

Ramona Drive TPM

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SUMMARY

The project is a Tentative Parcel Map for an approximately 6.4-acre site to create three separate lots with the intent of eventually constructing single-family dwelling units. The project site is located at 4342 Ramona Drive in the Fallbrook Community Planning Area in unincorporated San Diego County. The site is located within the boundaries of the County's Draft North County MSCP Subarea Plan and is outside the Pre-approved Mitigation Area.

Two vegetation communities occur on site: developed/ornamental (1.7 acres) and disturbed habitat (4.7 acres). No special status plant or animal species were observed on site, and based on the condition of the site, none are expected to occur. No jurisdictional wetlands and waterways are present on site.

The site is surrounded by other developed properties; therefore, it is not part of a wildlife corridor, and there was no evidence observed (e.g., scat, tracks, or trails) that it is used by large mammals. The site does, however, contain vegetation that could support some minimal migratory bird and raptor foraging and/or nesting.

None of the project impacts would occur to Environmentally Sensitive Lands. Therefore, the impacts to developed/ornamental and disturbed habitat would be less than significant, and no mitigation is proposed. Mitigation is proposed, however, to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds. The mitigation includes avoiding vegetation removal during the breeding season or a pre-construction nesting bird survey with avoidance of active nests.

INTRODUCTION

This report describes existing biological conditions on the approximately 6.4-acre Ramona Drive Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) project site (Figures 1 and 2) and it describes potential project impacts and proposed mitigation.,

General biological surveys and vegetation mapping were conducted by Alden Environmental, Inc. on March 29, 2016. A list of plant and animal species observed or detected on site was made during the fieldwork (Attachments A and B). During the fieldwork, the site also was inspected for jurisdictional wetlands and waterways that could be regulated by the County of San Diego (County), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). A special status plant species survey also was conducted during the site visit.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is a TPM to create three separate lots with the intent of eventually constructing single-family dwelling units. The project site consists of one existing single-family dwelling unit to remain, one existing agricultural storage building to remain, a proposed well, and an existing storage building to be removed. The site is subject to the General Plan Regional Category Semi-Rural, Land Use Designation Semi-Rural 2 (SR-2). Zoning for the site is A70-Limited Agriculture. Access would be provided by a driveway connecting to Ramona Drive. The project would be served by on-site septic systems and imported water from the Rainbow Municipal Water District. No extension of sewer or water utilities will be required for the project.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is located at 4342 Ramona Drive (APN 12331055) in the Fallbrook Community Planning Area in unincorporated San Diego County. It is west of Ramona Drive, south of Via Monserate, and north of State Route 76 (Figures 1 and 2).

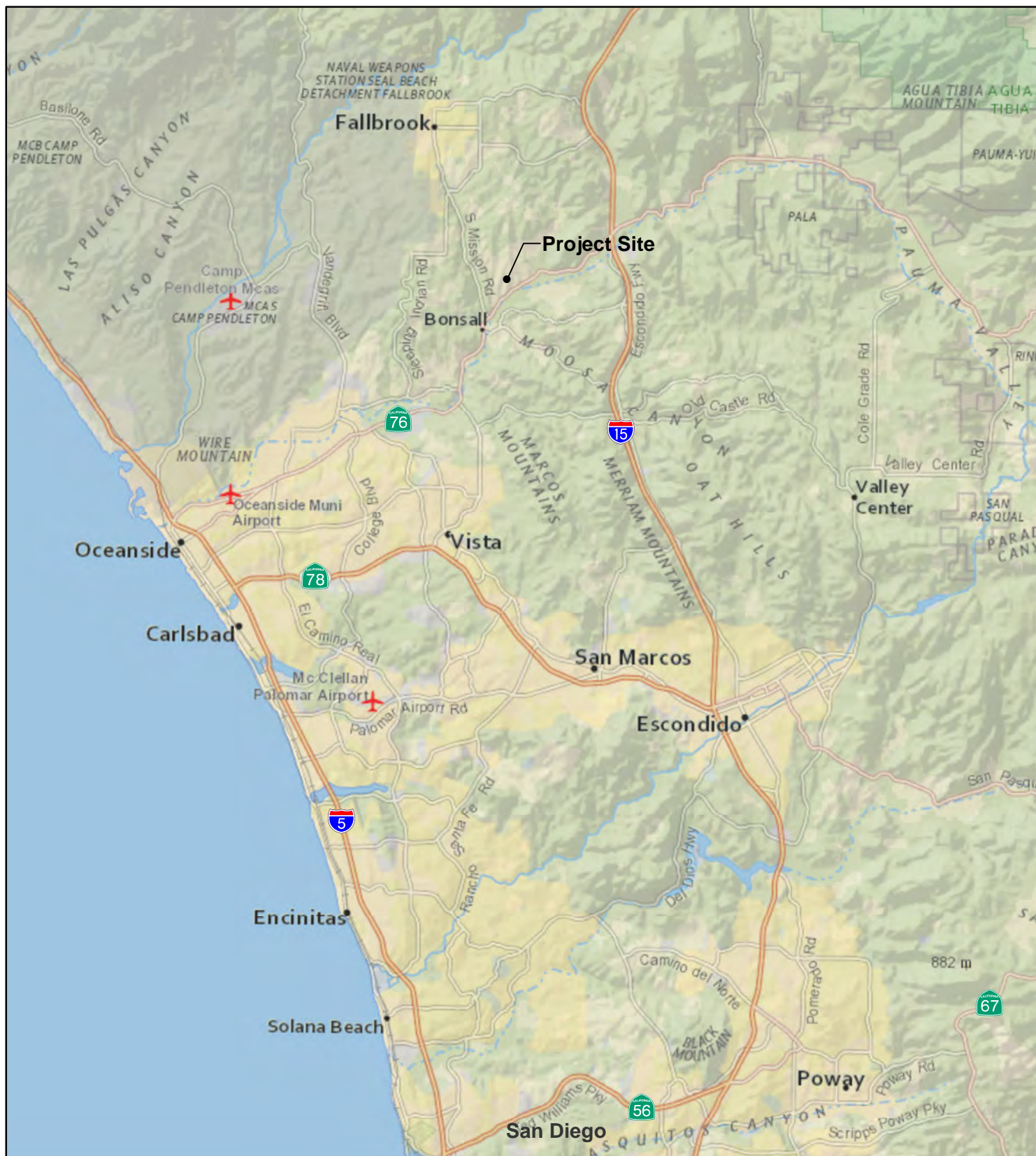
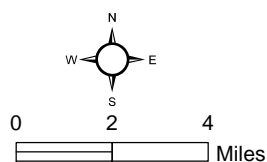


Figure 1

Regional Location

RAMONA DRIVE TPM



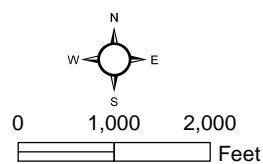
ALDEN
ENVIRONMENTAL, INC



Figure 2

Project Location

RAMONA DRIVE TPM



 **ALDEN**
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SETTING

The project site is located on a small hill. There is an existing house on the northeastern portion of the site, and two storage structures are located in the western and southern portions of the site. Ramona Drive occurs off site immediately to the west. Residential and agricultural uses surround the site. The majority of the site was previously cultivated as an orchard that appears to have been abandoned between 1989 and 2002 based on historic aerial photography (Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC [NETR] 2016). Use of the site as orchard can be seen in aerial photography going back to 1938 (NETR 2016).

There are numerous ornamental shrubs and trees along the edges of the site and scattered throughout the site. The remainder of the site supports disturbed habitat and developed land. Soils on site consist of Fallbrook and Placentia sandy loams (Bowman 1973). On-site elevations range from approximately 315 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) to 420 feet AMSL.

REGIONAL CONTEXT

The site is located within the boundaries of the County's Draft North County MSCP (NCMSCP) Subarea Plan and is outside the Pre-approved Mitigation Area. The site is not adjacent to preserved lands, national forests, or U.S. Bureau of Land Management-administered lands, and no jurisdictional waterways or watersheds are present on site.

HABITATS/VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

Two vegetation communities occur on site as shown on Figure 3, listed in Table 1, and described following Table 1.

Table 1	
EXISTING VEGETATION COMMUNITIES¹	
Community	Area
Developed/Ornamental (12000)	1.7
Disturbed Habitat (11300)	4.7
TOTAL	6.4

¹Numeric code following each community name is from Oberbauer et al. 2008.

Developed/Ornamental (12000)

Developed/ornamental areas consist of a house, paved driveway, landscaping, storage structures, graded pad areas, and areas treated with an erosion control seed mix (Figure 3). Some of the dominant/notable species in this community on site include eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.), jacaranda (*Jacaranda arborea*), sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), and treasure flower (*Gazania linearis*).

Disturbed Habitat (11300)

Disturbed habitat on site includes previous orchard areas and unvegetated or sparsely vegetated areas, particularly where the soil has been heavily compacted by prior development or disturbance. Disturbed habitat on site is dominated by non-native, weedy species including mustard (*Brassica* spp.), star thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*).

Developed/ornamental and disturbed habitat do not qualify as Environmentally Sensitive Lands under the Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO; County 2011), and they are not sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the CDFW or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

No special status plant or animal species were observed on site, and based on the condition of the site, none have high potential to occur (Attachments C and D). Two species, however, have moderate potential to occur (Attachment D): barn owl (*Tyto alba*; foraging only; County Group 2) and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*; State Species of Special Concern, County Group 2). No other special status plant or animal species are expected to occur on site or adjacent to the site since the surrounding land uses and conditions are similar to those on site.

Since the site is surrounded by other developed properties, it is not part of a wildlife corridor, and there was no evidence observed (e.g., scat, tracks, or trails) that it is used by large mammals such as mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*). The site does, however, contain vegetation that could support some minimal migratory bird and raptor foraging and/or nesting.

JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS

No County (RPO), Corps, CDFW, or RWQCB jurisdictional wetlands and waterways are present on site.

OTHER UNIQUE FEATURES/RESOURCES

There are no unique features/resources such as habitat linkages, rock outcroppings, or sensitive soils on site.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION

The project is a TPM to create three separate residential lots. While no impacts would occur from the creation of the lots, the intent is to eventually build additional houses on the site. Therefore, for this analysis, impacts are assessed for the future development on the site that encompasses the entire 6.4 acres of developed/ornamental and disturbed habitat as shown in Table 1. Since none of the impacts would occur to sensitive biological resources, the impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is proposed.



Figure 3

Biological Resources

RAMONA DRIVE TPM

The site contains vegetation that could support some minimal migratory bird and raptor foraging habitat (e.g., barn owl), as well as potential habitat for the San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit. The loss of non-sensitive vegetation that could provide this potential habitat, however, would be less than significant as this type of non-sensitive vegetation is common in the region, including in the immediate vicinity of the project site, and the species with moderate potential to occur (barn owl and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit) are not highly sensitive species.

The site also contains vegetation that could support some migratory bird and raptor nesting habitat. To avoid impacts to migratory birds and raptors protected by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code (sections 3503 and 3503.5), removal of vegetation and the existing storage building is proposed occur outside of the general avian breeding season (February 1 to July 30). If vegetation and the storage building must be removed during this season, a qualified biologist will conduct a nesting bird survey prior to removal. The survey will be conducted no more than three days prior to scheduled removal. If an active nest is identified, the biologist will establish a no-construction buffer around the nest (300 feet for raptors; 100 feet for non-raptors). Removal will not occur and no construction will occur within the established buffer until a qualified biologist has determined that the nest is no longer active. If removal is not conducted within three days of a negative survey, the nesting survey will be repeated.

REFERENCES

Bowman, R. 1973. Soil Survey of the San Diego Area. USDA in cooperation with the USDI, UC Agricultural Experiment Station, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Navy, and the U.S. Marine Corps.

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Unitt, Philip. 2004. *San Diego County Bird Atlas*. No. 39. Proceedings of the San Diego Society of Natural History. October 31.

PREPARER AND PERSONS/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

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Contact: John Leavitt, Project Manager, Project Planning Division, County of San Diego

ATTACHMENTS A-D

Attachment A
PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

FAMILY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	VEGETATION COMMUNITY**
Aizoaceae	<i>Aptenia cordifolia</i> *	Red apple	DH
Amaranthaceae	<i>Salsola tragus</i> *	Russian thistle	DH
Anacardiaceae	<i>Schinus molle</i> *	Peruvian pepper	DH
Apocynaceae	<i>Nerium oleander</i> *	oleander	DH, D/O
Aracaceae	<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i> *	Queen palm	DH
	<i>Washingtonia gracilis</i> *	Mexican fan palm	DH
Asteraceae	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i> *	star thistle	DH
	<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i>	African daisy	DH
	<i>Deinandra fasciculata</i>	fascicled tarplant	DH
	<i>Gazania linearis</i> *	treasure flower	D/O
	<i>Hedypnois cretica</i> *	Crete hedypnois	DH
	<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	telegraph weed	DH
	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	Smooth cat's ear	DH
	<i>Layia platyglossa</i>	tidy tips	DH, D/O
	<i>Logfia arizonica</i>	Arizona filago	DH
	<i>Pseudognaphalium californicum</i>	California everlasting	DH, D/O
	<i>Sonchus asper</i> *	prickly sow-thistle	DH
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> *	common sow-thistle	DH
Bignoniaceae	<i>Jacaranda arborea</i> *	jacaranda	D/O
Boraginaceae	<i>Phacelia campanularia</i>	California bluebells	D/O
Brassicaceae	<i>Brassica nigra</i> *	black mustard	DH
	<i>Brassica</i> sp.*	mustard	DH
	<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> *	perennial mustard	DH
	<i>Lepidium lasiocarpum</i>	peppergrass	DH
	<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alyssum	D/O
Crassulaceae	<i>Crassula connata</i>	Pygmy-weed	DH
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton setigerus</i>	doveweed	DH
Fabaceae	<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	arroyo lupine	D/O
	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i> *	bur-clover	DH
Geraniaceae	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i> *	red-stem filaree	DH
	<i>Erodium moschatum</i> *	green-stem filaree	DH
Iridaceae	<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	blue eyed grass	D/O
Lamiaceae	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> *	horehound	DH
Malvaceae	<i>Malva parviflora</i> *	cheeseweed	DH

FAMILY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	VEGETATION COMMUNITY**
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	eucalyptus	DH, D/O
Oleaceae	<i>Olea europaea</i> *	olive	DH
Oxalidaceae	<i>Oxalis californica</i>	California wood- sorrel	D/O
Papaveraceae	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California poppy	D/O
Pinaceae	<i>Pinus</i> sp.*	ornamental pine tree	D/O
Poaceae	<i>Avena barbata</i> *	slender wild oat	DH
	<i>Avena fatua</i> *	wild oat	DH
	<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i> *	purple falsebrome	DH
	<i>Bromus diandrus</i> *	common ripgut grass	DH
	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> *	soft chess	DH
	<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i> *	foxtail chess	DH
	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> *	Bermuda grass	DH
	<i>Hordeum murinum</i> *	barley	DH
	<i>Lamarckia aurea</i> *	goldentop	DH
Polemoniaceae	<i>Gilia capitata</i>	globe gilia	D/O
Primulaceae	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> *	scarlet pimpernel	DH
Salicaceae	<i>Populus fremontii</i> ssp. <i>fremontii</i>	cottonwood	DH
Solanaceae	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> *	tree tobacco	DH

*Non-native species

**D/O = developed/ornamental; DH = disturbed habitat

Attachment B
ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED OR DETECTED

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	VEGETATION COMMUNITY*
<u>Reptiles</u>		
Phrynosomatidae – Earless, Spiny, Tree, Side-blotched, and Horned Lizards		
<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	western fence lizard	DH
<u>Birds</u>		
Columbidae – Doves and Pigeons		
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	mourning dove	DH
Corvidae – Jays, Magpies, and Crows		
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow	DH
Emberizidae – Sparrows, Longspurs, and Emberiza Buntings		
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	house sparrow	D/O
Fringillidae – Finches		
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	house finch	DH
<u>Mammals</u>		
Geomyidae – Gophers		
<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	Botta's pocket gopher (burrows)	DH
Leporidae – Rabbits and Hares		
<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>	desert cottontail (scat)	DH
Sciuridae – Squirrels, Chipmunks, and Marmots		
<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel	DH

*D/O = developed/ornamental; DH = disturbed habitat

Attachment C
SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES
AND THEIR POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

SPECIES	STATUS* USFWS/CDFW CNPS County	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR/COMMENTS
San Diego thorn-mint (<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i>)	FT/SE CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Occurs on cracked clay soils in sage scrub or chaparral openings, often associated with vernal pools. Appropriate habitat not present.
California adolphia (<i>Adolphia californica</i>)	--/-- CNPS 2.1 County List B	Very low. Occurs below 1,000 feet AMSL in elevation in sage scrub and chaparral habitats. A shrub that would likely have been observed if present.
San Diego ambrosia (<i>Ambrosia pumila</i>)	FE/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	None. Occurs in sage scrub, grasslands, wetlands, disturbed habitat, sloped areas, creek beds, seasonally dry drainages, and floodplains. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Del Mar Manzanita (<i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i> ssp. <i>crassifolia</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Occurs within coastal sage scrub and chaparral communities. A shrub that would have been observed if present.
Rainbow manzanita (<i>Arctostaphylos</i> <i>rainbowensis</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Occurs within coastal sage scrub and chaparral communities. A shrub that would have been observed if present.
Davidson's saltscale (<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i>davidsonii</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	None. Historically associated with the isolated alkaline flats of southern California valley areas that have primarily been drained and converted to residential housing or agriculture. Appropriate habitat does not occur on site.
Thread leafed brodiaea (<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Found in vernal moist grasslands and along vernal pool peripheries. Occasionally will grow on streamside embankments in clay soils. Appropriate habitat does not occur on site.
Orcutt's brodiaea (<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Found in vernal moist grasslands and along vernal pool peripheries. Occasionally will grow on streamside embankments in clay soils. Appropriate habitat does not occur on site.
Lewis sun cup (<i>Camissonia lewisii</i>)	--/-- CNPS 3 County List C	None. Found in coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes as well as areas of coastal sage scrub and valley and foothill grassland with particularly sandy soils. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.

Wart-stemmed ceanothus (<i>Ceanothus verrucosus</i>)	--/-- CNPS 2.2 County List B	Very low. Found in San Diego County and Baja. Occurs largely in coastal chaparral communities not present on site. A shrub that would have been observed if present.
Orcutt's spineflower (<i>Chorizanthe orcuttiana</i>)	FE/SE CNPS 1B.1 County List A	None. Found only in sandy areas on mesas in the coastal region. Generally associated with coastal sage scrub or chaparral openings. Known from only 3 occurrences in Encinitas and Point Loma. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Summer holly (<i>Comarostaphylis diversifolia</i> ssp. <i>diversifolia</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	Very low. Mesic north-facing slopes in southern mixed chaparral are the preferred habitat of this large, showy shrub. Rugged steep drainages seem to be a preferred location for isolated shrubs. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Western dichondra (<i>Dichondra occidentalis</i>)	--/-- CNPS 4.2 County List D	Very low. Occurs in dry, sandy banks in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, or southern oak woodland. Often proliferates on recently burned slopes. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Sticky dudleya (<i>Dudleya viscida</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	None. An obvious species found in rock crevices and other mesic, shady areas on exposed, north facing slopes. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Palmer's goldenbush (<i>Ericameria palmeri</i> ssp. <i>palmeri</i>)	--/-- CNPS 2.2 County List B	Very low. Generally occurs along drainages within chaparral communities or occasionally within coastal sage scrub. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
San Diego button celery (<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i>)	FE/SE CNPS 1B.1 County List A	Very low. Prefers vernal pools and marshes not present on site. Nearest reported sites are on Camp Pendleton.
Graceful tarplant (<i>Holocarpha virgata</i> ssp. <i>elongata</i>)	--/-- CNPS 4.2 County List D	Low. Generally grows in grassland communities on coastal mesas and foothills.
Ramona horkelia (<i>Horkelia truncata</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.3 County List A	Very low. Occurs in chaparral and foothill woodland habitats not present on site.
Decumbent goldenbush (<i>Isocoma menziesii</i> var. <i>decumbens</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	Low. Prefers clay soils and is often found in disturbed areas within coastal sage scrub. Little potential habitat on site.
San Diego marsh-elder (<i>Iva hayesiana</i>)	--/-- CNPS 2.2 County List B	None. Occurs in low-lying, moist, or alkaline areas. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Robinson's peppergrass (<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	Very low. Occurs in dry, exposed openings within coastal sage scrub and chaparral. Typically found on volcanic soils. Appropriate soils do not occur on site.
Felt-leaved monardella (<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> ssp. <i>lanata</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	None. Chaparral understory, typically beneath mature stands of chamise in xeric situations. Appropriate habitat does not occur on site.
Spreading navarretia (<i>Navarretia fossalis</i>)	FT/-- CNPS 1B.1 County List A	None. Occurs in vernal pools, vernal swales, or roadside depressions. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Cooper's rein orchid (<i>Piperia cooperi</i>)	--/-- CNPS 4.2 County List D	None. Vernal moist areas, coast, and foothills. Shallow soils on small rockfalls adjacent to watercourses may be utilized. Suitable habitat does not occur on site.
Ahsy spike-moss (<i>Selaginella cinerascens</i>)	--/-- CNPS 4.1 County List D	Low. Occurs in open chaparral and sage scrub not present on site.
Bottle liverwort (<i>Sphaerocarpus drewei</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.1	None. Occurs in openings in chaparral and coastal sage scrub not present on site. Most rare liverwort species in North America.
Parry's tetracoccus (<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i>)	--/-- CNPS 1B.2 County List A	Very low. Gabbro soils in low-growing chamise chaparral and sage scrub. Usually, conditions are quite xeric with only limited annual growth. Appropriate habitat and soils do not occur on site.

***STATUS CODES FOR PLANTS**

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FE Federal listed endangered
FT Federal listed threatened

CDFW California Department of Fish and Wildlife

SE State listed endangered

CNPS California Native Plant Society

California Rare Plant Rank

Threat Rank

1A = Presumed extirpated in California
and either rare or extinct
elsewhere.

1B = Rare, threatened, or endangered in
California and elsewhere.

2A= Presumed extirpated in California
but more common elsewhere.

2B= Rare, threatened, or endangered in
California but more common
elsewhere.

3 = More information is needed.

4 = A watch list for species of limited
distribution.

.1 = Seriously endangered in California (over 80
percent of occurrences threatened/high
degree and immediacy of threat)

.2 = Moderately endangered in California (20 to
80 percent occurrences threatened/moderate
degree and immediacy of threat)

.3 = Not very threatened in California (less than
20 percent of occurrences threatened/ low
degree and immediacy of threat or no
current threats known)

County County of San Diego

List A Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California or elsewhere.

List B Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California but more common elsewhere.

List C Plants that may be quite rare, but more information is needed to determine rarity status.

List D Plants of limited distribution and are uncommon, but not presently rare or endangered.

Attachment D
SPECIAL STATUS ANIMAL SPECIES
AND THEIR POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

SPECIES	STATUS*	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR/COMMENTS
	USFWS/CDFW County	
INVERTEBRATES		
San Diego fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i>)	FE/-- County Group 1	None. Occurs within ephemeral water holding basins. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Quino checkerspot butterfly (<i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>)	FE/-- County Group 1	None. Populations are known to exist only as several (probably isolated) colonies in southwestern Riverside and southern San Diego counties as well as northern Baja. The principal larval host plant of this species in San Diego is dwarf plantain, which was not observed on site.
Harbison's dun skipper (<i>Euphyes vestris harbisoni</i>)	--/-- County Group 1	None. Typically not found within 10 miles of the coast. Restricted to chaparral and oak riparian areas with narrow drainages, particularly where the larval host plant (San Diego sedge [<i>Carex spissa</i>]) occurs. No suitable habitat on site.

Hermes copper butterfly (<i>Lycaena hermes</i>)	FC/-- County Group 1	None. Species' host plant spiny redberry (<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>) was not observed on site.
Riverside fairy shrimp (<i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>)	FE/-- County Group 1	None. Occurs within ephemeral water holding basins. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
VERTEBRATES		
Fish		
Arroyo chub (<i>Gila orcutti</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	None. Aquatic habitat not present.
Tidewater goby (<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>)	FE/SSC County Group 1	None. Aquatic habitat not present.
Amphibians		
Arroyo toad (<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i>)	FE/SSC County Group 1	None. Found on stream banks under open- canopy riparian forest characterized by willows, cottonwoods, or sycamores. Breeds in areas with shallow, slow moving streams, but burrows in adjacent uplands during dry months. Habitat not present on site.

California red-legged frog (<i>Rana aurora draytoni</i>)	FT/SSC County Group 1	None. Appropriate habitat is characterized by dense, shrubby riparian vegetation with deep, slow moving water not present on site. Believed extirpated from San Diego County.
Western spadefoot (<i>Spea hammondi</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Prefers floodplains, washes, and low hills. Southern California habitats include coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and grassland. Important habitat components include temporary pools (which form during winter and spring rains) for breeding and friable soils for burrowing. No suitable habitat on site.
Reptiles		
Silvery legless lizard (<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Low. Occurs in areas with loose soil, particularly sand dunes or otherwise sandy soil. Generally found in leaf litter, under rocks, logs, or driftwood in oak woodland, chaparral, and desert scrub. Species is reclusive and rarely observed without night surveys or pitfall trapping.
Rosy boa (<i>Charina trivirgata</i>)	--/-- County Group 2	Low. Mostly nocturnal, occurring among rocky outcrops in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and desert scrub. Little potential habitat occurs on site.
Southwestern pond turtle (<i>Clemmys marmorata pallida</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	None. Open water aquatic species. Suitable habitat not present.
Orange-throated whiptail (<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>)	--/WL County Group 2	Low. Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, edges of riparian woodlands, and washes. Also found in weedy, disturbed areas adjacent to these habitats. While there are weedy, disturbed areas on site, they are not adjacent to the above-listed habitats.
Coastal whiptail (<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Low. Open coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and woodlands. Frequently found along the edges of dirt roads traversing its habitats. Suitable habitat not present on site.
San Diego banded gecko (<i>Coleonyx variegatus abbotti</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	None. Chaparral and coastal sage scrub in areas with rock outcrops. Suitable habitat not present.

Northern red-diamond rattlesnake (<i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Low. Found in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, along creek banks, and in rock outcrops or piles of debris with a supply of burrowing rodents for prey. Some potentially suitable habitat occurs on site.
Coronado skink (<i>Plestiodon skiltonianus interparietalis</i>)	--/WL County Group 2	Low. Occurs in grasslands, coastal sage scrub, open chaparral, oak woodland, and coniferous forests, usually under rocks, leaf litter, logs, debris, or in the shallow burrows it digs. Some potential habitat occurs on site.
Coast horned lizard (<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Low. Coastal sage scrub and open areas in chaparral, oak woodlands, and coniferous forests with sufficient basking sites, adequate scrub cover, and areas of loose soil; require native ants, especially harvester ants (<i>Pogonomyrmex</i> sp.), and are generally excluded from areas invaded by Argentine ants (<i>Linepithema humile</i>). Some potential habitat occurs on site.
Coast patch-nosed snake (<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Low. Found in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian, grasslands, and agricultural fields. Prefers open habitats with friable or sandy soils, burrowing rodents for food, and enough cover to escape being preyed upon. Some potential habitat occurs on site.
Two-striped garter snake (<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	None. Occurs along permanent and intermittent streams bordered by dense riparian vegetation, but occasionally associated with vernal pools or stock ponds. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
South coast gartersnake (<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i> ssp. <i>novum</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Occurs in aquatic habitats, preferably rocky streams with protected pools, cattle ponds, marshes, vernal pools, and other shallow bodies of water lacking large, aquatic predators. No suitable habitat occurs on site.

Birds		
Sharp-shinned hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>)	--/WL County Group 1	Low. Usually observed in areas with tall trees or other vegetative cover; species can be observed in a variety of habitats. Widespread distribution in San Diego County, but occurs in small numbers and only in the winter.
Tricolored blackbird (<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>)	BCC/SSC County Group 1	Very low. Forages in pastures, croplands, lakeshores, and irrigated grassy areas. Breeds in freshwater marsh and emergent wetlands.
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>)	--/WL County Group 1	Very low. Occurs in coastal sage scrub and open chaparral as well as shrubby grasslands not present on site.
Grasshopper sparrow (<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	Low. Typically inhabits prairie grasslands and pastures not present on site.
Bell's sage sparrow (<i>Amphispiza belli belli</i>)	BCC/WL County Group 1	Very low. Occurs in sunny, dry stands of coastal sage scrub and chaparral not present on site.
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	BCC/FP, WL County Group 1	Low. Forages in grassy and open, shrubby habitats. Nests most often on cliffs, less often in trees. Tends to require solitude and is usually found at a distance from human habitation. Project site and vicinity is likely too developed for this species.
Great blue heron (<i>Ardea herodias</i>)	--/-- County Group 2	Very low. Occurs throughout San Diego County in wetland habitats, but may be observed foraging away from water. No wetland habitat occurs on site.
Long-eared owl (<i>Asio otus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	None. In San Diego County, species is a rare resident of oak woodlands and riparian forests. Ideal habitats possess closed canopies in proximity to open foraging habitat. No suitable habitat occurs on site.
Burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	BCC/SSC County Group 1	Low. Restricted to essentially flat, open country with suitable burrow sites. No burrowing owls or burrowing owl sign observed on site.
Green heron (<i>Butorides striatus</i>)	--/-- County Group 2	None. Occurs in wetland habitats. No wetland habitat occurs on site.

Coastal cactus wren (<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>)	BCC/SSC County Group 1	None. Observed in coastal lowlands in cactus thickets. No habitat occurs on site.
Northern harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	Low. In San Diego County, distribution primarily scattered throughout lowlands but can also be observed in foothills, mountains, and desert.
Yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>)	FT, BCC/SE County Group 1	None. Found in open woodlands with dense understories, riparian woodlands, dense thickets, and occasionally parks. Rare in the western U.S. No habitat occurs on site.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	FE/SE County Group 1	None. Occurs in riparian/wetland habitats. No habitat occurs on site.
California horned lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>)	--/WL County Group 2	Low. Species prefers sandy beaches, agricultural fields, grasslands, and open areas. While some potential habitat occurs on site, the California horned lark was not reported in the San Diego Bird Atlas square that includes the site (and all coverage criteria for breeding and winter seasons were met for the square; Unitt 2004).
Coastal California gnatcatcher (<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>)	FT/SSC County Group 1	None. Species occurs in coastal sage scrub habitat that is not present on site.
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>)	--/WL County Group 2	Low. In San Diego County, the species is rare and can only be found in the winter. It is usually observed in grasslands, but can occur in any habitat except dense woodlands. Some potential habitat occurs on site.

Loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	BCC/SSC County Group 1	Low. Habitat includes a combination of open areas with adequate perching locations. While some potential habitat may occur on site, the loggerhead shrike was only reported in the San Diego Bird Atlas square that includes the site as an “additional winter location” (and all coverage criteria for breeding and winter seasons were met for the square; Unitt 2004). Therefore, the species has low potential to be present (and only in winter).
Summer tanager (<i>Piranga rubra</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Common in mature riparian forest, especially areas with cottonwood trees. No habitat occurs on site.
Light-footed [Ridgway's] clapper rail (<i>Rallus longirostris [obsoletus] levipes</i>)	FE/SE, FP County Group 1	None. Coastal salt marshes, especially those dominated by cordgrass (<i>Spartina</i> sp.), but has been known to use brackish and freshwater sites. Habitat is not present on site.
Barn owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>)	--/-- County Group 2	Moderate (foraging). Occurs in open habitats including grassland, chaparral, riparian, and other wetlands. Usually nests on ledges, crevices, or other sheltered areas of cliffs or man-made structures. Also nests in cavities in trees or snags, or nest boxes. Hunts on the wing primarily for mice, rats, voles, pocket gophers, and ground squirrels. Moderate potential to forage on site but not to nest.
Least Bell's vireo (<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>)	FE/SE County Group 1	None. Prefers riparian woodland and is frequent in areas that combine an understory of willows (<i>Salix</i> spp.) and mule fat (<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>). No habitat occurs on site.
Mammals		
Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Found in deserts and canyons. Daytime roosts in buildings, crevices; less often in caves, mines, hollow trees, and other shelters. Project site outside species' range.
Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Very low. Found in chaparral understory, typically beneath mature stands of chamise in xeric situations. Habitat does not occur on site.

Mexican long-tongued bat (<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Prefers arid scrub, mixed forest, and canyons in mountain ranges rising from the desert of extreme southern California. Roosts in caves, mines, and sometimes in buildings near the entrance. Project site outside species' range.
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Stephens' kangaroo rat (<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>)	FE/ST County Group 1	Very low. Found in sparsely vegetated habitats of sagebrush or annual forbs and grasses. The site's past agricultural history likely precludes this species' potential presence.
Western mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Permanent resident in southern California in chaparral and where coast live oaks are found. Also occurs in arid, rocky areas, cliffs, and canyons. No habitat occurs on site.
Western red bat (<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Found in streamside habitats dominated by cottonwoods, oaks, sycamores, and walnuts, and rarely in desert habitats. No habitat occurs on site.
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Moderate. Occurs primarily in open habitats including open coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grasslands, croplands, and disturbed areas (if at least some shrub cover present).
California leaf-nosed bat (<i>Macrotus californicus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Found in desert scrub, often in abandoned mine tunnels. No habitat occurs on site.
Yuma myotis (<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>)	--/-- County Group 2	None. Occurs near ponds, streams, or lakes. Found by day under sidings or shingles, caves, mines, buildings, or under bridges. No habitat occurs on site.
San Diego desert woodrat (<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>)	--/SSC County Group 1	Very low. Found in open chaparral and coastal sage scrub, often building large, stick nests in rock outcrops.
Pocketed free-tailed bat (<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	None. Found in the desert regions of southern California. Prefers to roost in rock outcrops. Project site outside species' range.
American badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>)	--/SSC County Group 2	Very low. Occurs in level, open areas in grasslands, agricultural fields, and open shrub habitats. This species digs large burrows in dry, friable soils, which are easily observed if present.

***STATUS CODES FOR ANIMALS**

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FE	Federal listed endangered
FT	Federal listed threatened
FC	Federal candidate for listing
BCC	Bird of conservation concern (migratory and non-migratory bird species [beyond those already designated as threatened or endangered] that represent the USFWS' highest conservation priorities.

CDFW California Department of Fish and Wildlife

SE	State listed endangered
ST	State listed threatened
FP	Fully protected (species that may not be taken or possessed without a permit from the Fish and Game Commission and/or CDFW)
SSC	State species of special concern (designated because of declining population levels, limited ranges, and/or continuing threats)
WL	Previously SSC but no longer merits SSC status, or which does not meet SSC criteria but for which there is concern and a need for additional information to clarify status.

County County of San Diego

Group 1	Animals that have a very high level of sensitivity, either because they are listed as threatened or endangered or because they have very specific natural history requirements.
Group 2	Animal species that are becoming less common, but are not yet so rare that extirpation or extinction is imminent without immediate action. These species tend to be prolific within their suitable habitat types.