#### 3.6.3 Hydrological Monitoring

Both HGM hydrological monitoring methods will be conducted in Wet Seasons 1 - 4 - HGM "Surface and Subsurface Water Storage Function" (HGM Function 1) and "Hydrologic Networks" (HGM Function 2). HGM-defined "direct" data from ponding pools would be collected for both HGM functions 1 and 2 in each wet season. HGM-defined "indirect" dry season data would be collected in the dry season prior to construction but thereafter only in the event of inadequate seasonal rainfall (≤ 14cm rainfall).

In Wet Season 1 prior to grading, surveys for HGM functions 1 and 2 would be conducted in all four Reference/Control Pools and all Existing Pools to determine the range of vernal pool conditions at any given restoration site and in similar nearby pools and to inform restoration goals. Following grading, surveys for HGM functions 1 and 2 would be conducted in all four Reference/Control Pools and all Restoration Site Pools to further inform restoration goals and to track implementation.

The HGM Surface and Subsurface Water Storage Function 1 is defined as the capacity of a vernal pool wetland complex to capture and store precipitation falling on the basin and catchment areas. Moisture is stored within the pool as free water on the surface and/or in the surface and subsurface soils of the pool, swale(s) connecting pools, and adjacent uplands (Bauder et al. 2009).

The HGM Hydrologic Networks Function 2 is defined as the water bodies through which water moves to the local master stream in a vernal pool landscape. The links include pools, the swales or subsurface flow paths that connect them or the drainages of various types through which flows move into the master stream (Bauder et al. 2009).

The quantitative, direct, wet season measures required for HGM Function 1 include precipitation, the number of days and number of times the surveyed pool is inundated, the maximum depth of inundation, and the extent of surface connections to other pools. Quantitative dry season indirect measures include the percentage of the basin covered with cobbles or pebbles, the maximum depth of the basin, the level of disturbance to the basin, the extent of surface connection to other basins, the presence of defined inlets or outlets, the length of the basin, and basin slope.

The quantitative, direct, wet season measures required for HGM Function 2 include the number and duration of ponding pools in a given network of pools including headwater pools. The quantitative indirect measures required for HGM Function 2 include the number of pools in a given pool network, the level of disturbance in and around pools, the types of modification to a

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Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

network, the level of sediment deposition or fill in a pool, and the presence and type of modifications to pool inlets or outlets.

Under the HGM Function 1 direct wet season hydrological monitoring method, precipitation and vernal pool water depths are measured 24 hours after the end of any storm producing 1.3 cm (0.5 in) and every 3-5 days thereafter until the pool is dry. Data is entered into the Hydrology Direct Assessment Data Form 19. HGM Function 1 can only be measured directly in years with total seasonal precipitation ≥14cm. A rain gauge will be installed at each restoration site and rulers would be installed at the deepest point of each existing pool. Precipitation and pool levels would be measured after each major rainfall event. In the event shallow bedrock prevents installation of rulers, pool depth measurements would be taken using a handheld ruler placed in the deepest portion of the pool during each survey.

The same data collected for HGM direct Function 1 is utilized for analysis of HGM Function 2 direct wet season hydrological monitoring as supplemented with additional information gathered from topographic maps of the entire pool watershed area and the location of pools in the pool network(s). Data is entered in the Hydrologic Network Data Form<sup>20</sup>.

Hydrological data collected in each of the 4 monitoring seasons will be evaluated to determine scores for the HGM Surface and Sub-surface Water Storage Function 1 and HGM Hydrologic Function 2 before, during, and after project implementation. The hydrological parameters listed above will be measured for offsite Reference/Control Pools and all other Existing Pools and Restoration Site Pools, as well the average of each hydrologic variable for each of these pool groups. A comparison of the scores of HGM function 1 and 2 in each monitoring year will track implementation of hydrological goals for the project.

# 3.6.4 Floral Monitoring

The HGM direct flora monitoring method, the "Maintain Characteristic Plant Community Function (HGM Function 4)", would be conducted in Wet Seasons 1, 3, and 4.

In Wet Season 1 prior to grading, flora surveys would be conducted in all four Reference/Control Pools and at least four Existing Pools (including some pending Expanded Pools). Pre-grading surveys are intended to identify a baseline of possible vernal pool flora composition on any given restoration site and in similar nearby pools and to inform restoration goals.

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<sup>19.</sup> Bauder et al. 2009 Appendix C.4

<sup>20.</sup> Bauder et al. 2009 Appendix C.5

In Wet Seasons 3 and 4, flora surveys would include the same pools as Wet Season 1 with the addition of at least 4 Newly Constructed Pools. Post-grading and project implementation surveys are intended to track implementation of restoration project goals. Due to expense and to allow for stabilization of Newly Constructed Pools and Expanded Pools following grading, vernal pool flora surveys are not proposed in Wet Season 2.

The HGM Maintain Characteristic Plant Community Function is defined as the capacity of a vernal pool to support persistent populations of plant species characteristic of vernal pools in southern California. These populations consist of actively growing plants; dormant structures such as roots, stems, caudices, corms, and bulbs; and the soil seed bank. Soil type and depth, pool hydrology and catchment topography interact with climate to provide suitable conditions for the growth and reproduction of the vernal pool plant community (Bauder et al. 2009). The quantitative, direct measures required for HGM Function 4 include thorough plant surveys in accordance with California Resources Agency guidelines in years of average or above average rainfall and categorization of identified species in seven "Plant Distribution Categories" for use under the HGM Maintain Characteristic Plant Community Function equation. In addition to HGM values, the cover, distribution, and abundance of vernal pool plants (including focal endangered plant species) will also be assessed and tracked.

Measurements for HGM Function 4 would be determined by completing flora surveys of Reference/Control Pools, Existing Pools, and, Newly Constructed Pools. Flora monitoring would use the HGM Vegetation Direct Assessment Data Form<sup>21</sup> and would be conducted in one survey per pool in each monitoring season with one follow-up survey as needed to identify later blooming plants. Assessments will typically occur in April but the exact timing will depend on the site and weather conditions. Plant cover will also be surveyed and recorded separately using visual estimates of the entire basin of each surveyed pool including cover, distribution, and abundance of plant species. Codes for the cover and distribution sampling of plant species are found in Table 8.

Flora monitoring data will then be evaluated to determine the HGM Maintain Characteristic Plant Community Function 4 score before and after project implementation. The flora parameters of species richness and cover will be calculated using the Simpson's Diversity Index (SDI) for each surveyed pool as well as the average of each vegetation variable for the entire restoration site (Zar 1999). Flora conditions in Restoration Site Pools would be compared to the range observed in Reference/Control Pools to track implementation of flora goals. A comparison of the scores of HGM Function 4 in each monitoring year would track implementation of flora goals.

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<sup>21.</sup> Bauder et al. 2009 Appendix C.6

Table 8.

Codes for Cover/Distribution Sampling of Plant Species

Code	Cover (%)	Distribution	Abundance (#)
1	0-5	Solitary	1-25
2	6–25	Clumps/Groups	26-50
3	26-50	Patches/Cushions	51-100
4	51-75	Carpets/Dense Colonies	101-500
5	>76	Pure Stands	>500

Note: A plant with a code of 2-1-5 would have 6 to 25 percent cover in the pool, plants distributed solitarily, and an estimated abundance of over 500 individuals.

#### 3.6.5 Qualitative Monitoring

Qualitative vernal pool vegetation surveys would consist of a general site walkover and characterization of restoration work sites. Photo points will be established, recorded through GPS, and shown on detailed work maps. Observations and notes would include fitness and health of installed container plants, germination of seed, signs of desiccation, erosion and sedimentation, vandalism, nonnative species, and pest problems, among others. Qualitative monitoring will be conducted every two weeks in Wet Season 2 following grading, monthly during Wet Seasons 3 and 4, and quarterly for the remainder of the project.

During qualitative monitoring visits, vernal pools and nearby uplands will be examined for the presence or absence of Western spadefoot toads and two-striped garter snakes. Examination for spadefoot toads will include eggs, tadpoles, toadlets, and adults. Presence or absence of spadefoot toads and two-striped garter snakes will be documented in annual monitoring reports. In addition, all amphibian, reptile, and any other wildlife species observed during vernal pool monitoring will be documented.

Maintenance needs and site conditions will be recorded in memoranda and distributed to the resource agency property owner and Conservancy according to the above schedule of qualitative monitoring. Copies of each memorandum will be retained by the project biologist and used to compile annual monitoring reports.

# 3.6.6 Schedule of Vernal Pool Monitoring

Table 9 provides a summary and schedule of vernal pool monitoring activities. Monitoring will take place over four wet seasons with Wet Season 1 monitoring taking place prior to grading and

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Wet Season 2 - 4 taking place concurrent with and following project implementation. Annual monitoring results will dictate the need for major or minor remedial measures.

#### 3.6.7 Vernal Pool Restoration Goal Criteria and Remedial Measures

Vernal pool restoration goals and remedial measures are shown in Table 10. Each project will have achieved its goals if these are met by completion of the project in Wet Season 4.

Conditions in Restoration Site Pools at completion of the project should be similar in hydological function and species composition in Reference/Control pools. In general, this means that data collected on Restoration Site Pools should fall within the range of data obtained from Reference/Control pools. The specific parameter goals for Restoration Site Pools are included in Table 10. Vernal pools vary considerably from one year to another and between years in each of these parameters; thus, the standards for determining whether restoration goals have been achieved are dependent on the range exhibited by Reference/Control pools during a given year. In Restoration Site Pools, achieving a reasonable stability of conditions under a wide variety of hydrological years is more important than meeting preset values. Upon completion of each season's monitoring period, Restoration Site Pools that do not demonstrate improvement in the monitored variables would be subject to remedial measures. Remedial measures are included in Table 10.

When determining whether restoration goals have been achieved for individual pools, all the evidence must be considered. For example, hydrology and flora goals are both included in Table 10 restoration goals. However, if a particular pool is meeting flora goals but not hydrology goals, restoration activities may still have improved overall pool function. If flora goals are being met, a Restoration Site Pool showing hydrology outside the range of Reference/Control Pools would still be providing hydrology within the natural range for vernal pool plant species. Additionally, site averages will be used to track implementation of project goals relative to reference conditions.

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Summary and Schedule of Vernal Pool Monitoring Activities

	Wet Season 1	Wet Season 2	Wet Season 3	Wet Season 4
Survey Full Invertebrate Fauna	All 4 Reference/Control Pools	Any one pool where ponding was inadequate to conduct Wet	Any one pool where ponding was inadequate to conduct Wet	All 4 Reference/Control Pools
rainfall)	4 Existing Pools (including some pending Expanded Pools)	Season I surveys <sup>22</sup>	Season I surveys	4 Newly Constructed Pools
				4 Expanded Pools
Survey Fairy Shrimp (November - April following	All 4 Reference/Control Pools	Any one pool where ponding was inadequate and or where fairy	Any one pool where ponding was inadequate and/or where fairy	Any Existing Pools (including Expanded Pools but excluding
rainfall)	All Existing Pools	shrimp surveys were inconclusive in Wet Season I	shrimp surveys were inconclusive in Wet Seasons 1 and 2	those surveyed for full fauna) inoculated with Riverside fairy shrimp or San Diego fairy shrimp
		All Newly Constructed Pools		
Survey Hydrology (HGM Function 1 & 2 Direct	All 4 Reference/Control Pools	All 4 Reference/Control Pools	All 4 Reference/Control Pools	All 4 Reference/Control Pools
Surveys, November - April following rainfall; HGM Function	All Existing Pools	All Restoration Site Pools	All Restoration Site Pools	All Restoration Site Pools
1 & 2 Indirect Surveys in event of inadequate rainfall (≤ 14cm)	(HGM Direct & Indirect Surveys)	(HGM Direct & Indirect Surveys)	(HGM Direct Surveys Only) <sup>23</sup>	(HGM Direct Surveys Only)
Survey Flora (HGM Function 4 Direct Surveys,	All 4 Reference/Control Pools		All 4 Reference/Control Pools	All 4 Reference/Control Pools
March - May)	4 Existing Pools (including some pending Expanded Pools)	i i	4 Existing Pools (including some Expanded Pools	4 Existing Pools (including some Expanded Pools
			4 Newly Constructed Pools	4 Newly Constructed Pools

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Italics indicate conditional activities.

Indirect surveys are unnecessary as indirect variables change only with modification of pool topography and this was assessed in Season 2.

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Table 10.
Vernal Pool Restoration Goal Criteria and Remedial Measures

Survey Type	Vernal Pool Parameter	Restoration Goal	Remedial Measures
Fauna	Fauna Composition	Number of crustacean species ≥ baseline in non-inoculated Existing Pools  4 or more crustacean species per inoculated pool <sup>24</sup>	Pool re-contouring  Re-inoculation
	Site Average Density for Fauna	90% CI <sup>25</sup> around average density overlaps 90% CI in Reference/Control Pools	
Fairy Shrimp	Presence of Riverside fairy shrimp, San Diego Fairy Shrimp, Versatile Fairy Shrimp, or Hybrids	Riverside fairy shrimp present in suitable Restoration Site Pools  San Diego fairy shrimp present in 25% of Restoration Site Pools  Versatile fairy shrimp and/or hybrids absent from pools occupied by San Diego fairy shrimp  Versatile fairy shrimp absent from 75% of Newly Constructed Pools	Pool re-contouring  Solarizing  Re-inoculation
	Density of San Diego Fairy Shrimp Per Pool Site Average Density for San	Range of values from Reference/Control Pools  90% CI around average density	
	Diego Fairy Shrimp	overlaps 90% CI in baseline data	
	HGM Function 1	Baseline + .25 (max 1.0) <sup>26</sup> ≥75 for Newly Constructed Pools	Pool re-contouring
Hydrology	HGM Function 2	Baseline + .25 (max 1.0)  >75 for Newly Constructed Pools	Pool re-contouring

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<sup>24.</sup> Inoculum containing San Diego fairy shrimp and other crustacean species that might otherwise increase crustacean diversity would not be introduced to Restoration Site Pools containing versatile fairy shrimp.

<sup>25.</sup> Confidence Interval

<sup>26</sup>. HGM formulas produce a number between 0.0 and 1.0 with 0.0 pools having no functionality and 1.0 pools functioning at optimum levels. See Bauder et al. 2009 Appendix D.6.

Survey Type	Vernal Pool Element	Restoration Goal	Remedial Measures
	HGM Function 4	Baseline + .25 (max 1.0)	
	Vernal Pool Endemics Cover Per Pool	Range of values from Reference/Control Pools	
	Other Native Species Cover Per Pool	80% of initial container plants <sup>27</sup>	g r
	Simpson's Diversity Index Per Pool (Native Species Only)	Downingia cuspidata, Eryngium	Seeding or container planting of absent and/or
	Presence of Downingia cuspidata, Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii, Myosurus minimus,	aristulatum var. parishii, Myosurus minimus, and Navarretia fossalis present in 20% of Restoration Site Pools	underrepresented reference species, vernal pool endemics, and/or
Flora	Navarretia fossalis, and Orcuttia californica Per Pool	Orcuttia californica present in suitable Restoration Site Pools	other native species Supplemental
	Site Averages for Flora Elements	90% CI around averages of each flora element overlaps 90% CI in Reference/Control Pools	watering of pools
	Non-Native Cover	0% cover for weed species categorized as High or Moderate in the Cal-IPC Invasive Plant Inventory <sup>28</sup> <5% regardless of nonnative cover in Reference/Control Pools	Increase in weeding visits and/or alternative treatments

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<sup>27.</sup> Biological Opinion condition

<sup>28.</sup> Biological Opinion condition

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# CHAPTER 4.0 – UPLAND HABITAT RESTORATION

#### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

## 4.1.1 Goals of Uplands Restoration

The leading goal of recommended uplands restoration is to improve ecological and hydrological functions in local vernal pool watersheds. Another goal of upland vegetation restoration is to incorporate measures to facilitate population expansion or otherwise improve habitat for specific imperiled upland plants and animals including several of San Diego County's rarest animals such as the Burrowing owl, California gnatcatcher, Hermes copper butterfly, Quino checkerspot butterfly, and San Diego cactus wren. Specific uplands restoration objectives are as follows:

- <u>Limit Future Harm</u> Limit future anthropogenic disturbance to sensitive uplands through fencing, signing, planting and vegetative camouflage of old dirt roads and paths, and public educational outreach.
- Repair Damaged Uplands Repair degraded uplands geomorphic and ecological
  conditions including restoration of topography (e.g. smoothing and filling tire trenching
  and erosion gullies) and restoration of native uplands vegetation (coastal sage scrub,
  native grassland, and chaparral) through weeding, seeding, and container planting.
- Increase Populations of Endangered and Sensitive Upland Species Establish new refugia populations of several endangered or sensitive upland species as appropriate considering existing populations, historic reports, species' existing ranges, and suitable habitats (Tables 11 and 12).

# 4.1.2 Location of Upland Restoration

Upland revegetation and limited, local topographic restoration activities are recommended to restore habitat and watershed conditions in localized disturbed areas in and around each vernal pool restoration site.

In addition to any necessary general revegetation and local topographic restoration around vernal pool sites, three areas in particular are recommended for focused intensive uplands restoration work to obliterate and camouflage ORV tracks that would otherwise lead ORV tracks to vernal pool restoration sites (Figures 6f, 6h, and 6i). Obliteration of all ORV tracks is not

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practical. Rather, strategic ORV track obliteration is recommended at key locations to remove unauthorized ORV access to restoration sites and to remove connections to other tracks that are then expected to recover passively over time.

#### 4.1.3 Sensitive Upland Plants

Eleven sensitive plant species are present in Proctor Valley and would benefit from direct incorporation into recommended upland vegetation restoration work through planting and seeding (Table 11; Figures 7a and 7b). Use of these sensitive plants as part of the project will improve the likelihood of success of upland vegetation planting and seeding due to their adaption to existing conditions, will improve vernal pool watershed ecological and hydrological conditions, and will benefit the sensitive upland plants themselves by increasing location population numbers.

#### 4.2 PERMITTING

## 4.2.1 City of San Diego Right-of-Entry Permit

Please see section 3.2.1 above for a discussion of a right-of-entry permit.

# 4.2.2 California Environmental Quality Act

Please see section 3.2.2 above for a discussion of compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

# 4.2.3 Endangered Species

One state and federal listed plant species – Otay tarplant (Deinandra conjugens) – would be included in recommended upland restoration activities were appropriate and with permission of the resource agency property owner, CDFG, and USFWS. The collection source for Otay tarplant would be the SDNWR in Proctor Valley. Permission and permits to collect and/or introduce this listed species will be required from the resource agency property owner of any given restoration site, CDFG as the permitting authority for California listed species, and the USFWS as both the donor site property owner and the permitting authority for federally listed plants. Anticipated endangered species legal compliance and permitting is described below.

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Table 11.
Upland Restoration Sensitive Plant Species

SPECIES         PRESENCE ABSENCE PRESENCE / ABSENCE / STIE®         PROPOSED DONOR DONOR SITE JUSTIFICATION & OTHER NOTES           Arteristia palmerri         Present         Present         Rancho Jamul (Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE®)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE®)           Brodicace orculiii         Present         Present         San Diego National (Approx. 1 mile NE®)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE®)           Calechertus dumnii         Present         Present         Outy Ranch (Approx. 1 mile NE®)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE®)           Calechertus dumnii         Present         Present         San Diego National (Approx. 1 mile NE®)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE®)           Coday Import         Present         Present         Outy Ranch (Approx. 1 mile NE)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile NE)           Defalmer's goldentustal)         Present         Present         Outy Ranch (Approx. 1 mile NE)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 2 miles SE)           Lepidum virginicum L. voar rebinuouti         Present         Present         Outy Ranch (Approx. 2 miles SE)         Closest recorded population (Approx. 1 mile SE)           Lepidum virginicum L. voar rebinuouti         Present	
	TE JUSTIFICATION & CHER NOTES
tutiti         Present         Present         San Diego National Wildlife Refuge (Approx. 1 mile N)           hunnit         Present         Present         (Approx. 1 mile N)           bosa lily)         Present         Present         (Approx. 1 mile N)           pingerus         Present         Present         San Diego National Wildlife Refuge (Approx. 1 mile SW)           ptened         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SW)           udleya)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile NE)           udneri ssp. palmeri         Present         Present         (Approx. 1 mile NE)           underi ssp. palmeri         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile NE)           underi ssp. palmeri         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 5 miles SE)           underi sar)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 2 miles SW)           underi star)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SE)           poet grass)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SE)           poet grass)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SE)           poet grass)         Present         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SE)	recorded population
hannii         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile E)           osa lijy)         Present         San Diego National Wildirfe Refuge           ipingens         Present         San Diego National Wildirfe Refuge           ienned         Present         Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SW)           inderi ssp. palmeri         Present         Present           ienbush)         Present         Present           irideacens         Present         Present           irideacens         Present         Present           iridean L. var. robinsonii         Present         Present           iridean San)         Present	recorded population
	recorded population
igatia         Present         Otay Ranch           udleya)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile NE)           idmeri sep. palmeri         Present         Otay Ranch           lenbush)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile NE)           lenbush)         Present         Otay Ranch           lenbush)         Present         Present           mridacens         Present         Present           prinicum L. var. robinsonii         Present         Present           epper grass)         Present         (Approx. 2 miles SW)           mdii         Present         Present           olden star)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile SE)           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         (Approx. 1 mile SE)	recorded population
Inneri ssp. palmeri         Present         Present         Otay Ranch           lenbush)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile NE)           ridescens         Present         Otay Ranch           urel cactus)         Present         (Approx. 5 miles SE)           prinicum L. var. robinsonii         Present         Present         Otay Ranch           epper grass)         Present         (Approx. 2 miles SW)           ndiri         Present         Otay Ranch           olden star)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile SE)           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         Present	recorded population
Present         Present         Otay Ranch           Present         (Approx 5 miles SE)           Present         Otay Ranch           Approx. 2 miles SW)         Present           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         Present           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         Otay Ranch	recorded population
printrum L. var. robinsonii         Present         Otay Ranch           epper grass)         Present         (Approx. 2 miles SW)           mdii         Present         Otay Ranch           blden star)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile SE)           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         Present	recorded population
inditi         Present         Otay Ranch           blden star)         Present         (Approx. 1 mile SE)           Present         Otay Ranch           (Approx. 1 mile SE)         (Approx. 1 mile SE)	recorded population
Present Present Otay Ranch (Approx. 1 mile SE)	recorded population
	recorded population
Selaginella cinerascens  Present Oray Ranch Closest recorded population	recorded population

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With property owner permission only.
 Distances are from the approximate center of Proctor Valley at the ORV Site A.

Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

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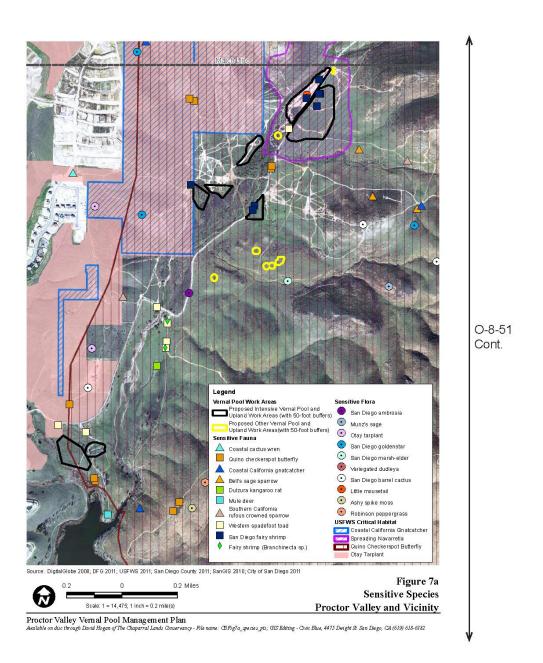
# Beneficiary Sensitive Animal Species

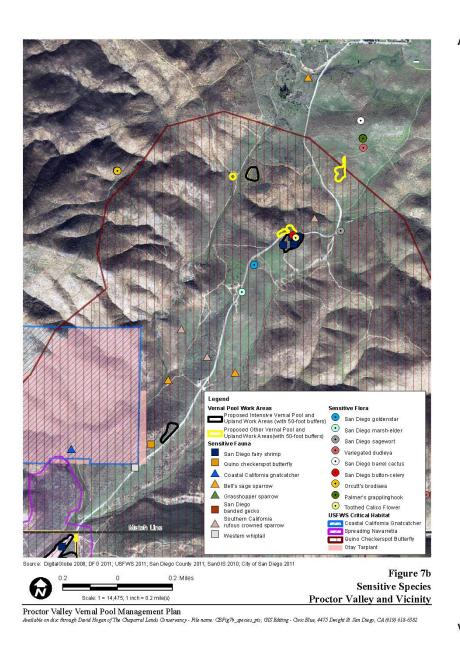
INVERTEBRATES Speotyto cumicularia ssp. hypugaea Polioptila californica ssp. california (San Diego cactus wren) Aimophila ruficeps ssp. canescens
(Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow) AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus ssp. couesi (Bell's sage sparrow) Amphispiza belli ssp. belli Thannophis hammondii (California gnatcatcher) (Northern harrier) (Hermes copper butterfly) Hermelycaena hermes (Quino checkerspot butterfly) Euphydryas editha ssp. quino (Western spade foot toad) SPECIES NOTE - Species are reported from Proctor Valley and expected to occupy or regularly utilize restoration sites CA Species of Special Concern Federal Threatened; AGENCY STATUS Federal Endangered Federal Candidate CURRENT PROCTOR VALLEY PRESENCE / ABSENCE Absent Present Absent Absent Absent Present Absent Absent Absent Patches of species' host plant spiny redberry to be habitat. Species recorded immediately adjacent to site. Quino host and nectar plant seed mix to be Species common in existing restoration site vernal pools and expected to readily colonize constructed included in upland vegetation restoration. included in upland vegetation restoration. Restoration project site is in designated critical restoration Cactus patches to be included in upland vegetation restoration. Artificial burrows to be included in upland NOTES

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(Two-striped Garter Snake)

September 2018





#### 4.2.3.1 Federal Endangered Species Act

Permission for proposed upland restoration activities involving Otay tarplant is anticipated to be required from the USFWS under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Activities potentially subject to permitting under the Federal ESA include: Collection of seeds, greenhouse propagation, and/or seeding and container planting at new sites in Proctor Valley. Permission under the Federal ESA is anticipated to be provided through a USFWS internal formal Section 7 consultation and Biological Opinion triggered by a grant (for the pending ORV Site A Restoration Project) and technical support from the agency's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program to support proposed restoration activities and by Clean Water Act permitting by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The USFWS has prepared a Biological Opinion for the Proctor Valley ORV Site Vernal Pool Restoration Project and conservation conditions from that document have been fully integrated into this Restoration Plan.

For any given restoration site, the Conservancy will submit a final restoration plan to the USFWS for approval within 60 days of the applicant's receipt of the biological opinion, or at least 60 days prior to initiating project impacts, whichever comes first. The final plan will include the following information and conditions:

- Implementation of upland restoration will be conducted under the direction of a qualified biologist with at least three years of upland vegetation restoration experience, to be approved by the USFWS.
- Restoration activities will include addition of coastal sage scrub and native grassland plant species in upland work areas. All plant material used for restoration will be collected from areas identified in this Restoration Plan.

#### 4.2.3.2 California Endangered Species Act

Permission for proposed project upland restoration activities involving Otay tarplant is anticipated to be required from the CDFG under the California Endangered Species Act (California ESA). Activities potentially subject to permitting under the California ESA include: Collection of seeds, greenhouse propagation, and/or seeding and container planting at new sites in Proctor Valley. Permission under the California ESA is anticipated to be provided through a Research and Management Permit under Section 1907(a) and Section 2081(a) of the Fish and Game Code.

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Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

#### 4.2.4 National Environmental Policy Act

Please see section 3.2.4 for a discussion of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

#### 4.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF UPLAND RESTORATION

# 4.3.1 Project Preparation and General Conditions

The following sections describe the activities that will take place to prepare each site before implementation of uplands restoration activities.

#### 4.3.1.1 Seed and Propagule Collection

All seed and propagules from upland plants will be collected from the closest available Proctor Valley area at the appropriate time prior to restoration. Sensitive plant species listed in Table 11 will be prioritized for upland seeding efforts as appropriate. Seed from common shrub species like California buckwheat, California sagebrush and black sage will be collected along with native grasses (Nasella spp.) and bulbs. In addition, annual species like goldfields and dot seed plantain may be collected for open patches in the upland habitat areas.

Collection will be performed by seed collectors with documented collection experience when seeds are ripe and prior to seed shedding. Seed and propagules will be collected manually or by using hand-held vacuums. All collected seed and propagules will be transported to a native plant nursery or seed bulking facility for bulking and/or propagation for use in each restoration work area.

Please see section 3.3.3 for discussion of other project preparation and general conditions also applicable to upland vegetation restoration.

# 4.3.2 Topographic Reconstruction

# 4.3.2.1 Grading Activities

Topographic grading activities for uplands restoration will be limited to minor localized smoothing and filling of degraded uplands to remove tire trenching and erosion gullies. Earthwork will be balanced so that export of soil from the site is not required, except for unsuitable waste materials such as asphalt, concrete, and other debris unearthed during grading.

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The project biologist will be on-site to direct grading and contouring activities. The project biologist or land surveyor will check final grading and flow patterns using survey equipment (laser level or laser transit). Minor modifications may be required in the field to properly prepare the site for planting, as determined by the project biologist.

Grading will be carried out with a bulldozer small enough to access and maneuver within restoration sites and hand tools. Grading will only occur in delineated and marked uplands restoration work areas. Graded material will not be placed in areas of original topography with native vegetation. Final grading details will be carried out according to direction from the project biologist. Staging areas will be located outside of the MHPA.

Final pre-grading field visits will be conducted by the project biologist to delineate areas of cut and fill using pin flagging. No spray paint will be used. A complete set of preconstruction photographs will also be taken at this time. The grading operator will be familiarized with the site and issues involved during a preconstruction site visit with the project biologist. Areas to be manipulated with grading equipment or hand tools will be graded before the saturation of soils. All cut and fill will be balanced to avoid off-site export of usable soil.

#### 4.3.2.2 Grading Conditions

Please see section 3.3.4.2 for a list of grading conditions also applicable to the Uplands Restoration Project.

# 4.3.3 Greenhouse Seed Bulking and Plant Propagation

Seed collection must be limited to the extent that it will not adversely affect source plant populations. No more than 5% of the seed population will be collected from the existing source plant populations. Collected seed will be used to start a greenhouse population that can be used for both greenhouse seed production and for growing container plants for direct planting.

# 4.3.4 Container Planting and Seeding

Please see Table 13 for an upland planting and seeding palette. Tables 11 and 13 may be revised at the discretion of the project biologist based on the actual amount of collected seed.

Container plants will not be installed until the USFWS has approved of habitat restoration site grading. The project biologist will confirm upland plants are delivered to the site in a healthy and vigorous condition before being installed. The project biologist will inspect all container plants and reject plants that are dead, rootbound, stunted, pest-infested, diseased, or unacceptable for

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Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

Table 13.
Upland Planting and Seeding Palette

Species List	Proctor Valley Habitat Type	Container Size/Seed	Plantings Number & Density (Plants/ft <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>31</sup>
Acmispon glaber - deer weed	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Adenostoma fasciculatum - chamise	Chaparral	1 Gallon	.25
Antirrhinum coulterianum - white snapdragon	Coastal Sage Scrub		
Artemisia californica - California sagebrush	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Artemesia palmeri - San Diego sagewort	Coastal Sage Scrub	4 Inch	2
Baccharis pilularis - coyote brush	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Brodiaea orcutii - Orcutt's brodiaea	Native Grasslands	4 Inch	2
Calochortus dunnii - Dunn's mariposa lily	Native Grasslands	4 Inch	2
Castilleja exerta - purple owl's clover	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Chlorogalum parviflorum - soap plant	Native Grasslands	4 Inch	1
Cordylanthus rigidus - thread-leaved bird's beak	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Collinsia sp Chinese houses	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	1
Crassula connata - pygmy weed	Native Grasslands	Seed	177
Deinandra conjugens - Otay tarplant	Native grasslands	4 Inch	2
Deinandra fasciculata - common tarplant	Coastal Sage Scrub	4 Inch	2
Dichelostemma capitatum - blue dicks	Coastal Sage Scrub	4 Inch	2
Dichondra occidentalis- western dichondra	Coastal Sage Scrub	4 Inch	4
Dodecatheon clevelandii - padre's shooting star	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Dudleya variegata - variegated dudleya	Native grasslands	4 Inch	2
Ericameria palmeri ssp. palmeri - Palmer's goldernbush	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Eriogonum fasciculatum ssp. fasciculatum - California buckwheat	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Eriophyllum confertiflorum var. confertiflorum - golden yarrow	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Ferocactus viridescens - San Diego barrel cactus	Coastal Sage Scrub	4 Inch	.25
Gnaphalium californicum - California everlasting	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Heteromeles arbutifolia - toyon	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Isomeris arborea - bladderpod	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Lasthenia californica - California goldfields	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii - Robinson's peppergrass	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	#
Linanthus dianthiflorus - ground pink	Native Grasslands	Seed	177

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<sup>31.</sup> Density is for target planting patches and not for the entire site, so planting densities are approximate. Exact planting densities will mirror the density of the surrounding original natural vegetation.

Species List	Proctor Valley Habitat Type	Container Size/Seed	Plantings Number & Density (Plants/ft <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>31</sup>
Lotus hamatus - grab lotus	Native Grasslands	Seed	770
Malosma laurina - laurel sumac	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 gallon	.25
Mimulus aurantiacus - monkey flower	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Muilla clevelandii - San Diego goldenstar	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Nasella pulchra - purple needlegrass	Native Grasslands	4 Inch	2
Navarretia hamata ssp. leptantha - hooked pincushion plant	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Ophioglossum californicus - adder's tongue	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	4
Opuntia littoralis - prickly pear cactus	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	
Opuntia prolifera - coastal cholla	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	
Plantago elongata - prairie plantain	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Plantago erecta - dot-seed plantain	Native Grasslands	Seed	
Pterostegia drymarioides - Granny's haimet	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	
Rhamnus crocea - Spiny redberry	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Rhus integrifolia - lemonade berry	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Salvia clevelandii - Cleveland's sage	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Salvia mellifera - black sage	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Salvia munzii - Munz's sage	Coastal Sage Scrub	1 Gallon	.25
Selaginella cinerascens - ashy spike-moss	Chaparral	Seed	
Sisyrinchium bellum - blue eyed grass	Native Grasslands	4 Inch	2
Zeltnera venustum - conchalagua	Coastal Sage Scrub	Seed	220

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other reasons. Container sizes larger than needed are not recommended, as they require much more disturbance of the site when planting and can be more difficult to install. The project biologist will also oversee plant layout before installation. Container plants will be installed in a manner that mimics natural plant distribution (e.g., random and/or aggregate distributions rather than uniform rows). At the first and second anniversary of plant installation, all dead plants will be replaced unless their function has been replaced by natural recruitment.

Seeds, and other types of propagules such as spores from ashy spikemoss, will be broadcast manually directly into the recipient sites. As with the seeding for the vernal pool species, seed will not be introduced on-site until the fall or early winter when rainfall is predicted.

# 4.3.5 ORV Track Obliteration

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Certain old ORV tracks remain a nuisance visual draw for unauthorized vehicle access and will be fenced and obliterated with seeding and planting of upland vegetation and placement of

camouflaging "vertical mulch" (e.g. Figures 6f, 6h, and 6i). To limit the spread of weeds, ORV track obliteration will <u>not</u> include soil ripping.

#### 4.4 UPLAND RESTORATION MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

#### 4.4.1 Weed Control

Weed control in uplands will generally follow the same methods described in vernal pool restoration section 3.4.1. Please see Table 5 for a partial list of targeted weeds.

The methods and timing of mowing and line trimming will be similar to that described above for vernal pool habitat, but mowing and line trimming will be used more extensively in the upland habitats, where it will be more effective and the habitat is less sensitive to the treatment. Herbicide spraying, which will be prohibited in vernal pools, will be conducted in upland habitat. Hand weeding is difficult and expensive relative to the area that can be covered and can cause substantial damage. For uplands, hand weeding generally will not be used unless necessary for a specific species or location where herbicide and mechanical methods are not practicable.

# 4.4.2 Supplemental Watering

Although supplemental watering is not proposed as a normal maintenance activity, there is a potential that restoration site upland plants will require watering if early rainfall does not provide enough moisture to keep container plants or germinated seed from dying.

The project biologist will be responsible for determining when and how much to water upland restoration plants. Watering will only be conducted by hand from a water truck or with backpack sprayers. This type of watering will only be conducted in strategic upland areas, usually at the sites of container planting.

#### 4.4.3 Erosion Control

The project biologist will ensure erosion does not develop as a result of restoration activities. If erosion does develop, erosion control measures will be installed such as weed-free straw wattles, silt fencing, or other material to reduce erosion on-site and sediment flow off-site.

# 4.4.4 Maintenance Schedule

The general approach to the schedule for maintenance of upland restoration areas is shown in Table 14, which outlines the efforts for remedial planting and seeding, supplemental watering,

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Table 14.
Upland Restoration Maintenance Schedule

Site Maintenance	Begin	End
Supplemental Watering (as needed)	January	May
Weed Control-Herbicide Application and Hand Weeding	November	June
Weed Control-Weed Mowing & Trimming	January	July
Remedial Planting and Seeding	October	November

and weed control. Some of the scheduled activities have a wide range of dates because the actual timing will be based on seasonal rainfall and resulting effects on site conditions.

In general, the schedule for the upland habitat maintenance will be similar to that for vernal pools. The difference will be the range of effort will start earlier for some activities and will last longer for other activities. There is greater weed diversity in the upland areas, requiring a greater diversity of treatments. Seeding, growing, and planting the wide variety of upland plant species will also take a wide range of methods and treatments. Supplemental watering, if needed, would be less frequent for the upland areas than for vernal pool habitat. Other maintenance activities like trash removal and access control will be conducted throughout the year, on an as-needed basis.

## 4.5 UPLAND RESTORATION MONITORING

#### 4.5.1 Quantitative Monitoring

Point-intercept transects (CNPS 1995) will be utilized in upland restoration areas at each intensive vernal pool restoration site and nearby reference sites to collect data on species richness, native cover, and nonnative cover, and to determine whether restoration goals have been achieved. Photo points will also be established. Four transect locations will be selected at each site. Four offsite reference transect locations will also be selected near each intensive restoration site in upland vegetation similar to that targeted for restoration at each site. Transects will be 25 meters in length and a 5-meter belt (2.5 meters on either side of the point-intercept transect) used to collect species richness data. All species observed in this 5-meter belt, not recorded as a point-intercept, will be recorded for inclusion in the species list, which gives species richness. Transects and photo points will be marked in the field using t-posts and/or rebar and GPS coordinates will be recorded. Transects and photo point locations will be marked on the detailed work map. Any transect markers will be removed upon completion of the project.

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Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

Average species richness, native cover, nonnative cover, and SDI will be calculated with 90 percent confidence intervals for sites. Site averages will be tracked over the 3 year project implementation period to determine whether goals of upland restoration have been achieved.

#### 4.5.2 Qualitative Monitoring

Please see section 3.6.5 for a discussion of qualitative monitoring also applicable to uplands restoration.

# 4.5.3 Schedule of Upland Monitoring

Table 15 outlines the annual schedule for monitoring of upland restoration. Monitoring will extend for 3 years concurrent and following project implementation. Yearly monitoring results will indicate the need for any remedial measures (Table 16).

Table 15.
Upland Annual Monitoring Schedule

Task	Completed by
Qualitative Upland Vegetation Monitoring	Ongoing
Quantitative Upland Vegetation Transects	April-June

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# 4.5.4 Upland Restoration Goal Criteria and Remedial Meaures

Upland restoration goals are shown in Table 16. Goals would be achieved if these goals are met by Year 3.

# 4.5.5 Upland Goals Evaluation

Restored upland areas must be similar in species composition and ecosystem function to reference sites to achieve restoration goals by the end of the project and monitoring period. The 90 percent CI around the average of each upland parameter will be compared to the 90 percent CI around the averages of the reference site. If the intervals overlap, they are statistically equivalent and the upland restoration area would approximate the reference site and restoration goals would be achieved. The specific parameters for the uplands and remedial measures are provided in Table 16.

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Table 16.
Upland Restoration Goal Criteria and Remedial Measures

Upland Parameter	Restoration Goal	Remedial Measure	
Native Cover	90% CI around average native cover overlaps 90% CI of reference.  80% survival of initial container plantings.	Seeding or container planting of absent and/or underrepresented	
Native Species Richness	90% CI around average native species richness overlaps 90% CI of reference.	reference species, sensitive species and/or other native species Supplemental watering	
Simpson's Diversity Index (SDI) (native species only)	90% CI around average SDI overlaps 90% CI of reference		
Nonnative Cover	0% cover for weed species categorized as High or Moderate in the Cal-IPC Invasive Plant Inventory <sup>32</sup>	Increase in weeding visits and/or alternative treatments	
	<10% regardless of nonnative cover in Reference Control Pools		

CI = confidence interval

32. Biological Opinion condition

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# CHAPTER 5.0 – REPORTING

The project biologist will prepare monitoring reports that will include results from qualitative and quantitative monitoring, photographic documentation from established photopoints as well as other notable events, an assessment of the restoration site relative to restoration goals, a review of maintenance activities, and any problems and remedial measures necessary to achieve restoration goals (e.g., supplemental watering, seeding, or planting).

#### 5.1 WEEKLY REPORTS

Weekly letter reports during active grading within and adjacent to vernal pools will be submitted to the Service and include photographs of restoration areas. The weekly reports will document that authorized impacts were not exceeded, work did not occur outside the areas approved by the Service, and general compliance with all conditions.

#### 5.2 ANNUAL REPORTS

These reports will be prepared on an annual basis. A final annual report will be submitted to the Conservancy, resource agency property owner, wildlife agencies, and water agencies by July 30 following each work and monitoring season.

# 5.3 FINAL REPORT

For vernal pool restoration, the project biologist will submit a final report to the Conservancy, resource agency property owner, wildlife agencies, and water agencies within 60 days of project completion that includes: As-built restoration map with an overlay of habitat that was restored and any areas not restored; Photographs of habitat areas before, during, and after implementation; and any other relevant summary information documenting that authorized impacts were not exceeded and that general compliance with all conservation measures was achieved.

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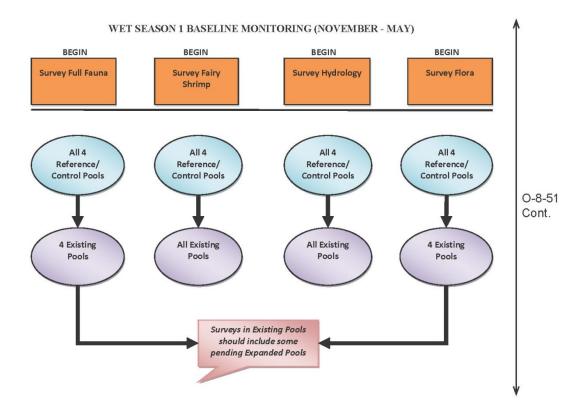
Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

# APPENDIX A. Flow Chart Schedule of Restoration and Monitoring Implementation

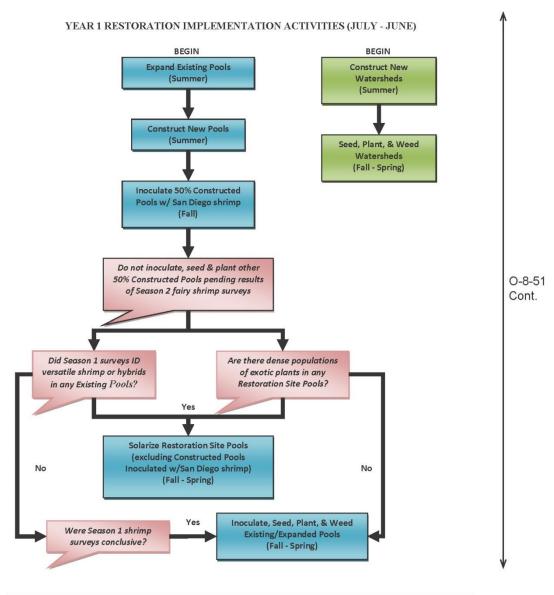


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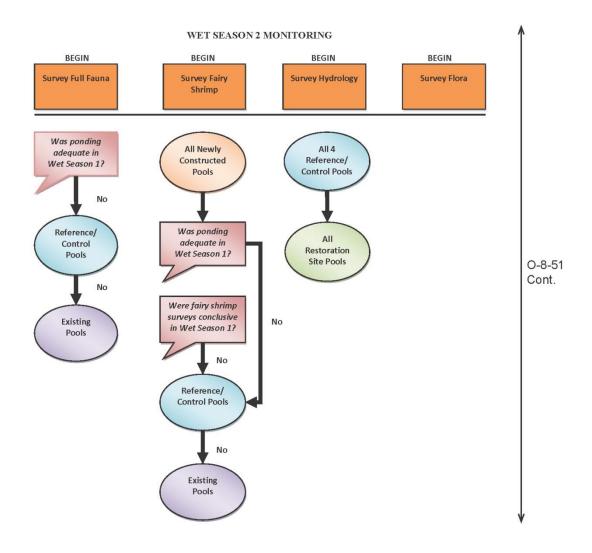
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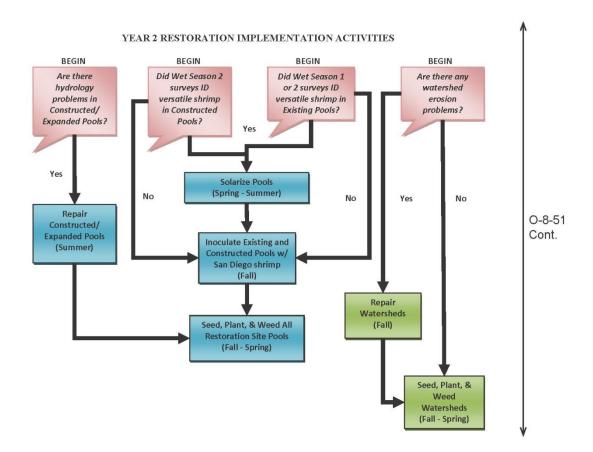
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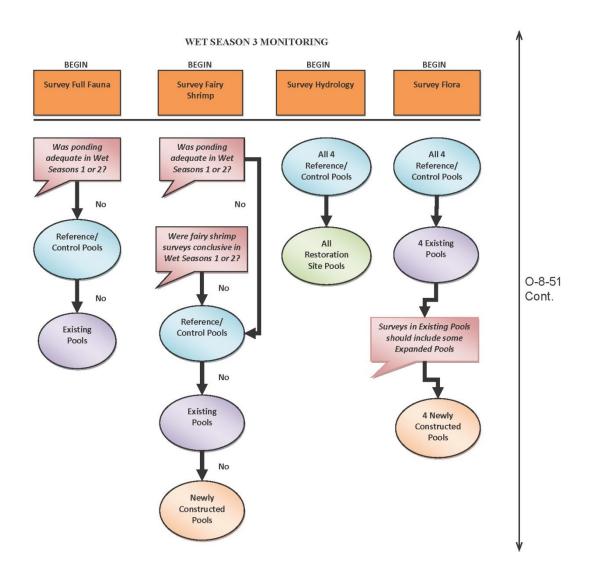
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# YEAR 3 RESTORATION IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

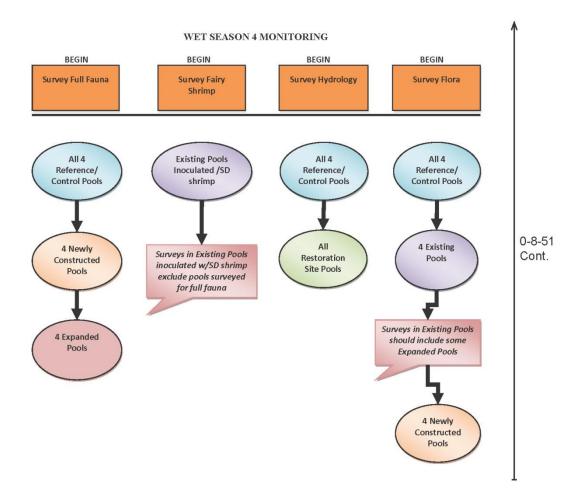
BEGIN

Seed, Plant, & Weed All Restoration Site Pools (Fall - Spring) BEGIN

Seed, Plant, & Weed Watersheds (Fall - Spring) O-8-51 Cont.

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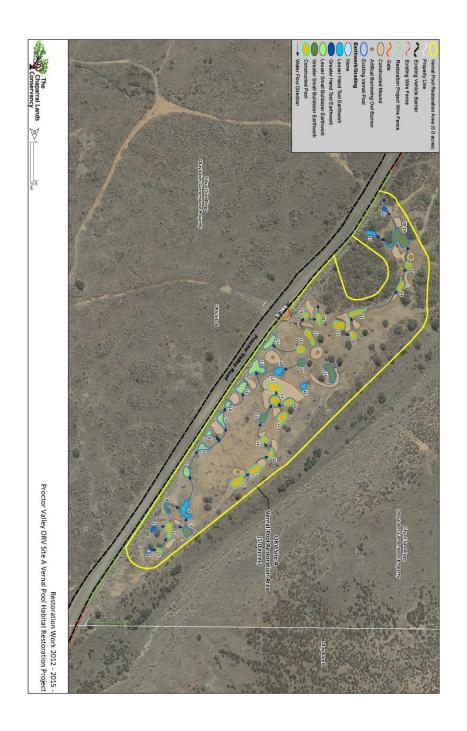


APPENDIX A Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Plan

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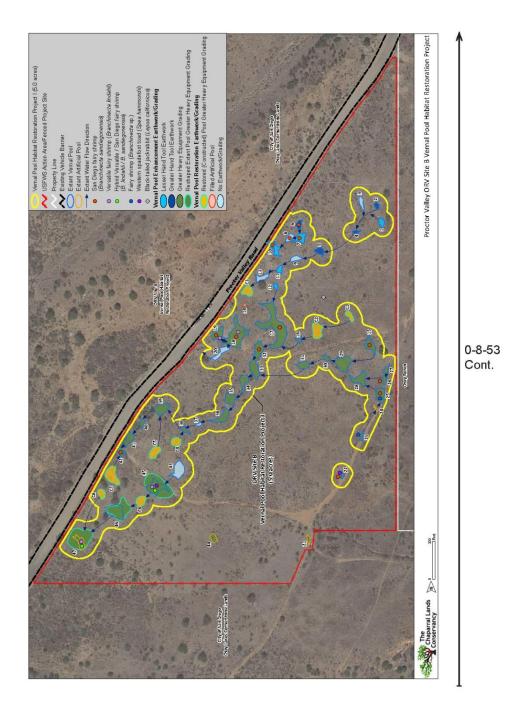


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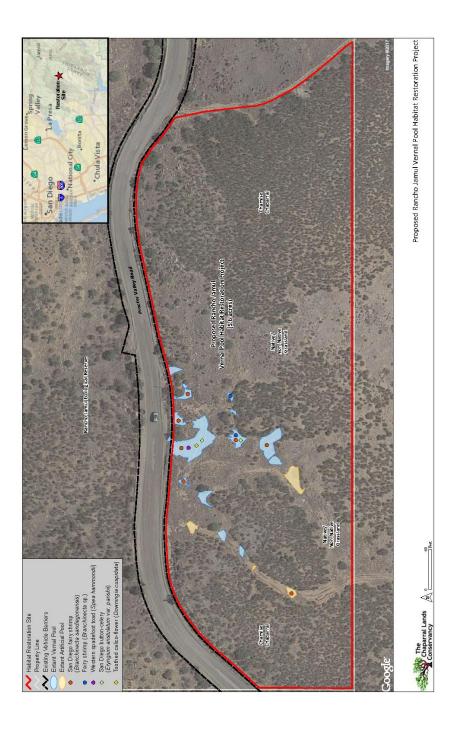










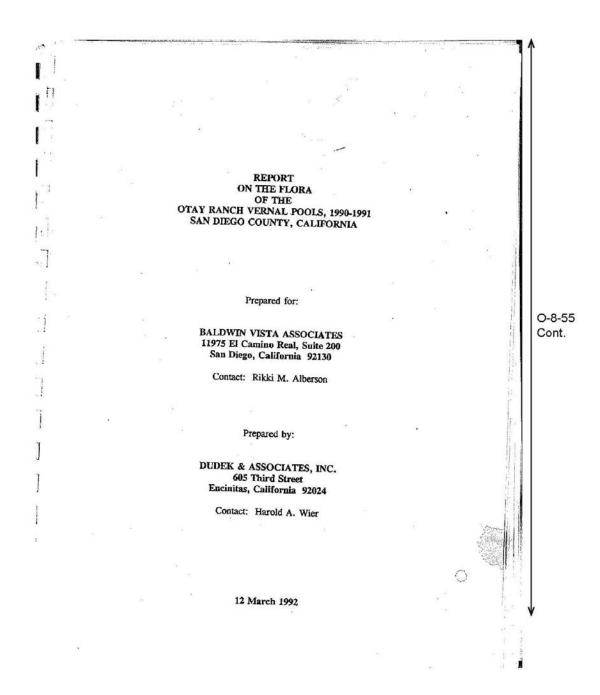


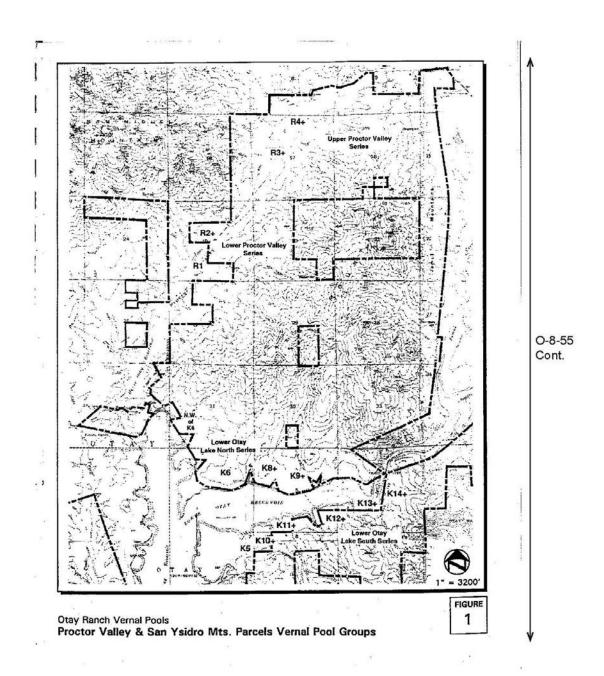
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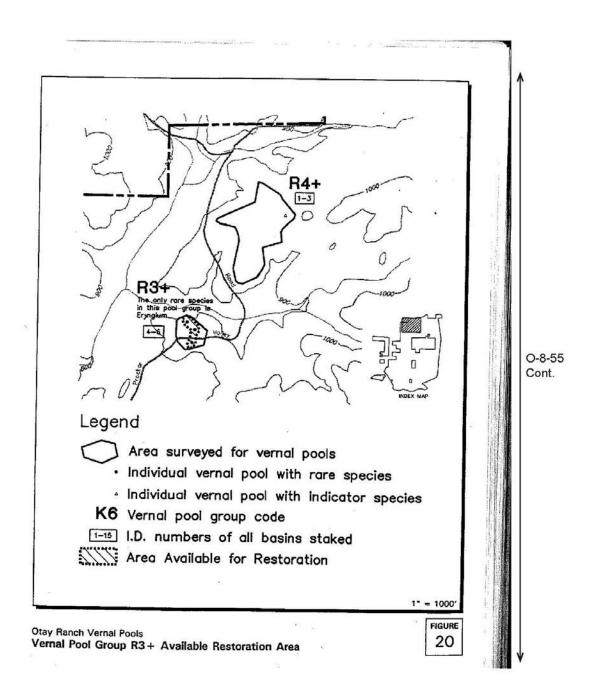
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		c	TAY MES	A .		(CALLIVE	OTAY	VALLEY			LOWER (	TAY LAK	E SOUTE	ı
	J-29 &(30	J31 8+	.J31 N+	J23 & J24	J25	J32+	К1	K15 & K16	K17+	K5	K10+	K12+	K13	K14-
Plagiobothrys cf. acanthocarpus	4.1	•		6.6	9.3	33.3	. 9	60.0			-	50.0		
Plantago bigciovii							14.3							
Paa annua							14.3			14.3				
Polypogon monospeliensis						56.6		•						
Rumez crispus						33.3	14.3		=725					
Sisirynchium bellum	16.5	50.0		13.7	56.3									
Sporobolus airoides			2.70	0.2										
Tamarix sp.				0.7				1073						
Veronica peregrino				-			28.6	-						

	L	OWER OTA	Y LAKE NOR	TH		WER R VALLEY		PER R VALLEY	POGGI	CANYON
	Mosa NW of K6 (Reiser)	K6	KS+	K9+	RI	R2+	RJ+	R4+	M2	MS+
Vernal Pool Species										
Cattitriche longipedunculasa		33.3	18.2		14.3	44,4		100,0		100.0
Спилныя адмагіса				100		11.1				
Deschampsia danskonioides		33.3	72.7		14.3	88.3	33,3		10	
Eryngium aristulatum esp. parishii							100.0	14		
Isoeses orcumii										
Lileec scitioides					Carat	200				
Lythrum hyssopifolia		66.6	9.1 .				66.6		40.0	
Myonurus minimus vas. apus		33.3		-2						500
Phalaris lemmonti			72.7			- 0.00	- 4 7	7	-	
Pilularia americana										1000
Pogogyne nadiuscula							3			
Psilocarphus brevissimus		56.6	90.9		85.7	55.5	66.6		100,0	100,0
Psilocarphus senellus				100.0						

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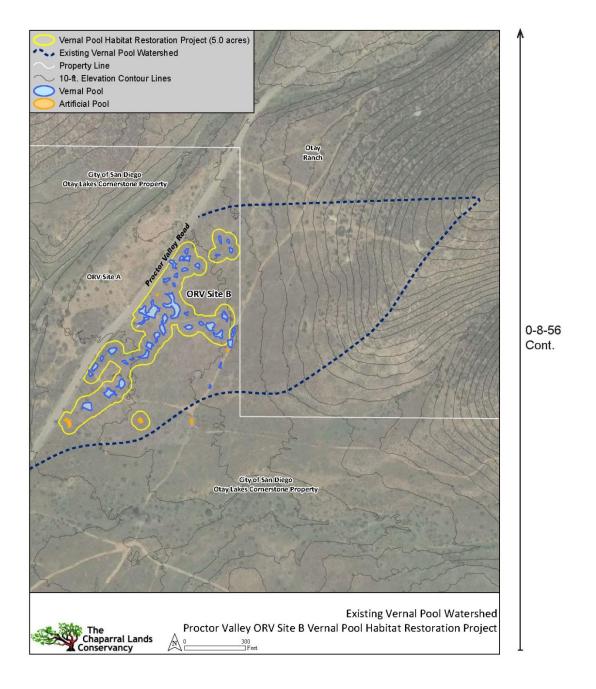
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					LO	WER	UP	PFR			
	Mess NW	OWER OTA	Y LAKE NORT	н	PROCTO	RVALLEY	PROCTO	R VALLEY	POGGE	ANYON	
	of K6 (Reiser)	<b>K</b> 6	K8+	K9+	RI	R2+	R3+	R4+	M2	MS+	
Other Wetland Species								1			1
nagallis arrensis					Sauran III	an Ü		ues -			11
triplex semibacotta			- montout		-						11
laccharis sanothroides					•						
otula comnopifolia											
ressa trusillensis									-		
leocharis macrostochya		33.3					66.6				31
socoma veneta								1			
uncus bufonius vur. alophilus			9.1	100.0							0-8-
epidium latipes											Con
falvella leprosa		1	772								4
tonenna cylindrica		9	27.3				-				
phioglossum ealifornicum		•						/			
lagiobothrys ef. conthocorpus		33.3	45.5	100.0		Tur I			80.0		
lantago bigelovii							33.3				9
be ennue	SHOTH E										:
otypogon monospeliensis				3							
homex старых				3					20.0		
Istrynchium bellum		33.3	27.3	(A-5-6A)			33.3	JII Com			
porobolus airoides											
ionarix sp.			1,00			1000000					
cronica peregrina											6
Indicases apocies located in bea		as vernal poo	L			Ž					A control of the cont
*				-1	8 -				100		

TABLE 4. SUMMARY OF VERNAL POOL DATA  V. Finitioner Pool Engine vi Proper Pool Engine vi
TABLE 4.  V.P. Barbar with the latest transfer to the latest transfer trans
Sabled 18 1
Peed Group   Triad Banks   State of Group   State of Gr







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