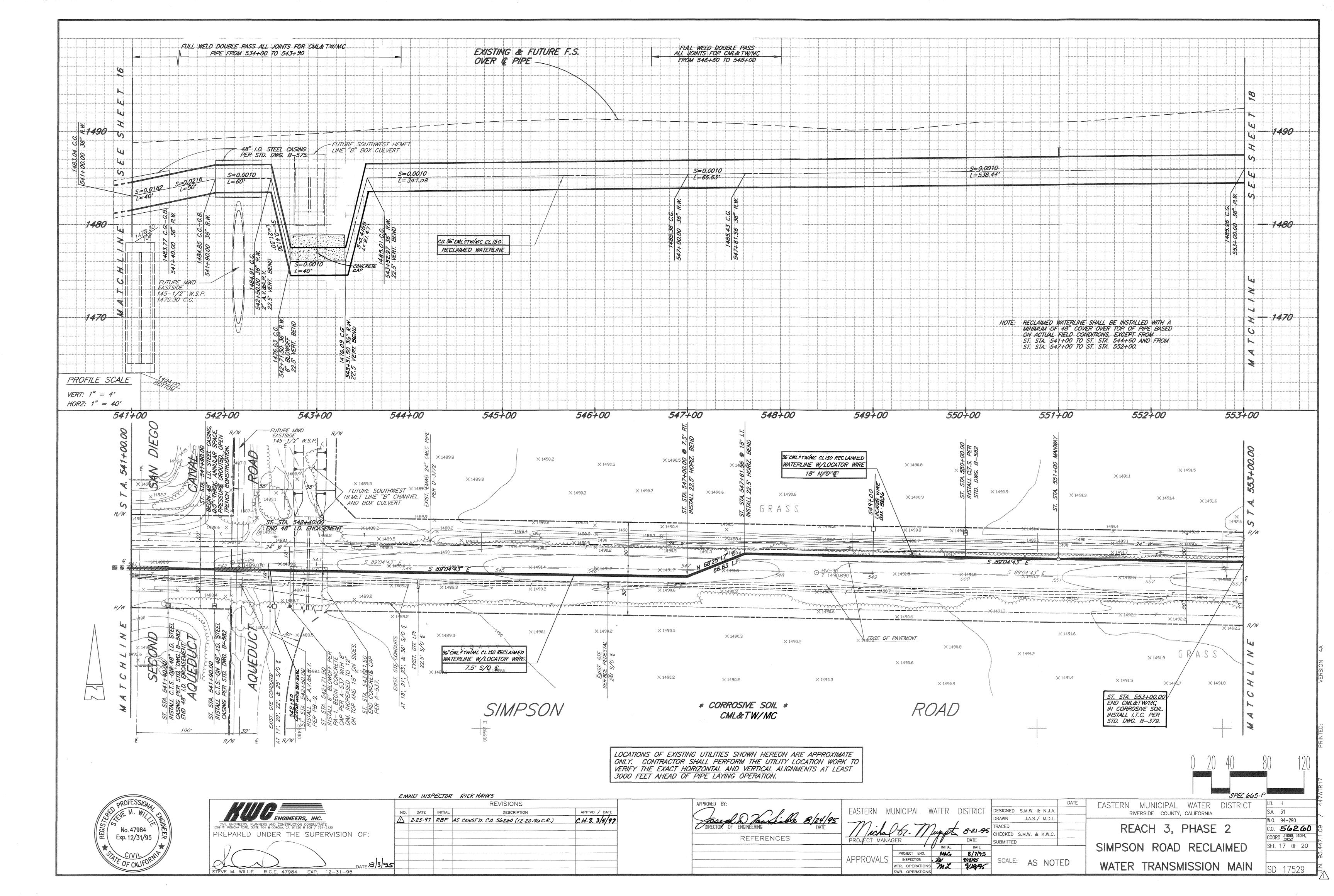
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Dt	Domino fine sandy loam, saline-alkali	21.8	29.8%
Dv	Domino silt loam, saline-alkali	5.5	7.6%
EoB	Exeter sandy loam, slightly saline-alkali, 0 to 5 perce nt slopes	17.3	23.7%
GyA	Greenfield sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	6.6	9.1%
HcA	Hanford coarse sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.6	0.8%
HcC	Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	0.5	0.7%
PaA	Pachappa fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1.5	2.1%
Tr2	Traver loamy fine sand, saline- alkali, eroded	4.0	5.4%
Ts	Traver fine sandy loam, saline- alkali	15.2	20.9%
Totals for Area of Interest		73.0	100.0%

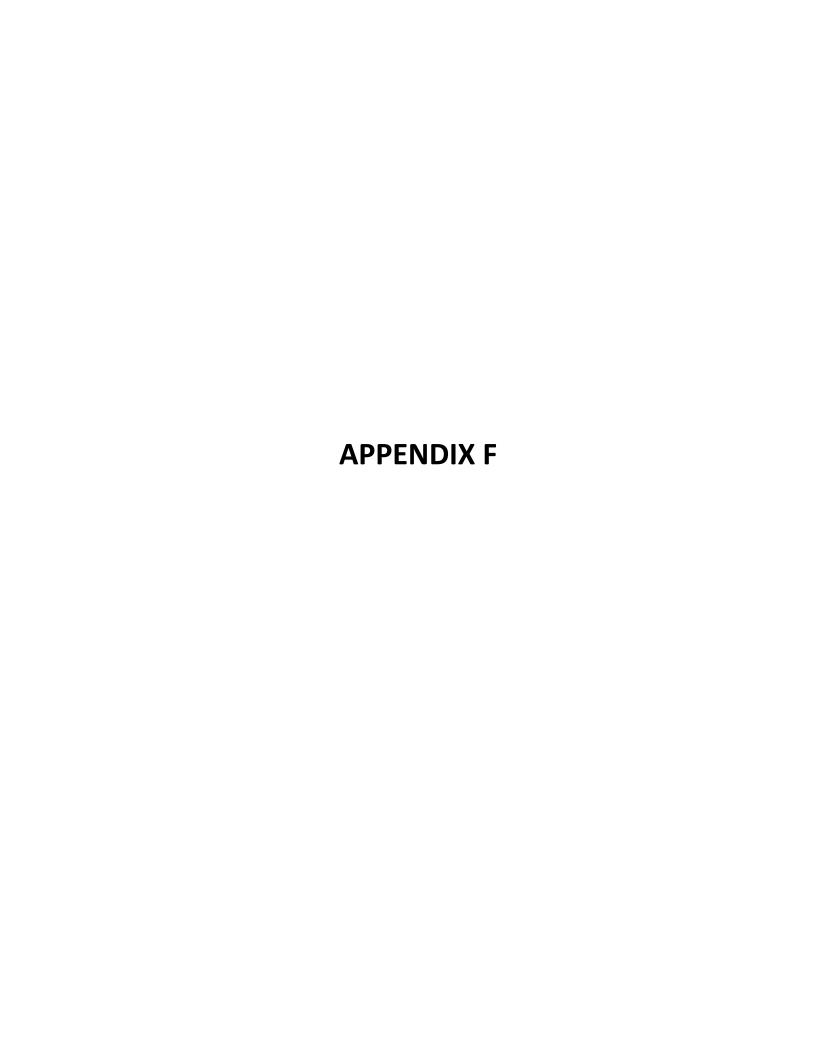


# **OVERVIEW**











### Memorandum

Date: November 29, 2022

To: Jeremy Krout EPD Solutions, Inc.

From: Elizabeth Gonzalez, Senior Biologist

Subject: Focused Burrowing Owl Survey Report for Assessor's Parcel Numbers 465-140-

042 and -043 located in Riverside County, California.

This memorandum provides the methods and results of a Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) (BUOW) survey for Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 465-140-042 and -043 located within unincorporated Riverside County. The proposed project includes the construction of two warehouse buildings with office buildings.

### **Project Location**

The approximate 74.88-acre project site is located on the southeast corner of Simpson Road and El Fuego Road in the City of Hemet, County of Riverside, California. Specifically, the project site is located within Township 5 South, Range 2 West in Section 25 of the *Winchester* United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic quadrangle. The center point latitude and longitude for the project site are 33°42'18.9609" North and 117°02'18.9205" West. Refer to Figures 1 and 2.

The study area included APNs 465-140-042 and -043 and a 150-meter (500-foot) buffer around the site, where accessible (Figure 4).

### **Project Contact Information**

Owner/Applicant: EPD Solutions, Inc.

2355 Main Street, Suite 100

Irvine, CA 92614

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Gonzalez

Hernandez Environmental Services

17037 Lakeshore Drive Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

### **Field Survey Methods**

HES implemented the three steps as described in the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area*. The habitat assessment conducted on July 8, 2022 found that the project site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for BUOW. In accordance with the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area*, focused burrow and focused BUOW surveys (Part A and Part B, respectively) were conducted on four separate days during the breeding season: July 8, July 15, July 22, and July 29, 2022. Survey times, weather, and sunrise/sunset information is described in Table 1 below.

**Table 1. Survey Information** 

Survey	Date	Survey Start Time	Sunrise	Weather
1	July 8, 2022	0650 hours	0543 hours	82-88 degrees Fahrenheit, clear, winds 0-3 miles per hour from the south
2	July 15, 2022	0645 hours	0549 hours	70-72 degrees Fahrenheit, 10% cloud cover, winds 0-6 miles per hour from the north
3	July 22, 2022	0630 hours	0554 hours	67-68 degrees Fahrenheit, clear, winds 0-2 miles per hour from the south
4	July 29, 2022	O700 hours	0558 hours	68-70 degrees Fahrenheit, cloudy, winds 0-3 miles per hour from the west.

Surveys were conducted from one hour before sunrise to two hours after sunrise or two hours before sunset to one hour after sunset and during weather that was conducive to observing owls outside their burrows and detecting BUOW sign. The surveys were not conducted during rain, high winds (> 20 miles per hour), dense fog, or temperatures above 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Surveys involved walking through potentially suitable habitat within the survey area. The pedestrian survey transects were spaced approximately 30 to 50 feet apart to allow 100 percent visual coverage of the ground surface. Special attention was paid to those habitat areas that appeared to provide suitable habitat for BUOW. Where permission to access the buffer areas could not be obtained, the biologist visually inspects adjacent habitats with binoculars.

All encountered burrows or structure entrances were checked for the presence of BUOW, molted feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, eggshell fragments, tracks, or excrement. Natural or man-

made structures and debris piles that could support BUOW were also surveyed. The locations of all suitable BUOW habitat, potential burrows, BUOW sign, and any BUOW observed was recorded and mapped with a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) unit.

All wildlife species encountered visually or audibly during the field survey were identified and recorded in field notes. Binoculars were used to aid in the identification of observed wildlife. Photographs were taken to document existing conditions within the survey area.

### Results

The project site is comprised of agricultural, disturbed, and developed areas. The site is disturbed, and continually disturbed for agricultural purposes. The dominant species on site are Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*). Soils at the project site are classified as Domino fine sandy loam (Dt), saline-alkali; Domino silt loam (Dv), saline-alkali; Exeter sandy loam (EoB), slightly saline-alkaline, 0 to 5 percent slopes; Greenfield sandy loam (GyA), 0 to 2 percent slopes; Hanford coarse sandy loam (HcC), 2 to 8 percent slopes; Pachappa fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes; Traver loamy fine sand (Tr2), saline alkali, eroded; and Traver fine sandy loam (Ts), saline alkali. The project site is flat with elevation ranges from 1,557 feet above mean sea-level (AMSL) to 1,594 AMSL.

The habitat assessment conducted on July 8, 2022 found that the project site does provide suitable burrows/nesting opportunities for BUOW. Focused surveys found no BUOW or sign of BUOW present on the project site; however, evidence of ground squirrels and ground squirrel activities were observed and approximately three suitable burrows were identified and recorded within the 500-foot buffer area surrounding the site (Figure 5). A pair of BUOW were observed near and within two burrows located south of the project site within the 500-foot buffer during all four of the focused surveys.

Based on the results of the focused surveys, no BUOW are present within the project site; however, a pair of BUOW are present within the surrounding 500-foot buffer.

### Recommendations

It is recommended that the following measures be implemented to ensure that potential impacts to BUOW are less than significant:

 Focused BUOW surveys conducted on the project site found that burrowing owls are not currently present on the project site. However, due to the fact that BUOW were observed within the 500-foot buffer area surrounding the site, a 30-day preconstruction survey is required prior to the commencement of project activities (e.g. vegetation clearing, clearing and grubbing, tree removal, site watering) to ensure that no owls have colonized the site in the days or weeks preceding project activities.

- If BUOW are found to have colonized the project site prior to the initiation of
  construction, the project proponent will immediately inform RCA and the Wildlife
  Agencies and will need to prepare a Burrowing Owl Protection and Relocation Plan for
  approval by RCA and the Wildlife Agencies prior to initiating ground disturbance.
- If ground-disturbing activities occur but the site is left undisturbed for more than 30 days, a pre-construction survey will again be necessary to ensure burrowing owl has not colonized the site since it was last disturbed. If burrow owl is found, the same coordination described above will be necessary.

### Certification

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits 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 my knowledge and belief.

Date: November 29, 2022

Elizaleth Genzaley

Elizabeth Gonzalez Senior Biologist

### **Enclosures:**

Figure 1: Project Location Map

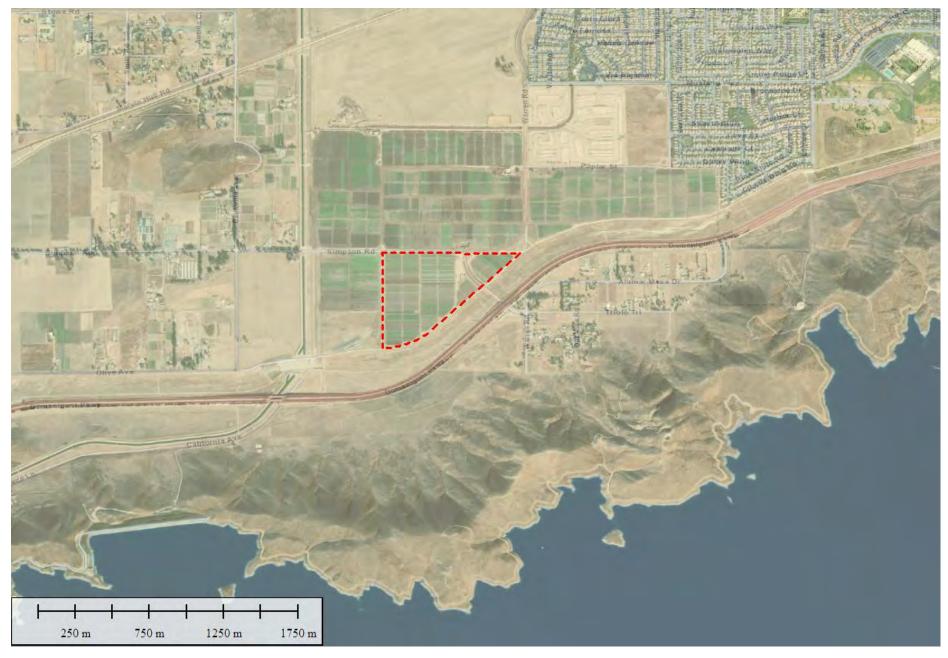
Figure 2: Project Vicinity Map

Figure 3: Project Plans

Figure 4: Survey Area Map

Figure 5: Results Map

Appendix A: Site Photographs



## **Location Map**

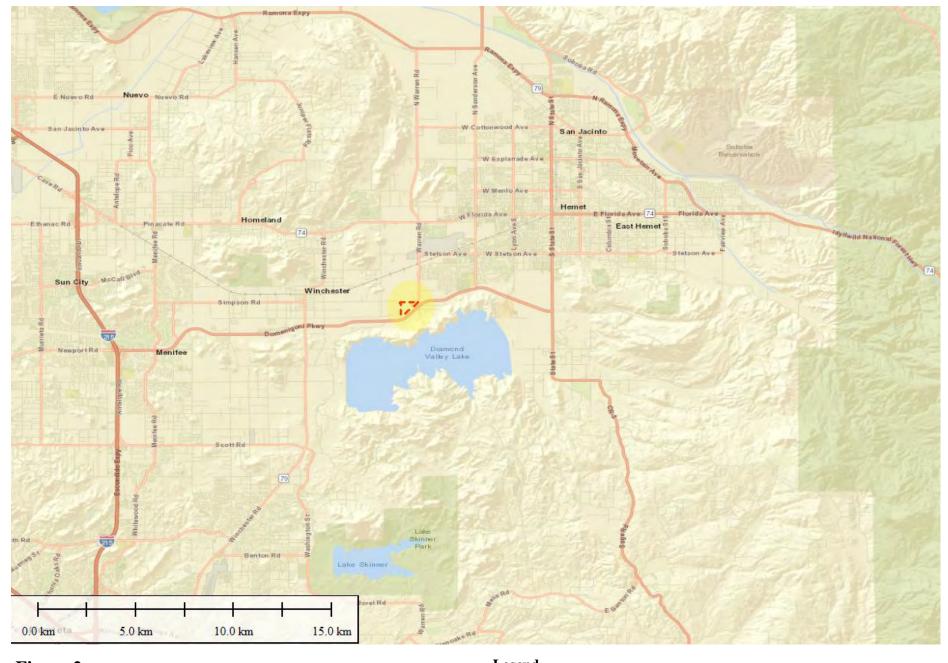
EPD Simpson Rd APNs 465-140-042 and -043 City of Hemet, Riverside County, California

### Legend

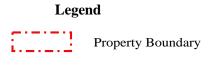


Property Boundary

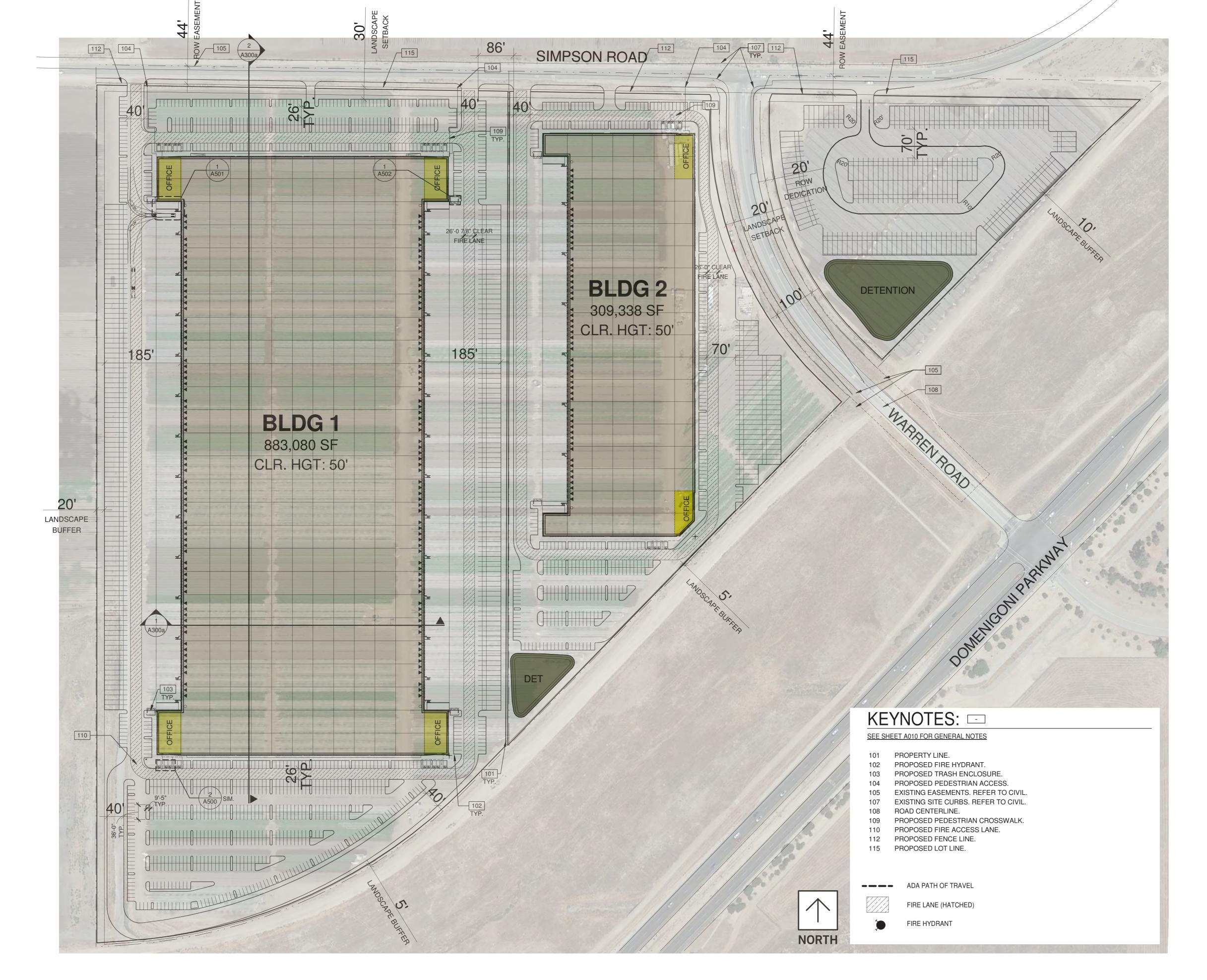


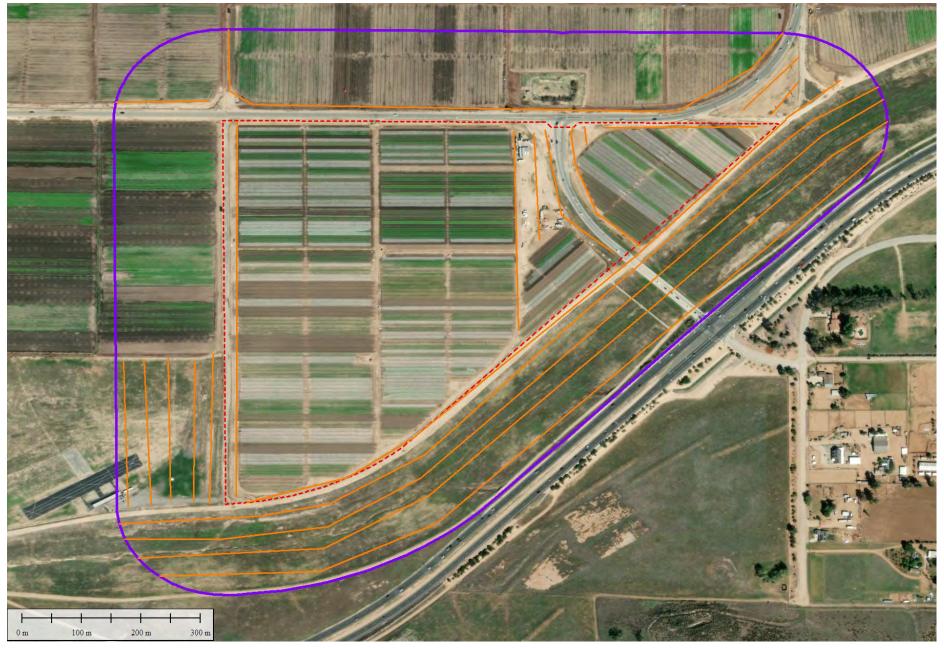


**Figure 2**Vicinity Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, California

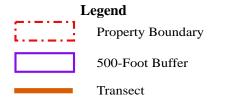




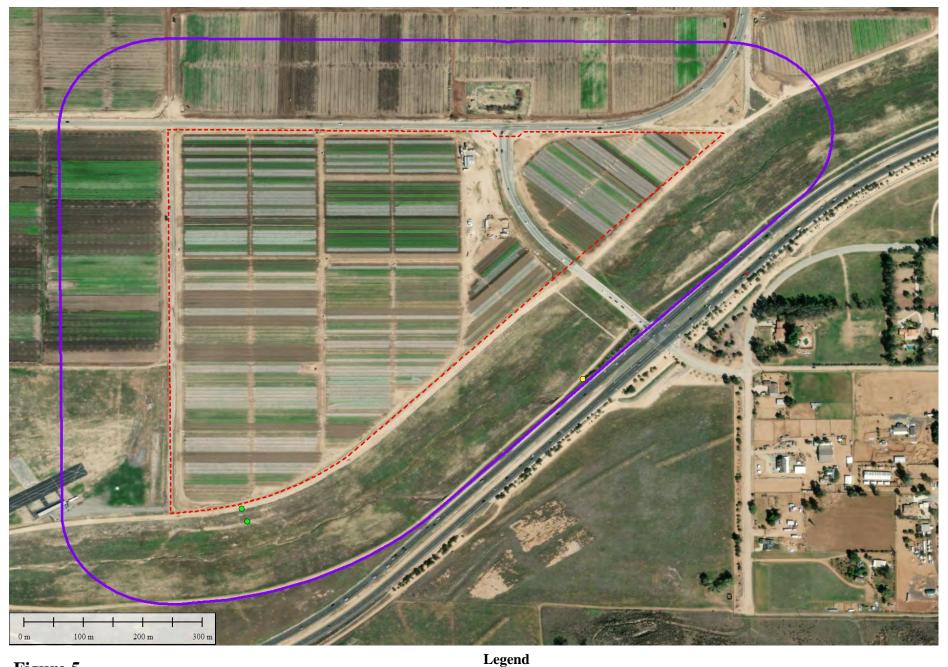




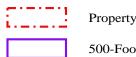
**Figure 4**BUOW Survey Area Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, California







**Figure 5**BUOW Survey Results Map
APNs 465-140-042 and -043
City of Hemet, Riverside County, California



Property Boundary

500-Foot Buffer



Active Burrow

Inactive Burrow





View of two burrowing owls found within the 500-foot buffer south of the project site.



View of active burrow found within the 500foot buffer.



View of ruderal habitat within 500-foot buffer south of the project site.