BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT LETTER REPORT
FOR THE
1822-1864 YORK DRIVE
RE-DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PREPARED FOR:
County of San Diego
Department of Planning and Land Use
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&
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DATE:
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1.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Project is located over six parcels located at 1822-1864 York Drive in the County of San, south-east of the intersection of York Drive and south Santa Fe Ave (Figures 1-3). The historically developed property is currently cleared after the previous single-family residences and Cal-Trans staging area were demolished and the debris piled and prepared to be removed.

Due to the historic and existing uses, the entire site is comprised of disturbed and developed area. No natural, native and/or sensitive habitat was observed onsite. No vernal pools or wetlands were observed onsite and none are not expected to occur.

As a result, no potentially significant impacts to sensitive habitats, wildlife species and/or plant species are proposed to occur as a result of the proposed grading plan. No compensatory biological mitigation is proposed at this time.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The project is located over six parcels, addresses 1822-1864 York Drive, in the County of San Diego (APN 184-040-18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 04), on the south side of York Drive and immediately east of the new bike path (located on the north side of the train tracks). The property is located near the City of Vista in the unincorporated portion of northern San Diego County and north of Buena Creek (Figures 1-3).

This report provides information regarding the historic vegetation communities, existing conditions, compliance with the Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) and the Guidelines for Determining Significance and Survey, Report Format, Content and Mapping Requirements (County 2010), and performs an impact analysis based on the current site/grading design. This report also identifies mitigation measures to reduce the identified potentially significant impacts to below a level of significance.

A general biological survey, sensitive species survey, protocol Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) wetland delineation, vernal pool assessment and the Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) assessment/standards were performed onsite.

Topography, Soils, Land Use

The property supports three (3) soil types (USDA websoil survey):

- Bonsall sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes, eroded; central and northern portions of the property
- Bonsall sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes, eroded; central portion of the property
- Greenfield sandy loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes; southern portion of the property

Regional Setting

The grading plan project is located in the North County Subarea Draft of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and not within a proposed Pre-approved Mitigation Area (PAMA). The site is located in area of residential uses.

3.0 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

General biological surveys, an ACOE preliminary wetland delineation, RPO wetlands and vernal pool assessment, as well as endemic, rare plant and animal presence/absence and/or potential surveys were conducted to map the vegetation communities, wetlands/waters and to assess the presence or potential for presence of sensitive floral and faunal species. This report provides biological data and background information required for environmental analysis by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition, potential impacts were analyzed using guidance and information provided in the MSCP subarea plan.

Below is a summary of the survey types, date, times, temperature conditions, sky conditions, and wind speeds during the completed surveys for the Project.

TABLE 1
Survey Details

Date	Survey Type	Time	Conditions Temp (ºF), Wind (mph) begin and end, Sky	Biologists
2-4-22	General/Rare/RPO/ Vernal Pools and Wetland Delineation	0900-1030	62-67, 0-2, 100% cloud cover	MJ

MJ = Michael Jefferson

BLUE senior biologist Michael Jefferson, a qualified biologist and ACOE wetland delineator, completed the onsite general, rare, and endemic surveys as well as the USACE protocol wetland delineation..

Vegetation communities were assessed and mapped on a color aerial with topography flown in March 2021. Animal species observed directly or detected from calls, tracks, scat, nests, or other sign were noted. All plant species observed on-site were also noted, and plants that could not be identified in the field were identified later using taxonomic keys.

Prior to conducting the biological surveys, a thorough review of relevant maps, databases, and literature pertaining to biological resources was performed. Recent aerial imagery (Google Earth 2021), topographic maps (USGS 2010), soils maps (USDA, 2012), and other maps of the project site and immediate vicinity were acquired and reviewed to obtain updated information on the natural environmental setting. In addition, a query of sensitive species and habitat databases was conducted, as well as a review of regional species lists produced by the USFWS (USFWS 2012a) and CDFW (CDFW 2011, 2012a, CDFW 2012b, and 2012c).

As part of the habitat survey, a wetland jurisdictional delineation was completed. Jurisdictional features were identified. The region received no significant rainfall within the last week before the surveys were conducted. Rainfall patterns were not atypical for that time frame of the surveys.

Delineated boundaries of all features identified within the study area were recorded using a 1” =100’ aerial photograph.

BLUE’s methods for assessing local, state, and federal wetlands follow the guidelines set forth by the USACE in

the *Arid West Manual* (USACE 2008b). The routine onsite determination method can be used to gather field data at potential wetland areas for most projects. Visual observations of vegetation types and hydrology are used to locate areas for evaluation. Then, at each evaluation area, several parameters are considered to determine whether the sample point is within a wetland.

Nomenclature for this report conforms to Hickman (1993) for plants, Holland (1986) and Oberbauer (1996) for plant communities and habitat types, American Ornithological Union (AOU 1998, 2000) for birds, Jennings (1983) and Stebbins (2003) for reptiles and amphibians, Jones (1992) for mammals, and Powell (1979) for insects.

4.0 RESULTS

The Property has been historically disturbed and/or developed and while the active residential and industrial use (Cal-Trans) has been discontinued, the property continues to be maintained. The southern, lower, portion of the site supports the excavated and maintained flood control detention basin. As a result of the lack of appropriate hydrological conditions as well as the maintenance, the flood control channel infrastructure does not support wetlands or vernal pool indicator species.

The vegetation communities observed onsite include 2 habitat types: urban/disturbed and developed area (Figure 4). A complete list of species observed onsite is included in Appendix A.

The completed wetland delineation indicates that no federal ACOE jurisdictional waters, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) wetlands/waters and/or County RPO wetlands are located onsite.

No state or federally listed plant or animal species were observed onsite. No sensitive plant or wildlife species were observed onsite.

4.1 Vegetation

The following discussion summarizes the existing biological resources including habitats (Table 2), vegetation, and wildlife.

Habitat descriptions are based on the County of San Diego's Biological Mapping Requirements (County 2012) and Terrestrial Vegetation Communities in San Diego County based in Holland's Descriptions (Oberbauer 1996), however, it has been shown that habitats on the project sites in San Diego County are often not pristine and rarely fit into one description. Therefore, the best-fit definition based on the County's current descriptions and dominant plant species has been applied.

A total of two (2) 'habitat' types occurs within the project site: disturbed and urban/developed.

TABLE 2
Biological Resources

Habitat Type	On-Site
Disturbed	4.05
Urban/Developed	0.22
Total	**4.27**

* Sensitive Habitat Type

Urban/Disturbed (Tier IV, Holland Code: 11300)

Urban land consists of all land graded, disturbed and/or covered by non-native ornamental (landscape) vegetation. For the purposes of this assessment, windrows and woodlands comprised of gum trees (*Eucalyptus* spp.) are also considered urban. Non-native plant species typical of urban/developed areas include ornamental trees such as pine (*Pinus* spp.), pepper (*Schinus* spp.), palm (*Washingtonia* spp., *Phoenix* spp.), and gum; shrubs such as acacia (*Acacia* spp.) and oleander (*Nerium oleander*); and, groundcover such as turf grass, red apple (*Aptenia cordifolia*), and hottentot-fig (*Carpobrotus edulis*).

Disturbed land includes areas in which there is sparse vegetative cover and where there is evidence of soil surface disturbance and compaction from previous human activity and/or the presence of building foundations and debris. Vegetation on disturbed land (if present) may have a high predominance of non-native and ruderal (weedy) annual species that are indicators of disturbance such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), and sow-thistle (S*onchus oleraceus*). Disturbed land typically provides little habitat for wildlife species.

Onsite, the unpaved portion of the site is all considered disturbed and maintained area. Within the southern portion of the site, with storm flows entering from the northern PL, and adjacent to the southern Property Line (PL, a paved driveway with curb), is an unvegetated, excavated and maintained soft bottom linear detention basin (flood control infrastructure in the back yards of the historic housing). There is no onsite outlet (to the west) for the water that is collected to discharge, and appears to quickly percolate into the maintained channel substrate. As a result of being a created and maintained basin, this feature does not fall within the definition of a protected wetland/water or jurisdiction of the ACOE/CDFW or County RPO.

Offsite, in the south west corner is a drainage outlet for the developed property to the south. There is no connection between the southern Property hydrology and the subject property.

As a result, the onsite basin is not considered a sensitive and/or jurisdictional habitat and improvements and/or impacts would not require compensatory mitigation.

Developed (Tier IV, Habitat Code 12000)

Approximately 0.22 acres of Developed (paved) area occurs onsite. This area is associated with the remaining access driveways. All other areas supporting paved (developed) area was demolished. This is not considered a sensitive habitat and impacts would not require compensatory mitigation.

4.2 Wildlife

A total of 3 wildlife species were identified onsite. These included one invertebrate (butterfly) species, one reptile species, and one bird species, and no mammal species. A complete list of wildlife species observed onsite is included as Table 4.

Invertebrates observed included butterflies and bees. The reptile species observed onsite include the western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*). Bird species observed included the house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). No mammals were observed onsite.

4.3 Sensitive Resources

Sensitive or special interest plant and wildlife species and habitats are those which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive habitats, as identified by these same groups, are those which generally support plant or wildlife species considered sensitive by these resource protection agencies or groups. Sensitive species and habitats are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, particular susceptibility to human disturbance, degradation due to development or invasion by non- native species, or a combination of all of these factors.

In addition to RPO and the Guidelines for Determining Significance and Survey, Report Format, Content and Mapping Requirements (County 2010), the following were used in the determination of sensitive biological resources: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). An explanation of the sensitivity codes used in this report is attached.

Applicable Resource Conservation Plans and Ordinances

In San Diego County guidelines and regulations have been adopted which define and provide protection to certain types of sensitive biological resources as follows:

<u>Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO)</u>

The purpose of the RPO is to protect sensitive resources and prevent their degradation and loss. The sensitive resources protected by the RPO include wetlands, wetland buffer areas, and sensitive habitat lands, which are defined as follows:

"Wetland" areas include lands which are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or where the land is covered by water. Lands having one or more of the following attributes are “wetlands:”

(a). At least periodically, the land supports a predominance of hydrophytes (plants whose habitat is water or very wet places);
(b). The substratum is predominantly undrained hydric soil; or
(c). An ephemeral or perennial stream is present, whose substratum is predominately non-soil and such lands contribute substantially to the biological functions or values of wetlands in the drainage system.

"Wetland buffer" areas include lands which provide a buffer area of an appropriate size to protect the environmental and functional habitat values of the wetland, or which are integrally important in supporting the full range of the wetland and adjacent upland biological community.

"Sensitive habitat lands" include those which support unique vegetation communities, or the habitats of rare or endangered species or sub-species of animals or plants, including the area which is necessary to support a viable population of any of these species in perpetuity, or which is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem or which serves as a functioning corridor.

Natural Communities Conservation Plan and County Habitat Loss Permit Ordinance (Ordinance 8365 – New Series)

The state of California passed the Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act in 1991. The NCCP is broader in its orientation and objectives than the California and Federal Endangered Species Acts. These laws are designed to identify and protect individual species that have already declined significantly in number. The objective of the NCCP is to conserve natural communities and accommodate compatible land use. The pilot program is a cooperative effort between the state and federal governments and numerous private partners. The focus of the pilot program is the coastal sage scrub habitat of Southern California. This habitat is home to the California gnatcatcher, a federally threatened species, and approximately 100 other potentially threatened or endangered species. The habitat is fragmented and distributed over more than 6000 square miles encompassing San Diego, Orange, Riverside, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

For planning purposes some of these Subregions are organized into “Subareas” that correspond to geographic boundaries of participating jurisdictions and/or landowners. In each subregion and subarea, a local lead agency coordinates the collaborative planning process. Working with landowners, environmental organizations, and other interested parties, the local agency oversees the numerous activities that compose the development of a conservation plan. The Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the USFWS provide the necessary support, direction, and guidance to NCCP participants in these functions. The County of San Diego is participating in the NCCP and already has an MSCP in place for southern portions of the County. This project however, does not fall within the limits of the adopted MSCP. Therefore, until approval of the north county MSCP for the remainder of the County occurs, pursuant to the 4d rule of the Federal Endangered Species Act, impacts to coastal sage scrub are limited to 5 percent of the total acreage occurring within County. In addition, projects impacts will need to be assessed based on the NCCP flowchart.

The County of San Diego adopted its Habitat Loss Permit Ordinance (Ordinance 8365 (New Series)) on March 2, 1994 to ensure conformance with the NCCP.

4.3.1 Sensitive Habitats

No habitat considered sensitive by the County or Wildlife Agencies (RPO/ACOE/USFWS/CDFW) was observed onsite.

4.3.2 Sensitive Plants

Sensitive or special interest plant species are those which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within

the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive plant species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, or particular susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors. Sources used for the determination of sensitive plant species include: CDFW (2012), CNPS (2013), and CNDDB (2013).

No sensitive plant species were observed onsite.

Sensitive Plant Species With the Potential to Occur Onsite
Thirty -one sensitive plants were assessed for the potential to occur onsite and are discussed in Appendix C.

In summary, of the thirty-one sensitive plants assessed, none has greater than a low potential to occur onsite due to lack of observations in the area and onsite or a lack of appropriate habitat.

4.3.3 Sensitive Animals

Sensitive or special interest wildlife species and habitats are those which are considered rare, threatened, or endangered within the state or region by local, state, or federal resource conservation agencies. Sensitive species are so called because of their limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, or particular susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors. Sources used for the determination of sensitive biological resources include: USFWS, CDFW. Additional species receive federal protection under the Bald Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Animals.

The CDFW also lists species as threatened or endangered, or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered. Lower sensitivity animals may be listed as "species of special concern" (CDFW). The CDFW further classifies some species under the following categories: "fully protected," "protected furbearer," "harvest species," "protected amphibian," and "protected reptile." The designation "protected" indicates that a species may not be taken or possessed except under special permit from the CDFW; "fully protected" indicates that a species can be taken only for scientific purposes. The designation "harvest species" indicates that take of the species is controlled by the state government.

4.3.3.1 Sensitive Animals Observed

No rare, threatened, or endangered animal species were observed onsite.

4.3.3.2 Sensitive Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur Onsite (not observed)

Due to a lack of appropriate habitat and hydrological conditions, no sensitive wildlife species were observed and are none are expected to occur. Species analyzed for potential occurrence included:

Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow *(Aimophila ruficeps canescens).* The southern California rufous-crowned sparrow is a state species of special concern. This subspecies of rufous-crowned sparrow is a resident and ranges throughout southern California from Los Angeles County to Baja California, Mexico, along the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges (Collins 1997). Southern California rufous-crowned sparrows are found in chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats and occasionally in grasslands adjacent to these habitats.

Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow was not observed onsite during the surveys; however, an individual was detected approximately 1/3 of a mile south of the property limit (CNDDB, 2019).

Belding's orangethroat whiptail *(Cnemidophorus hyperythrus beldingii).* The Belding's orangethroat whiptail is a CDFW species of special concern. This species ranges from southwestern San Bernardino County to the tip of Baja California, Mexico, in areas of low, scattered brush and grass with loose sandy loam soils. It can be found in open coastal sage scrub, chaparral, washes, stream sides, and other sandy areas with rocks, patches of brush, and rocky hillsides (Stebbins 1985). The orangethroat whiptail feeds primarily on subterranean termites and harvester ants. It is active during the spring and summer months and hibernates during the fall and winter. Adult orangethroat whiptails generally hibernate from late July or early August until late April. The immature whiptail has a shorter inactivity period, usually hibernating from December through March. Hibernation sites are on soft, well-drained slopes with southern exposure and little or no vegetation cover, and road cuts tend to be suitable.

The property contains no vegetation and soils that would provide suitable habitat for Belding's orange throat whiptail. There is a no potential for the species to occur on-site.

Coastal California gnatcatcher *(Polioptila californica californica).* The coastal California gnatcatcher is a Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) covered species, a federally listed threatened species, and a CDFW species of special concern. The coastal California gnatcatcher is a resident species restricted to the coastal slopes of southern California, from Ventura County southward through Los Angeles County, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties into Baja California, Mexico (Atwood 1980; Jones and Ramirez 1995). The coastal California gnatcatcher typically occurs in coastal sage scrub, although this bird also uses chaparral, grassland, and riparian woodland habitats where they occur adjacent to coastal sage scrub. Populations of this species have declined as a result of both urban and agricultural development (Unitt 1984; Atwood 1990).

No coastal California gnatcatchers were observed onsite during the completed surveys. No appropriate habitat is supported within the property; there no potential for the species to occur on-site.

San Diego black-tailed jack rabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*). The San Diego black-tailed jack rabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*), occurs only on the coastal side of the southern California mountains where suitable jackrabbit habitat is less common (Stephenson and Calcarone 1999). This subspecies has been recorded from northern Baja California through San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties, as well as on Mt. Pinos. The black-tailed jackrabbit is a habitat generalist occurring in open areas or semi-open country, typically in grasslands, agricultural fields or sparse coastal scrub (Bond 1977). Vaughan (1954) found San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit in "thin stands" of coastal sage scrub and on the margins of citrus groves in the lower foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains; however, it is generally not found in chaparral or woodland habitats.

No appropriate habitat occurs onsite, no San Diego black-tailed jack rabbit(s) or any distinguishable sign was observed onsite during the surveys. Due to the lack of appropriate habitat, there is a no potential for the species to occur on-site.

4.3.3.3 Raptors

The survey area contains scattered ornamental palm and eucalyptus trees. Mature trees can support raptor nesting. Raptors are large predatory or scavenger birds that typically require tall trees for perching and

nesting associated with adjacent open grasslands to forage. Due to declining habitat and the associated declining numbers of these species on the whole, many raptor species have been designated as California Species of Special Concern by the CDFW. These species are protected, especially during their critical nesting and wintering stages. Raptors are protected under the CDFW California Raptor Protection Act (Title 14, Section 670). No raptor nests were observed within the trees onsite.

4.4 Wildlife Corridors

Development within San Diego County has reduced the total available open space for wildlife populations, and in some instances, created isolated "islands" of habitat. In general, corridors and linkages are smaller constrained areas of habitat that connect larger areas of habitat which are otherwise separated by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or urban development. This allows for an exchange of gene pool between wildlife populations, which increases the genetic viability of otherwise isolated populations. Wildlife corridors are especially important for species with large habitat ranges or seasonal migrations. A corridor is a specific route that is used for the movement and migration of species, and may be different from a linkage in that it represents a smaller or narrower avenue for movement. A linkage is an area of land that supports or contributes to the long-term movement of wildlife and genetic exchange by providing live-in habitat that connects to other habitat areas. Many linkages occur as stepping-stone linkages that are comprised of fragmented archipelago arrangement of habitat over a linear distance. In either case, corridors and linkages will be comprised of land features which accommodate the movement of all sizes of wildlife, including large animals on a regional scale. Their contributing areas will support adequate vegetation cover, providing visual continuity and long lines of sight, so as to encourage the use of the corridor by all types of wildlife. In San Diego County, important corridors/linkages have been identified on the local and regional scale in establishing a connection between the northern and southern regional populations of the coastal California gnatcatcher.

The property is surrounded by moderate to high density use/development and not within or immediately adjacent to an existing recognized habitat corridor.

5.0 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO WETLANDS

Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) – Clean Water Act

Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), any onsite wetlands and waters of the U.S., would be subject to permit provisions regulating activities within their boundaries. These provisions are enforced by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), as well as the EPA, with technical input from the USFWS. Three factors are considered in the designation of wetlands: the presence of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and site hydrology. According to the latest ACOE methodology, all three wetland indicators must be present to make a jurisdictional ruling (Environmental Laboratory 1987). Areas indicated as wetlands by all three factors during the rainy season may lack the indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the dry season, or the vegetation may have been altered or removed through human disturbance. Such areas may still be regarded as wetlands by resource agencies.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Streambed Alteration Program

The CDFW regulates wetlands under Section 1601/1603 of the California Fish and Wildlife Code through their Streambed Alteration Agreement Program. Any alteration of any stream course within the State of California

requires a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW. Section 1601 pertains to public projects where section1603 applies to private projects and specifically states: "It is unlawful for any person to substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream or lake designated by the department, or use any material from the streambeds, without first notifying the department of such activity…"

A stream is defined by the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR 1.72) as a body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supporting fish or other aquatic wildlife. This includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian habitat.

The limits of CDFW jurisdiction are defined in the code (Section 1601/1603) as the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream or lake designated by the department in which there is at any time existing fish or wildlife resource or from which these resources derive benefit.

No wetlands were observed onsite that fall within the jurisdiction of the CDFW.

County of San Diego Resource Protection Ordinance

The County of San Diego Resource Protection Ordinance defines wetlands under Article II, item 16. as: "All lands which are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic where the water table is usually at or near the surface or where the land is covered by water. All lands having one or more of the following attributes are 'wetlands":

a. At least periodically, the land supports a predominance of hydrophytes (plants whose habitat is water or very wet places);
b. The substratum is predominantly undrained hydric soil; or
c. An ephemeral or perennial stream is present, whose substratum is predominately non-soil and such lands contribute substantially to the biological functions or values of wetlands in the drainage system.

No wetlands were observed onsite that fall within the jurisdiction of the CDFW.

6.0 ANTICIPATED PROJECT IMPACTS

This section addresses potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to biological resources that would result from implementation of the proposed project, and provides analyses of significance for each potential impact.

Direct Impacts are immediate impacts resulting from t and permanent removal of habitat through grading and the Fuel Modification Zone (FMZ).

Indirect Impacts result from changes in land use adjacent to natural habitat and primarily result from adverse "edge effects;" either short-term indirect impacts related to construction or long-term, chronic indirect impacts associated with urban development. During construction of the project, short-term indirect impacts include dust and noise which could temporarily disrupt habitat and species vitality or construction related soil erosion

and run-off. Long-term indirect impacts may include intrusions by humans and domestic pets, noise, lighting, invasion by exotic plant and wildlife species, use of toxic chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials), soil erosion, litter, fire, and hydrological changes (e.g., groundwater level and quality).

Cumulative Impacts refer to incremental individual environmental effects of two or more projects when considered together. These impacts taken individually may be minor, but collectively significant as they occur over a period of time.

Thresholds of Significance refer to the evaluation of whether or not an impact to a particular biological resource is significant must consider both the resource itself and the role of that resource in a regional context. Substantial impacts are those that contribute to, or result in, permanent loss of an important resource, such as a population of a rare plant or animal. Impacts may be important locally because they result in an adverse alteration of existing site conditions, but considered not significant because they do not contribute substantially to the permanent loss of that resource regionally. The severity of an impact is the primary determinant of whether or not that impact can be mitigated to a level below significant.

Generally, there are three levels of adverse impacts associated with biological resources: significant, locally important, and not significant. The determination of significance follows the County of San Diego Guidelines For Determining Significance for Biological Resources (2010).

6.1 Avoidance and Minimization

The proposed grading plan project is a redevelopment and infill project that does not propose significant impacts to biological resources. Therefore, impacts to significant biological resources will be minimal as a result of the proposed project.

6.2 Biological Impact Assessment

The proposed grading plan impacts and/or improves the entire property, a total of approximately 4.27 acres. This is entirely within the footprint of the existing disturbed/developed habitat. Consequently, no potentially significant impacts to sensitive habitats and/or species are proposed. No mitigation is required.

TABLE 5
Proposed Impacts

Habitat Type	On-Site	Total Impacts
Disturbed	4.05	4.05
Urban/Developed	0.22	0.22
Total	**4.27**	**4.27**

6.3 Significance of Impacts

Generally, there are three levels of adverse impacts associated with biological resources: significant, locally important, and not significant. These levels of impacts were applied to the project site and are used below in

the discussion of specific potential impacts.

Disturbed Habitat
Impacts to disturbed habitat would not be considered significant and mitigation would not be required.

Developed
Impacts to the developed habitat would not be considered significant and mitigation would not be required.

Sensitive Plant Species
No sensitive plant species were documented onsite. No potentially significant impacts to sensitive plant species are expected to occur.

Sensitive Wildlife Species
No sensitive wildlife species were documented onsite. No potentially significant impacts to sensitive wildlife species are expected to occur.

Due to the fact that raptors have been historically observed in the area and there are large open areas onsite, raptor foraging within this area may occur. However, as this area is currently and historically utilized by human activity, the loss of this area does not constitute a significant habitat impact or loss of significant raptor nesting and/or foraging area. Preventative mitigation (pre-construction surveys) are not recommended at this time.

7.0 PROPOSED MITIGATION

Under CEQA, mitigation is required for all significant biological impacts (e.g. impacts within highly constrained areas). In addition, the CDFW 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement permit process require mitigation for the loss of CDFW jurisdictional wetland resources. The following mitigation measures are recommendations to locally important biological impacts. Although mitigation measures are not often required for locally important impacts, local jurisdictions often implement these measures to minimize cumulative impacts within the region.

According to Appendix G of the State CEQA guidelines, the grading plan project would have a potentially significant impact to onsite biological resources if it would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct

removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.

- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

7.1 Direct Impacts - Mitigation

No biological mitigation for direct significant impacts is required at this time.

Sensitive Plant Species

No sensitive plant species were documented onsite. No impacts to sensitive plant species is proposed and no species specific mitigation is required.

Sensitive Wildlife Species

No sensitive wildlife species were documented onsite. No impacts to sensitive wildlife species is proposed; no species specific mitigation is required.

7.2 Indirect Impacts - Preventative Mitigation

No potentially significant indirect impacts are proposed; no mitigation is required.

7.3 Cumulative Impacts

The grading plan project will not contribute to the cumulative loss of coastal sage scrub within the unincorporated San Diego County. The project will not have a cumulatively considerable impact to biological resources.

7.4 NCCP/4(d) Conformance Findings

The grading plan project conforms to the Conservation Guidelines provided by the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub NCCP Process Guidelines (NCCP 2002). No CSS is present onsite. The project proposes no impacts to coastal sage scrub and supports the goals of the future Sub-regional NCCP.

8.0 LITERATURE CITED

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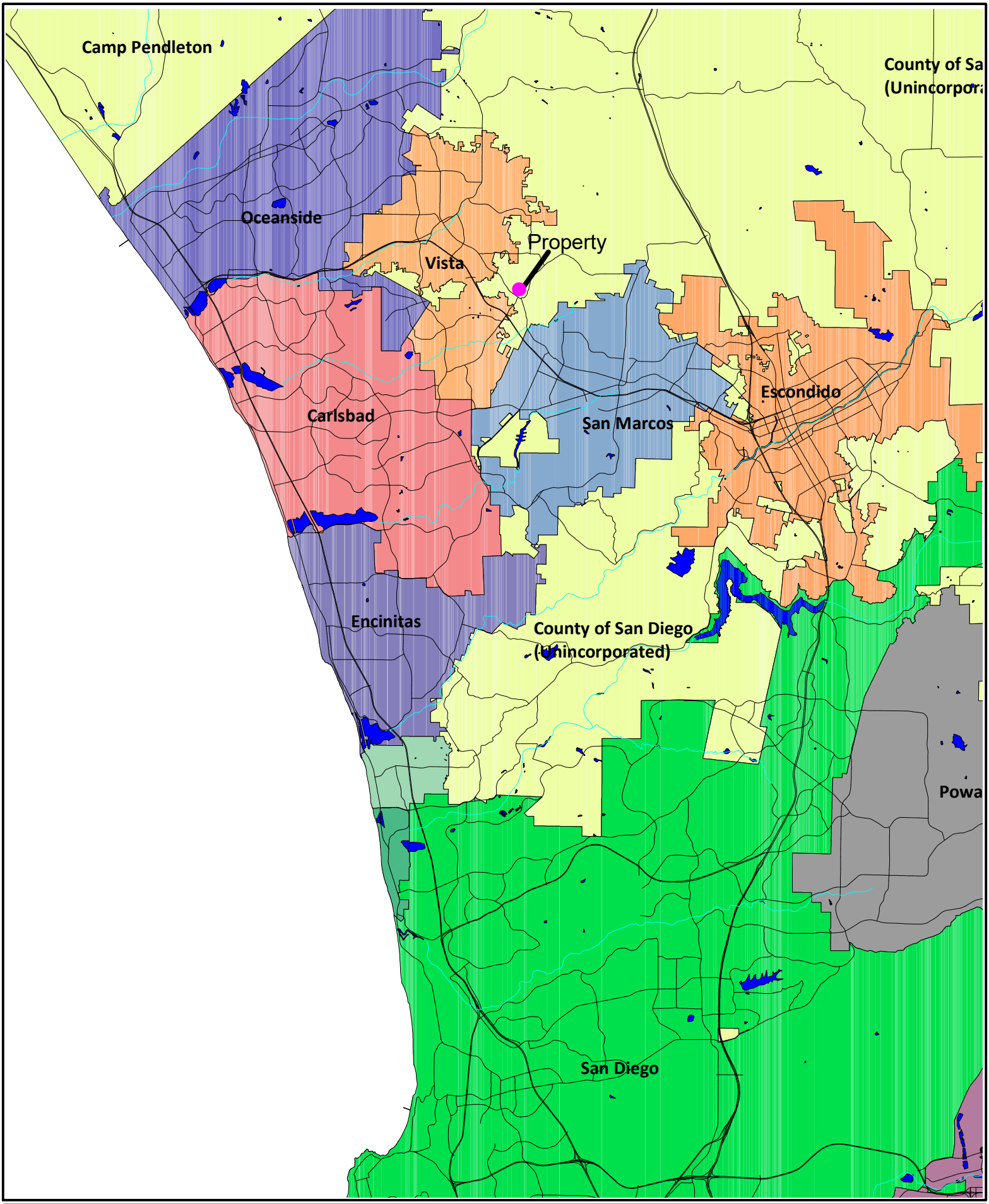
9.0 CERTIFICATION

The following County of San Diego qualified Biologist completed the stated field survey(s) and preparation of this report: Michael Jefferson

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.*

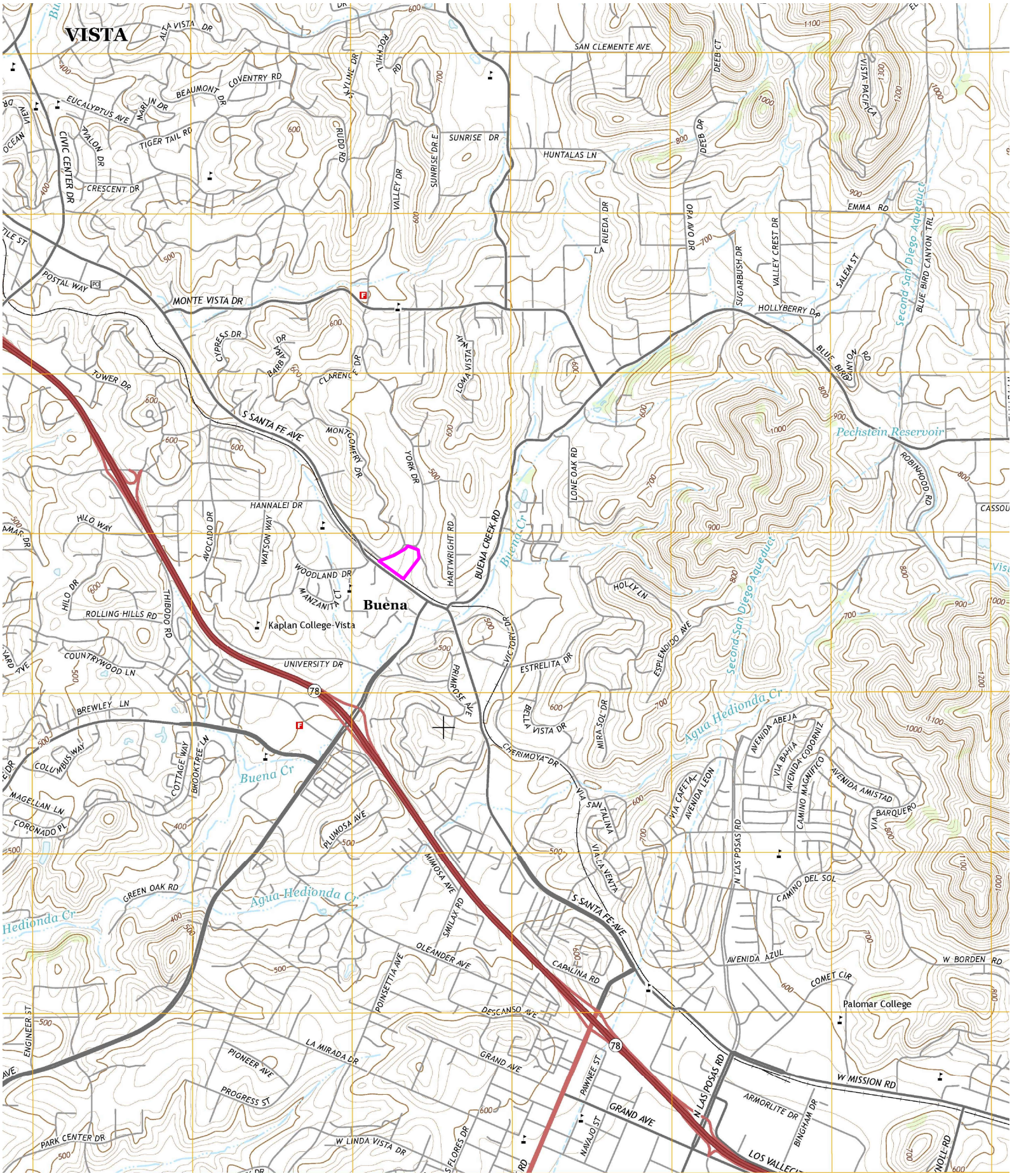
Signed:

Michael K. Jefferson
BLUE Consulting Group
Senior Biologist



Property

FIGURE 1
Regional Project Location

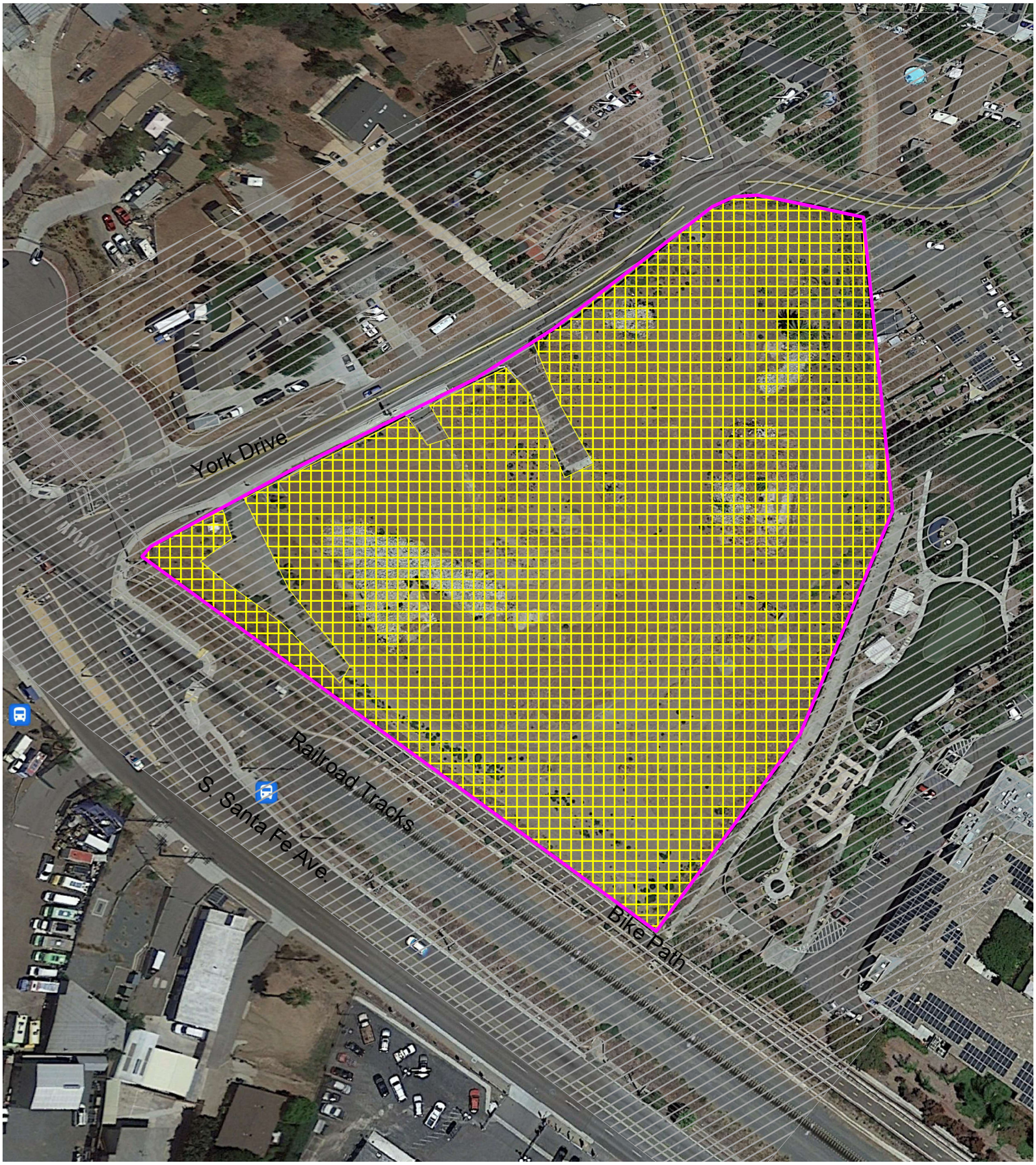


Property

FIGURE 2
USGS Topo
Location Map

Property

FIGURE 3
Property Aerial

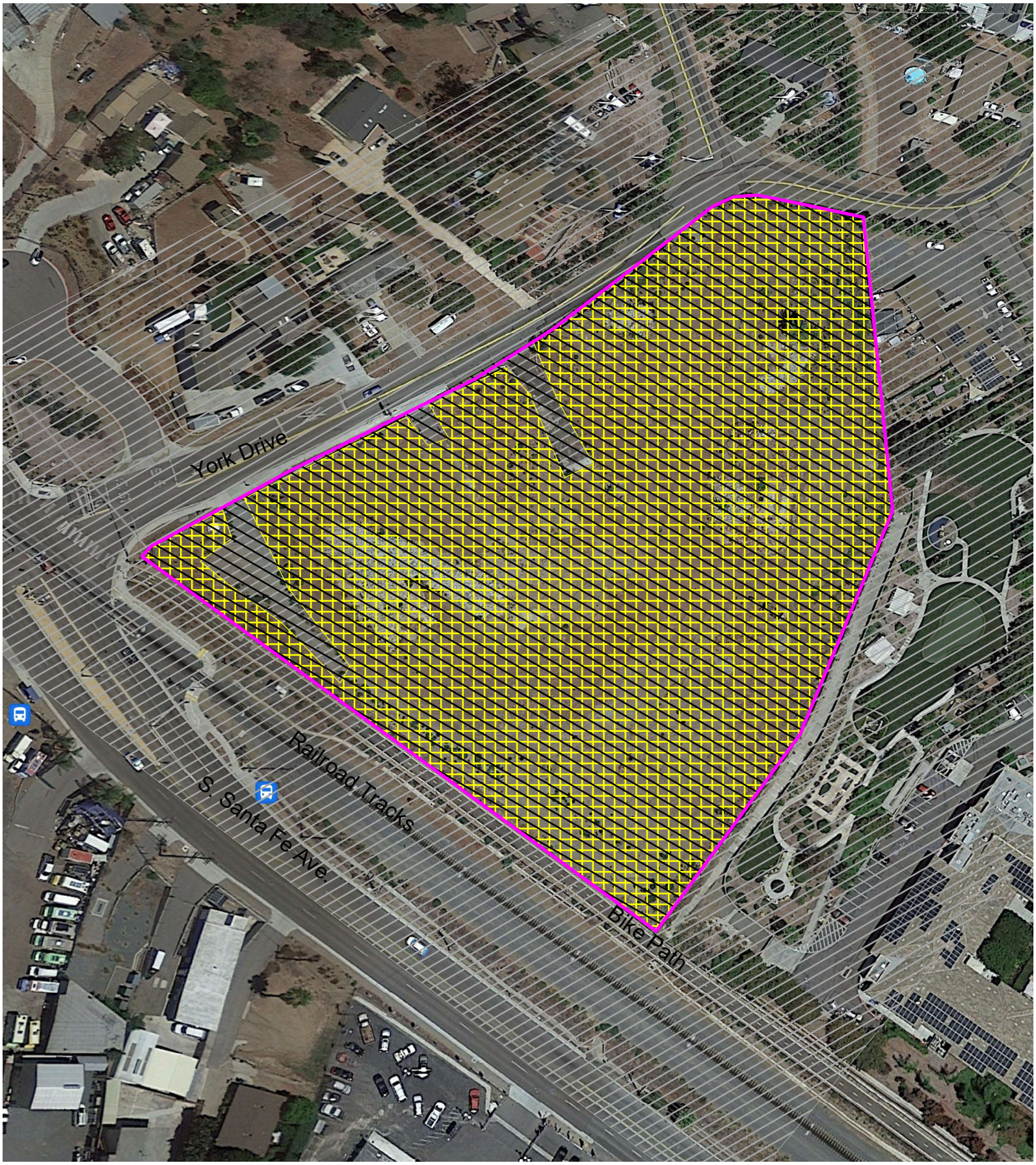


Property

Developed

Ruderal/Developed

FIGURE 4
Vegetation Map



Property

Developed

Ruderal/Developed

Grading Footprint

FIGURE 5
Impact Map

Appendix A Plant Species Observed (Table 3)

TABLE 3
PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	Origin
Acacia ssp.	Acacia	DH	I
Amaranthus blitoides S. Wats.	Pigweed, amaranth	DH	I
Brassica nigra (L.) Koch.	Black mustard	DH	I
Bromus hordaceus L.	Smooth brome	DH	I
Bromus madritensis L. ssp. rubens (L.) Husnot	Foxtail chess	DH	I
Centaurea melitensis L.	Tocolote, star-thistle	DH	I
Erodium cicutarium (L.) L. Her.	White-stemmed filaree	DH	I
Eucalyptus sp.	Eucalyptus sp.	DH	I
Medicago polymorpha L.	California bur clover	DH	I
Melilotus alba	White sweet clover	DH	I
Nicotiana glauca Grah.	Tree tobacco	DH	I
Salsola tragus L.	Russian thistle, tumbleweed	DH	I
Schinus terebinthifolius Raddi	Brazilian pepper tree	DH	I
Tamarisk Sp.	Salt Cedar	DH	I
Urtica urens L.	Dwarf nettle	DH	I
Vulpia myuros (L.) var. hirsuta (Hackel.) Asch. & Graebr.	Rattail fescue	DH	I
Xanthium strumarium L.	Cocklebur	DH	N

HABITATS

DH = Disturbed/Ruderal habitat

OTHER TERMS

N = Native to locality

I = Introduced species from outside locality

Appendix B Wildlife Species Observed (Table 4)

TABLE 4
WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED/DETECTED

Common Name	Scientific Name	Occupied Habitat	Evidence Of Occurrence
Invertebrates (Nomenclature from Mattoni 1990 and Opler and Wright 1999)			
Cabbage white	Pieris rapae	D	O
Reptiles (Nomenclature from Collins 1997)			
western fence lizard	Sceloporus occidentalis	D	O
Birds (Nomenclature from American Ornithologists' Union)			
House finch	Carpodacus mexicanusfrontalis	D	V

Habitats

D = Urban/developed
F = Flying overhead

Evidence of Occurrence

V = Vocalization
O = Observed

Appendix C Sensitive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur

TABLE 2
SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES
OBSERVED (†) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE

Species	State/Federal Status	County Status	CNPS List/Code	Typical Habitat/Comments
Acanthomintha ilicifolia San Diego thornmint	CE/FT	NE, MSCP	1B/2-3-2	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland/ clay soils. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Ambrosia pumila San Diego ambrosia	–/–	NE, MSCP	1B/3-2-2	Creekbeds, seasonally dry drainages, floodplains. Would have been observed if present. No suitable habitat. Low potential to occur.
Arctostaphylos glandulosa ssp. *crassifolia* Del Mar manzanita	–/FE	MSCP	1B/3-3-2	Southern maritime chaparral. Would have been observed if present. No suitable habitat. Not observed on-site.
Artemisia palmeri San Diego sagewort	–/–	–	2/2-2-1	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian. Would have been observed if present. No suitable habitat. Low potential to occur.
Baccharis vanessae Encinitas coyote bush	CE/FT	NE, MSCP	1B/2-3-3	Chaparral. Would have been observed if present. No suitable habitat. Not observed on-site. Low potential to occur.
Brodiaea filifolia Thread-leaved brodiaea	CE/FT	MSCP	1B/3-3-3	Valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Brodiaea orcuttii Orcutt's brodiaea	–/–	MSCP	1B/1-3-2	Closed-cone coniferous forest, meadows, cismontane wood-land, valley and foothill grass-land, vernal pools. . No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Chorizanthe polygonoides var. *longispina* Long-spined spineflower	–/–	–	1B/2-2-2	Open chaparral, coastal sage scrub, montane meadows, valley and foothill grasslands; vernal pools/clay. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.

TABLE 2
SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES
OBSERVED (†) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	State/Federal Status	County Status	CNPS List/Code	Typical Habitat/Comments
Dichondra occidentalis Western dichondra	–/–	–	4/1-2-1	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland/generally post-burn. . No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Ferocactus viridescens Coast barrel cactus	–/–	MSCP	2/1-3-1	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland. No appropriate soils. Not observed on-site.
Harpagonella palmeri var. *palmeri* Palmer's grappling hook	–/–	–	2/1-2-1	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland. . No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii Spiny rush†	–/–	–	4/1-2-1	Coastal dunes (mesic) meadows (alkaline), coastal salt marsh. Not observed on-site. Moderate potential to occur.
Lessingia filaginifolia var. *filaginifolia* (=*Corethrogyne filaginifolia* var. *incana*) San Diego sand aster	–/–	–	1B/2-2-2	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Muilla clevelandii San Diego goldenstar	–/–	MSCP	1B/2-2-2	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Quercus dumosa Nuttall's scrub oak†	–/–	–	1B/2-3-2	Coastal chaparral. No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.
Tetracoccus dioicus Parry's tetracoccus	–/–	MSCP	1B/3-2-2	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub. . No appropriate soils. Low potential to occur.

NOTE: See Table 3 for explanation of sensitivity codes.

Appendix D Sensitive Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Invertebrates (Nomenclature from Collins 1997)			
Quino checkerspot butterfly *Euphydryas editha quino*	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with coarse sandy soils and scattered brush and *plantago* sp.	Outside of USFWS potential habitat area. No potential to occur onsite.
Monarch *Danaus plexippus*	CSC, MSCP	Open fields and meadows with milkweed.	No potential to occur onsite.
Reptiles (Nomenclature from Collins 1997)			
Southwestern pond turtle *Clemmys marmorata pallida*	CSC, FSS, MSCP	Ponds, small lakes, marshes, slow-moving, sometimes brackish water.	No appropriate habitat. No potential to occur onsite.
San Diego horned lizard *Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii*	CSC, MSCP, !	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with fine, loose soil. Partially dependent on harvester ants for forage.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Coastal rosy boa *Charina trivirgata roseofusca*	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with coarse sandy soils and scattered brush.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
San Diego banded gecko *Coleonyx variegates abbottii*	CSC, MSCP	Rocky areas in coastal sage and chaparral.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area, not expected to occur.
Coastal whiptail *Cnemidophorus tigris stejnegeri*	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with coarse sandy soils and scattered brush.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Belding's orangethroat whiptail *Cnemidophorus hyperythrus beldingi*	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with coarse sandy soils and scattered brush.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Silvery legless lizard *Anniella pulchra pulchra*	CSC	Herbaceous layers with loose soil in coastal scrub, chaparral, and open riparian habitats. Prefers dunes and sandy washes near moist soil.	Low potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area, not expected to occur.
Red diamond rattlesnake *Crotalus exsul (C. ruber ruber)*	CSC	Desert scrub and riparian habitats, coastal sage scrub, open chaparral, grassland, and agricultural fields.	Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
San Diego ring neck snake *Diadophis punctatus similis*	CSC	Moist habitats, including wet meadows, rocky hillsides, gardens, farmland, grassland, chaparral, mixed coniferous forests, woodlands.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Coast patch-nosed snake *Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*	CSC	Grasslands, chaparral, sagebrush, desert scrub. Found in sandy and rocky areas.	Low to Moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
<u>Birds</u> (Nomenclature from American Ornithologists' Union)			
Great blue heron (rookery site) *Ardea herodias*	!	Bays, lagoons, ponds, lakes. Non-breeding year-round visitor, some localized breeding.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Great egret (rookery site) *Ardea alba*	!	Lagoons, bays, estuaries. Ponds and lakes in the coastal lowland. Winter visitor, uncommon in summer.	Low potential to occur onsite.
White-tailed kite (nesting) *Elanus leucurus*	CFP, !	Nest in riparian woodland, oaks, sycamores. Forage in open, grassy areas. Year-round resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Northern harrier (nesting) *Circus cyaneus*	CSC, MSCP	Coastal lowland, marshes, grassland, agricultural fields. Migrant and winter resident, rare summer resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Sharp-shinned hawk (nesting) *Accipiter striatus*	CSC	Open deciduous woodlands, forests, edges, parks, residential areas. Migrant and winter visitor.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Cooper's hawk (nesting) *Accipiter cooperii*	CSC, MSCP	Mature forest, open woodlands, wood edges, river groves. Parks and residential areas. Migrant and winter visitor.	Low potential to occur on site.
Ferruginous hawk (wintering) *Buteo regalis*	CSC	Require large foraging areas. Grasslands, agricultural fields. Uncommon winter resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Golden eagle (nesting and wintering) *Aquila chrysaetos*	CSC, CFP, BEPA, MSCP	Require vast foraging areas in grassland, broken chaparral, or sage scrub. Nest in cliffs and boulders. Uncommon resident.	Low potential to occur onsite, not historically observed in the area. No nesting potential. Nesting 15 miles NE in Pala.
Merlin *Falco columbarius*	CSC	Rare winter visitor. Grasslands, agricultural fields, occasionally mud flats.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Prairie falcon (nesting) *Falco mexicanus*	CSC	Grassland, agricultural fields, desert scrub. Uncommon winter resident. Rare breeding resident. Breeds on cliffs.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Western yellow-billed cuckoo (breeding) *Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*	SE	Large riparian woodlands. Summer resident. Very localized breeding.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Western burrowing owl (burrow sites) *Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea*	CSC, MSCP	Grassland, agricultural land, coastal dunes. Require rodent burrows. Declining resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Southwestern willow flycatcher *Empidonax traillii extimus*	SE, FE, FSS, MSCP	Nesting restricted to willow thickets. Also occupies other woodlands. Rare spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident. Extremely localized breeding.	Low potential to occur onsite.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Turkey Vulture* *Cathartes aura*	CSC, MSCP	Grassland, agricultural land, coastal sage, chaparral. Declining resident.	Observed flying overhead. Limited potential nesting onsite
California horned lark *Eremophila alpestris actia*	CSC	Sandy shores, mesas, disturbed areas, grasslands, agricultural lands, sparse creosote bush scrub.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Coastal cactus wren *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus couesi*	CSC, MSCP, !	Maritime succulent scrub, coastal sage scrub with *Opuntia* thickets. Rare localized resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Coastal California gnatcatcher *Polioptila californica californica*	FT, CSC, MSCP	Coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub. Resident.	Protocol surveys complete – negative results
Loggerhead shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*	CSC	Open foraging areas near scattered bushes and low trees.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Least Bell's vireo (nesting) *Vireo bellii pusillus*	SE, FE, MSCP	Willow riparian woodlands. Summer resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Yellow warbler (nesting) *Dendroica petechia brewsteri*	CSC	Breeding restricted to riparian woodland. Spring and fall migrant, localized summer resident, rare winter visitor.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Yellow-breasted chat (nesting) *Icteria virens*	CSC, MSCP	Dense riparian woodland. Localized summer resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow *Aimophila ruficeps canescens*	CSC, MSCP	Coastal sage scrub, grassland. Resident.	Not observed onsite – moderate potential to occur due to appropriate habitat
Bell's sage sparrow *Amphispiza belli belli*	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub. Localized resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Tricolored blackbird *Agelaius tricolor*	CSC, MSCP	Freshwater marshes, agricultural areas, lakeshores, parks. Localized resident.	Low potential to occur onsite.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Mammals (Nomenclature from Jones et al. 1982)			
Pallid bat *Antrozous pallidus*	CSC	Caves, mines, buildings. Found in a variety of habitats, arid and mesic.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Ringtail cat *Bassariscus astutus*	CSC	Desert dune, rock outcrops, chaparral, forest (scrub) and mountains.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Pale big-eared bat *Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens*	CSC	Caves, mines, buildings. Found in a variety of habitats, arid and mesic.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Townsend's western big-eared bat *Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii*	CSC, MSCP	Caves, mines, buildings. Found in a variety of habitats, arid and mesic.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Californai leaf nosed bat *Macrotus californicus*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Western mastiff bat *Eumops perotis californicus*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Western small-footed myotis *Myotis ciliolabrum*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Long-eared myotis *Myotis evotis*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Yuma myotis *Myotis yumanensis*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Friged myotis *Eumops perotis californicus*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Long legged myotis *Myotis volans*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Big free-tailed bat *Nyctinomops macrotis*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Pocketed free-tailed bat *Nyctinomops femorosacca*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Californai leaf nosed bat *Macrotus californicus*	CSC, MSCP	Woodlands, rocky habitat, arid and semiarid lowlands, cliffs, crevices, buildings, tree hollows.	Low to moderate potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Mountain lion *Felis concolor*	CSC, MSCP	Grassland, agricultural land, coastal sage, chaparral. Declining resident.	High potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Southern Mule Deer *Odocolleus hemionus*	CSC, MSCP	Grassland, agricultural land, coastal sage, chaparral. Declining resident.	High potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit *Lepus californicus bennettii*	CSC, MSCP	Open areas of scrub, grasslands, agricultural fields.	High potential to occur onsite due to habitat. Not historically observed in the area.
Dulzura California pocket mouse *Chaetodipus californicus femoralis*	CSC, MSCP	San Diego County west of mountains in sparse, disturbed coastal sage scrub or grasslands with sandy soils.	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.
Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse *Chaetodipus fallax fallax*	CSC, MSCP	San Diego County west of mountains in sparse, disturbed coastal sage scrub or grasslands with sandy soils.	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

Species	Status	Habitat	Occurrence/Comments
Stephen's kangaroo rat *Dipodomys stephensi*	CSC, MSCP	Sparse perennial plant cover is preferred (Thomas 1975). Burrows may be excavated in firm soil that is "neither extremely hard nor sandy" (Lackey 1967a)	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.
San Diego desert woodrat *Neotoma lepida intermedia*	CSC	Coastal sage scrub and chaparral.	Low potential to occur onsite.
Southern grasshopper mouse *Onychomys torridus ramona*	FE, CSC, MSCP	Grasslands and sparse coastal sage scrub.	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.
Los Angeles little pocket mouse *Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*	FE, CSC, MSCP	Fine, sandy soils, typically in arid grassland or coastal sage scrub habitats.	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.
Pacific little pocket mouse *Perognathus longimembris pacificus*	FE, CSC, MSCP	Open coastal sage scrub; fine, alluvial sands near ocean.	No appropriate habitat, out of range, no potential to occur onsite.
American badger *Taxidea taxus*	MSCP	Dry, open grasslands, fields, and pastures.	No appropriate habitat, no potential to occur onsite.

Status Codes

Listed/Proposed

FE = Listed as endangered by the federal government
FT = Listed as threatened by the federal government
SE = Listed as endangered by the state of California

Other

BEPA = Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
CFP = California fully protected species
CSC = California Department of Fish and Game species of special concern
FC = Federal candidate for listing (taxa for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support proposals to list as endangered or threatened; development and publication of proposed rules for these taxa are anticipated)
FSS = Federal (Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service) sensitive species
MSCP = Multiple Species Conservation Program target species list

APPENDIX D
SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES
OBSERVED (*) OR WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR OCCURRENCE
(continued)

! = Taxa listed with an ! fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Taxa considered endangered or rare under Section 15380(d) of CEQA guidelines
- Taxa that are biologically rare, very restricted in distribution, or declining throughout their range
- Population(s) in California that may be peripheral to the major portion of a taxon's range, but which are threatened with extirpation within California
- Taxa closely associated with a habitat that is declining in California at an alarming rate (e.g., wetlands, riparian, old growth forests, desert aquatic systems, native grasslands)

Appendix E Sensitivity Codes

SENSITIVITY CODES

FEDERAL CANDIDATES AND LISTED PLANTS

FE = Federally listed, endangered
FT = Federally listed, threatened
FPE = Federally proposed endangered
FPT = Federally proposed threatened

STATE LISTED PLANTS

CE = State listed, endangered
CR = State listed, rare
CT = State listed, threatened

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STATUS

MSCP = City of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program
NE = Narrow endemic species in MSCP

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

LISTS

1A = Species presumed extinct.

1B = Species rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. These species are eligible for state listing.

2 = Species rare, threatened, or endangered in California but which are more common elsewhere. These species are eligible for state listing.

3 = Species for which more information is needed. Distribution, endangerment, and/or taxonomic information is needed.

4 = A watch list of species of limited distribution. These species need to be monitored for changes in the status of their populations.

R-E-D CODES

R (Rarity)

1 = Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction is low at this time.

2 = Occurrence confined to several populations or to one extended population.

3 = Occurrence limited to one or a few highly restricted populations, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported.

E (Endangerment)

1 = Not endangered
2 = Endangered in a portion of its range
3 = Endangered throughout its range

D (Distribution)

1 = More or less widespread outside California
2 = Rare outside California
3 = Endemic to California