

Appendix D.2

Utility Field Biological Memo MBI, 2021

Travertine SPA
Draft EIR
SCH# 201811023
Technical Appendices

October 2023

July 22, 2022

JN 182517

TRG LAND, INC.

Attn: Mark Rogers
898 Production Place
Newport Beach, California 92663

SUBJECT: Results of a Biological Resources Due Diligence Assessment for the Travertine Land Development Project, Proposed Utility Field Parcels – City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Michael Baker International (Michael Baker) has prepared this report to document the results of a biological resources assessment for the proposed utility field parcels associated with the Travertine Land Development Project, located in the City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California. Michael Baker conducted a thorough desktop literature review to assess the potential for special-status plant and wildlife species¹ that have been documented or that are likely to occur on or within the immediate vicinity of the project site. No field surveys were conducted in support of this specific effort. This report provides an assessment of the known occurrences of the special-status plant and wildlife species that were identified in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database RareFind 5 (CNDDDB; CDFW 2022a), the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare Plants (IRP; CNPS 2022), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation Project Planning Tool (IPaC; USFWS 2022a), and other databases as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project site. References are provided in Attachment A.

Project Location

The proposed utility field parcels consist of undeveloped and agricultural lands within Sections 32, 33, and 34, Township 6 South, Range 7 East, and Sections 3, 4, and 5, Township 7 South, Range 7 East, as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle for Martinez Mountain, California. The project site consists of 26 parcels located in the City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California. These 26 parcels are potential candidates for offsite Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) water well locations

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

and include a two and a half-acre Imperial Irrigation District (IID) substation intended to provide services to the proposed Travertine Land Development Project. The well site parcels were divided into two sections: the northern portion and the southern portion. The northern portion occurs approximately one mile northeast of the main project site and includes parcels on lands located in Sections 25 Township 6 South, Range 7 East. The southern portion occurs approximately one mile east of the proposed Travertine Land Development Project and includes parcels on lands located in Sections 35 and 36, Township 6 South, Range 7 East. Combined, these parcels total approximately 565 acres. The general location of the proposed utility field parcels are depicted in Figure 1 *Regional Vicinity Map* and Figure 2 *Project Location Map* in Attachment B. Results of the desktop review are specific to the individual parcels that have been identified as potential utility field sites.

Methodology

Michael Baker conducted thorough literature reviews and records searches to determine which special-status biological resources have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity of the project site. Previous special-status plant and wildlife species occurrence records within the USGS *Indio, Martinez Mountain, Valerie, and La Quinta California* 7.5-minute quadrangles were researched through a query of the CNDDB (CDFW 2022a) and IRP (CNPS 2022), and for the project region through a review of IPaC (USFWS 2022a).

The current regulatory/conservation status of special-status plant and wildlife species was verified through lists and resources provided by the CDFW, specifically the *Special Animals List* (CDFW 2022b), *Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List* (CDFW 2022c), *State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California* (CDFW 2022d), and *State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California* (CDFW 2022e). USFWS-designated Critical Habitat for species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) was reviewed online via the USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper portal (USFWS 2022b). In addition, Michael Baker reviewed a Biological Technical Report prepared by Glenn Lukos and Associates (GLA report) (2022) for the Travertine Land Development Project, which included a cursory review of the offsite parcels assessed in this report. The results of a desktop review conducted by Michael Baker (2021) for potential wetlands and other waters occurring within the utility field parcels and their regulatory status are also presented in this report. Other resources reviewed to provide general context on existing conditions within the offsite parcels included Google Earth Pro Historical Aerial Imagery from 1985 to current (Google, Inc. 2022) and the Calflora Database (Calflora 2022).

Summary of Regulations

This section discusses relevant laws, policies, and ordinances that may pose constraints to any future development within the project site on a holistic level. It should be noted that this section is not intended to be exhaustive and that additional policies may apply for proposed development on the utility field parcels. Relevant laws and policies related to potential jurisdictional aquatic resources (i.e., Clean Water Act,

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act) occurring within the utility field parcels has been reviewed separately by Michael Baker (2021) and is not included and evaluated in this report.

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973

As defined within the FESA, an endangered species is any animal or plant listed by regulation as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its geographical range. A threatened species is any animal or plant that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its geographical range. Without a special permit, federal law prohibits the “take” of any individuals or habitat of federally listed species. Under Section 9 of the FESA, take is defined as “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct.” The term “harm” has been clarified to include “any act which actually kills or injures fish or wildlife and emphasizes that such acts may include significant habitat modification or degradation that significantly impairs essential behavioral patterns of fish or wildlife.” Enforcement of FESA is administered by the USFWS.

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

Whenever federal agencies authorize, fund, or carry out actions that may adversely modify or destroy Critical Habitat, they must consult with USFWS under Section 7 of the FESA. The designation of Critical Habitat does not affect private landowners, unless a project they are proposing uses federal funds, or requires federal authorization or permits (i.e., funding from the federal Highway Administration or a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE]).

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Pursuant to the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S. Government Code [USC] 703) of 1918, as amended in 1972, federal law prohibits the taking of migratory birds or their nests or eggs (16 USC 703; 50 CFR 10, 21). The statute states:

“Unless and except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill...any migratory bird, any part, nest, or egg of any such bird...included in the terms of the [Migratory Bird] conventions...”

The MBTA covers the taking of any nests or eggs of migratory birds, except as allowed by permit pursuant to 50 CFR, Part 21. Disturbances causing nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort (i.e., killing or abandonment of eggs or young) may also be considered a “take.” This regulation seeks to protect migratory birds and active nests.

In 1972, the MBTA was amended to include protection for migratory birds of prey (e.g., raptors). Six families of raptors occurring in North America were included in the amendment: Accipitridae (kites, hawks, and eagles); Cathartidae (New World vultures); Falconidae (falcons and caracaras); Pandionidae (ospreys); Strigidae (typical owls); and Tytonidae (barn owls). The provisions of the 1972 amendment to the MBTA protects all species and subspecies of the families listed above. The MBTA protects over 800 species including geese, ducks, shorebirds, raptors, songbirds and many relatively common species.

State

California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides for the protection of the environment within the State of California by establishing State policy to prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures for projects. It applies to actions directly undertaken, financed, or permitted by State lead agencies. If a project is determined to be subject to CEQA, the lead agency will be required to conduct an Initial Study (IS); if the IS determines that the project may have significant impacts on the environment, the lead agency will subsequently be required to write an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A finding of non-significant effects will require either a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration instead of an EIR. Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines independently defines “endangered” species as those whose survival and reproduction in the wild are in immediate jeopardy, while “rare” species are defined as those who are in such low numbers that they could become endangered if their environment worsens.

California Endangered Species Act

In addition to federal laws, the State of California has its own California Endangered Species Act (CESA), enforced by the CDFW. The CESA program maintains a separate listing of species beyond the FESA, although the provisions of each act are similar.

State-listed threatened and endangered species are protected under provisions of the CESA. Activities that may result in “take” of individuals (defined in CESA as; “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill”) are regulated by CDFW. Habitat degradation or modification is not included in the definition of “take” under CESA. Nonetheless, CDFW has interpreted “take” to include the

destruction of nesting, denning, or foraging habitat necessary to maintain a viable breeding population of protected species.

The State of California considers an endangered species as one whose prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy. A threatened species is considered as one present in such small numbers throughout its range that it is likely to become an endangered species in the near future in the absence of special protection or management. A candidate species is one that potentially qualifies for listing under CESA, pending a formal review and assessment of available data; these species are afforded all of the same legal protections as if they were already listed. A rare species is one that is considered present in such small numbers throughout its range that it may become endangered if its present environment worsens. State threatened, endangered, and candidate species are fully protected against take, as defined above.

The CDFW has also produced a species of special concern list to serve as a species watch list. Species on this list are either of limited distribution or their habitats have been reduced substantially, such that a threat to their populations may be imminent. Species of special concern may receive special attention during environmental review, but they do not have formal statutory protection. At the federal level, USFWS also uses the label “species of concern” as an informal term that refers to species which might be in need of concentrated conservation actions.

As the species of concern designated by USFWS do not receive formal legal protection, the use of the term does not necessarily ensure that the species will be proposed for listing as a threatened or endangered species.

California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3513)

The CDFW administers the California Fish and Game Code (CFGF). There are particular sections of the CFGF that are applicable to natural resource management. For example, Section 3503 makes it unlawful to destroy any birds’ nest or any birds’ eggs that are protected under the MBTA. Further, any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (Birds of Prey), such as hawks, eagles, and owls, are protected under Section 3503.5 which makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy their nest or eggs. A consultation with CDFW may be required prior to the removal of any bird of prey nest that may occur on a project site. Section 3511 lists fully protected bird species, where the CDFW is unable to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take these species. Pertinent species that are State fully protected include golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*). In addition, Section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the MBTA.

Native Plant Protection Act

Sections 1900–1913 of the CFGF were developed to preserve, protect, and enhance Rare and Endangered plants in the State of California. The act requires all State agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve Endangered and Rare native plants. Provisions of the Native Plant Protection Act prohibit the taking of listed plants from the wild and require notification of the CDFW at least ten days in

advance of any change in land use which would adversely impact listed plants. This allows the CDFW to salvage listed plant species that would otherwise be destroyed.

Regional Policies and Ordinances

Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP)

The proposed utility field parcels occur within the boundaries of the CVMSHCP, but do not coincide with any Conservation Area. Since the proposed project would not result in impacts to a Conservation Area, the Joint Project Review (JPR) process, whereby the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC) and Wildlife Agencies (USFWS and CDFW) review the proposed project to ensure consistency with the CVMSHCP, is not expected. With implementation of pre-construction surveys described in the Conclusions and Recommendations section below, activities proposed on the utility field parcels are not expected to conflict with the CVMSHCP or result in impacts to species covered under the CVMSHCP, such as burrowing owl.

Local Policies and Ordinances

Proposed activities related to the development of water wells on the utility field parcels are not expected to conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

Existing Site Conditions

The proposed utility field parcels are generally flat, ranging in elevation from approximately 75 to 125 feet below mean sea level. A review of the NRCS Web Soil Survey for the proposed utility parcels includes the following:

- Coachella fine sand, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes (CrA)
- Gilman fine sandy loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes (GcA)
- Indio fine sandy loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes (Ir)
- Indio very fine sandy loam, wet (It)
- Water (W) (agricultural pond)

Based on a review of historic aerial imagery, most of the proposed utility field parcels have been utilized for agricultural purposes since at least the 1980s (Google, Inc. 2022). Additional agricultural areas and some residential parcels surround the utility field parcels.

Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

The GLA report identifies the occurrence of two vegetation communities/land cover types within the utility field parcels, including agricultural land uses (approximately 465 acres) across the southern portions and approximately one-half of the northern portion and undeveloped areas consisting of desert sink scrub habitat (approximately 100 acres) across parcels 7, 10, and 13 in the northern portion. A review of current aerial imagery indicates these conditions remain unchanged.

Wildlife

This section provides a general discussion of common wildlife species that are expected to occur based on existing site conditions that predominately consist of agricultural uses.

Fish

Although a constructed agricultural pond occurs in the northeast corner of Parcel 15, no perennial creeks, ponds, lakes, or reservoirs that would support populations of fish occur within the utility field parcels. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur.

Amphibians

Hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., perennial creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) that could provide suitable breeding habitat for amphibians are absent from the utility field parcels and amphibians are generally not expected to occur.

Reptiles

The project site is expected to provide habitat for reptilian species that are acclimated to edge or urban environments. Common reptilian species that may be present within the project site include western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*), red racer (*Coluber flagellum piceus*), and Mohave desert sidewinder (*Crotalus cerastes cerastes*).

Birds

A potentially large variety of avian species could occur within the utility field parcels, including both year-round residents, seasonal residents, and transient migrants, but this is largely determined by on-site habitat. Examples of avian species that may occur include killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), Say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) a State Species of Special Concern (SSC), American pipit (*Anthus rubescens*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), Eurasian collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*).

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the MBTA and the CFGC². To maintain compliance with the MBTA and CFGC, clearance surveys are typically required prior to any ground disturbance or vegetation removal activities to avoid direct or indirect impacts to active bird nests and/or nesting birds. Consequently, if an active bird nest is destroyed or if project activities result in indirect impacts (e.g., nest abandonment, loss

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

of reproductive effort) to nesting birds, it is considered “take” and is potentially punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

Mammals

The project site provides marginal habitat for a limited number of mammalian species adapted to living in edge or urban environments. Common mammalian species that have the potential to occur within the project site include California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), racoon (*Procyon lotor*), domestic dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Additionally, bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), with den and kittens, have been documented at PGA West Greg Norman Gold Course just west of the northern portion of the utility field parcels.

Bat species may forage throughout the utility field parcels, especially in areas where insects may naturally accumulate over agricultural fields. Suitable bat roosting habitat may also occur within the utility field parcels where hollow tree trunks/limbs, trees with particularly dense foliage, bridges, or buildings occur. Additionally, rock outcrops and deep rock crevices more suitable for bat roosting are likely present in the surrounding mountain landscape west of the utility field parcels.

Migratory Corridors and Linkages

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

Residential and active agricultural uses generally surround the utility field parcels. Some remnant patches of native desert scrub habitat are also present. Wildlife movement, especially by Peninsular bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*), may occur across mountainous areas and alluvial fans west of the utility field parcels. Areas to the east, south, and north of the utility field parcels primarily consist of agricultural and residential uses, and any wildlife currently utilizing the utility field parcels and adjacent areas for dispersal and movement are likely adapted to disturbances associated with such land uses. Activities associated with the installation of water wells and electric power substation within the proposed parcels are not expected to significantly impede wildlife movement through the area, as these sites do not coincide with or function as a significant wildlife movement corridor. Undisturbed alluvial fans and mountainous areas to the west would continue to provide opportunities for local wildlife movement and function as a corridor for highly mobile wildlife species.

Special-Status Biological Resources

The CNDDB (CDFW 2022a) and IRP (CNPS 2022) were queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species and sensitive natural vegetation communities occurring in the USGS *Martinez*

Mountain, La Quinta, Valerie, and Indio 7.5-minute quadrangles. Additionally, a review of IPaC (USFWS 2022a) for the project area was completed to identify federally-listed plant and wildlife species known from the project region. The results of these database reviews are provided in Attachment C. Twenty-nine (29) special-status plant species, twenty-eight (28) special-status wildlife species, and one sensitive vegetation community were identified. Information on each species' special-status ranking and preferred habitats are provided in Attachment D. The potential for these species to occur within the utility field parcels generally cannot be determined without a recent biological survey of the area. As a result, this section provides only a preliminary discussion of those special-status species that may have the potential to occur within or adjacent to the utility field parcels, but a more detailed discussion of the potential for additional special-status species to occur would require a contemporary field survey(s) across all parcels to properly characterize on-site habitat.

Special-Status Plants

A total of twenty-three (29) special-status plant species were identified during the database review (see Attachments C and D), including two federal and/or State-listed species: Coachella Valley milk-vetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *coachellae*) and triple-ribbed milk-vetch (*Astragalus tricarinatus*). No records of special-status plant species in the CNDDDB coincide with the utility field parcels. The nearest record of such species is of Lancaster milk-vetch (*Astragalus preussii* var. *laxiflorus*), a non-listed special-status species with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1B.1, documented approximately 0.5 mile west of the utility field parcels in 1928. Most other records of special-status plant species identified during the database review are from five plus miles away from the utility field parcels and/or are over 40 years old (some over 100 years old) and are likely extirpated due to the development of the surrounding region. As a result, special-status plant species are not expected within the utility field parcels.

Special-Status Wildlife

A total of twenty-eight (28) special-status wildlife species were identified during the database reviews (see Attachments C and D), including nine federal and/or State-listed species: desert slender salamander (*Batrachoseps major aridus*), desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*), Casey's June beetle (*Dinacoma caseyi*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), Peninsular bighorn sheep, Yuma Ridgeway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus* [= *longirostris*] *yumanensis*), Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (*Uma inornate*), and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). A record of Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard from 1975 coincides with the northern-most parcels. Other records of this species from the same time period occur within close proximity of the utility parcels. However, due to the age of these records and lack of habitats preferred by this species (see Attachment D for habitat preferences), it is not anticipated to occur within the utility field parcels. Other special-status wildlife species identified during the database review are generally not expected to occur within the utility field parcels; however, on-site conditions may be suitable for burrowing owl and other non-listed special-status bird species, as well as common bird species protected under the MBTA and CFGC.

Sensitive Natural Vegetation Communities

One sensitive natural vegetation community, Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland, was identified from the review of the CNDDDB. Based on a review of the GLA report and aerial imagery, this community does not occur within the utility field parcels. Parcels consists of agricultural land uses and some areas of desert sink scrub habitat and no sensitive natural vegetation communities are expected.

Aquatic Features

Two aquatic features were identified during a desktop review of the utility field parcels for the presence of potential federal and/or State-jurisdictional features by Michael Baker (2021). This review indicated that an agricultural pond occurs in the northeast corner of the northern portion and based on historical aerial imagery, appears to have been constructed sometime between June 2009 and June 2011. A second feature was also identified, consisting of a potential wetland occurring across four contiguous parcels in the southeast portion. This feature has been mapped as PEM1Fx (palustrine, emergent, persistent, semi-permanently flooded, excavated) Freshwater Emergent Wetland by the USFWS in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Mapper (USFWS 2022c). Recurring ponding/flooding and vegetation are visible within this feature in aerial imagery.

Based on the analysis provided by Michael Baker (2021), these features potentially fall under regulatory jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board and/or CDFW pursuant to the State Porter-Cologne Act and the CFGC, respectively. However, these features do not appear to have a connection to interstate commerce via Relatively Permanent Waters (RPW) or Traditional Navigable Waters (TNW), and as a result, are not anticipated to be jurisdictional to the US Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act.

Critical Habitat

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

Based on a review of the USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper (USFWS 2022b), the utility field parcels do not coincide with USFWS-designated Critical Habitat for any federally listed species

Conclusions and Recommendations

All findings of this report as described above and summarized in this section should be considered preliminary and are based on a review of limited data available from previous studies and online databases. No field surveys were conducted specifically in support of this report. This section summarizes the primary findings of this report and provides general recommendations and guidance for future proposed activities within the proposed utility field parcels.

Special-status plant species identified during the literature review are generally not expected to occur within the utility field parcels. As a result, focused plant surveys are not expected to be necessary; however, a general field survey would confirm the potential presence of such species and any habitat potentially suitable for such species.

Special-status wildlife species were observed during surveys conducted by Michael Baker of the Travertine Land Development Project site in 2022, located just west of the utility parcels (Michael Baker 2022). Black-tailed gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila melanura*; CDFW Watch List [WL] species), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*; CDFW Species of Special Concern [SSC]), long-eared owl (*Asio otus*; CDFW SSC), and osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*; CDFW WL species) were detected. Based on the database review, these species as well as burrowing owl (CDFW SSC and CVMSHCP covered species) may have some potential to occur within the utility field parcels. However, federal and/or State-listed species are not expected within the utility field parcels based on existing site conditions and a review of specific habitat requirements (see Attachment D), occurrence records, and known distributions of these species. Take of any wildlife species that are protected under FESA, CESA, and/or are designated as SSC or Fully Protected species in California would potentially qualify for significant impacts during CEQA analyses. Species that are protected under FESA and/or CESA would also require consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 or Section 10 of FESA and/or an Incidental Take Permit from the CDFW under Section 2081 of CESA.

Based on these conclusions, Michael Baker anticipates and recommends the following:

- A general biological field survey to document existing conditions and the suitability of habitats within the utility field parcels to support special-status wildlife species such as burrowing owl, which could potentially occur on-site.
- In areas of suitable habitat, focused surveys for burrowing owl may be required in support of a CEQA analysis.
- Regardless of focused survey findings, if suitable habitat for burrowing owl is present, two (2) separate preconstruction surveys are required prior to any ground disturbance, one no less than 14 days prior to disturbance, and the other within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance.
- Should take of burrowing owl be expected, a relocation plan and extensive coordination to move animals offsite can be expected.
- Preconstruction surveys for nesting birds would be required during the nesting season (generally February 15 through August 31 and as early as January for raptors) prior to any project activities. Such surveys are typically conducted within three (3) days of the initiation of project activities and

include suitable nesting habitat within a 500-foot buffer around the project boundary. Implementation of pre-construction surveys and subsequent nest monitoring, if needed, would reduce potential impacts to non-listed special-status birds in the unlikely event they occur within the utility field parcels, as well as common bird species protected under the MBTA and CFGC.

As described above, aquatic features potentially falling under State jurisdiction are present within the utility field parcels (Michael Baker 2021). As part of the CEQA analysis of any proposed development within the utility parcels, a regulatory specialist should be consulted to determine if a jurisdictional delineation is necessary. If so, a jurisdictional delineation should be conducted to determine the potential regulatory status of these features should it be determined that they may be impacted by installation of water wells or the electric power substation. Impacts to jurisdictional features may require regulatory permits from the USACE, RWQCB, and/or the CDFW as applicable.

In order to develop a clearer understanding of on-site biological resources occurring within the utility field parcels, impacts that could occur within these parcels, and future mitigation and/or permitting that may be required, it is recommended that a general field survey of biological resources, followed by a detailed biological resources assessment be conducted. Such surveys would also inform the need for focused species surveys, such as for burrowing owl.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (949) 379-0383 or Arthur.Popp@mbakerintl.com should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



John Parent
Biologist



Arthur Popp
Natural Resources Technical Manager

Attachments:

- A. *References*
- B. *Project Figures*
- C. *Literature Review Results*
- D. *Special-Status Species and Sensitive Communities*

Attachment A

References

Calflora. 2022. Information on California plants for education, research and conservation. [web application]. Berkeley, California: The Calflora Database [a non-profit organization]. Accessed online at: <https://www.calflora.org/>.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2022a. California Natural Diversity Data Base RareFind 5. Data base report on threatened, endangered, rare or otherwise sensitive species and communities for the *Indio, La Quinta, Martinez Mtn, Valerie, California* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles.

CDFW. 2022b. *Special Animals List*. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA. July.

CDFW. 2022c. *State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California*. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA. July.

CDFW. 2022d. *Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List*. Quarterly publication. 140 pp. July.

CDFW. 2022e. *State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California*. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Sacramento, CA. July.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) 2022. Inventory of Rare Plants (online edition, v9-01 1.5). Accessed online at: <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/>.

Glen Lukos and Associates (GLA). 2022. Biological Technical Report for the Travertine Development Project Located in the City of La Quinta Riverside County, California, January 7.

Google, Inc. 2022. Google Earth Pro Historical Aerial Imagery Version 7.3.8.8248. Build date 07/16/2021. Aerial Imagery dated 1985 through 2022.

Michael Baker International (Michael Baker). 2021. *Addendum to the Delineation of State and Federal Jurisdictional Waters dated June 2021 for the Travertine Project – City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California*.

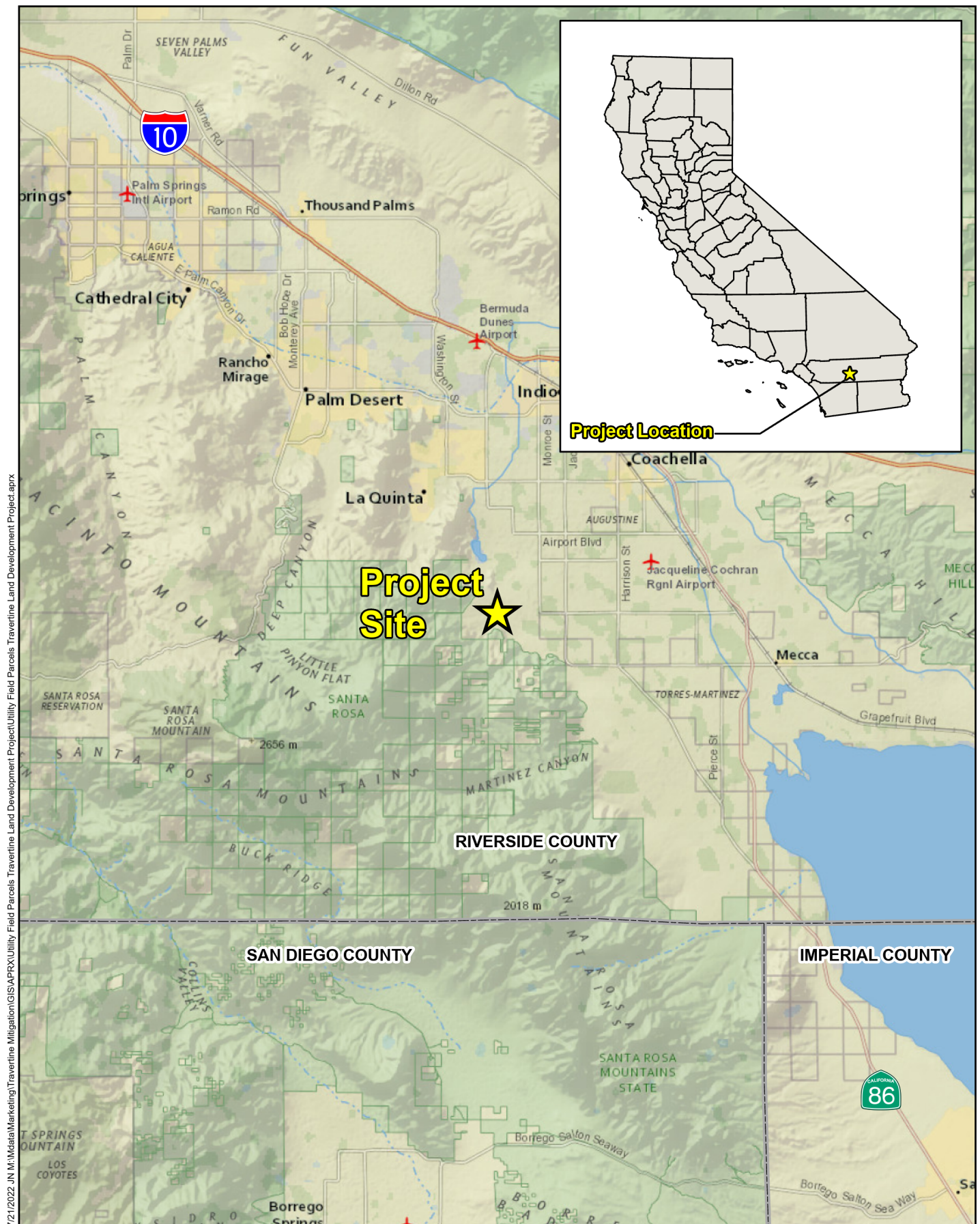
Michael Baker. 2022. *Travertine Project. City of La Quinta, County of Riverside, California. Biological Resources Assessment*. March 2022.

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2022a. Information for Planning and Consultation Project Planning Tool. Accessed online at: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>.

USFWS. 2022b. Critical Habitat Mapper for Threatened and Endangered Species. Accessed online at: <https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe09893cf75b8dbfb77>

Attachment B

Project Figures

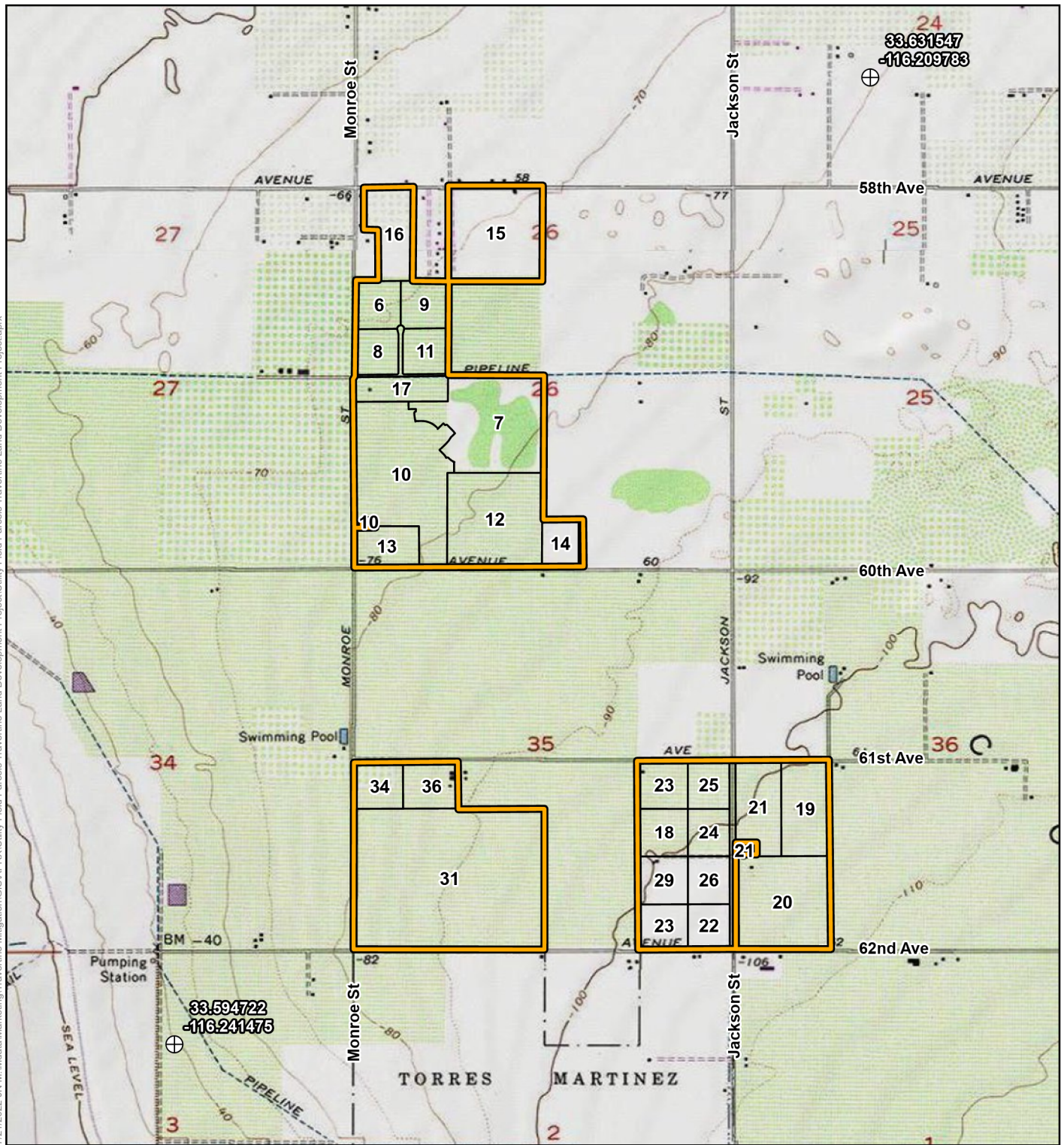
UTILITY FIELD PARCELS, TRAVERTINE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DUE DILIGENCE ASSESSMENT

Regional Vicinity






Source: ArcGIS Online, 2018

7/21/2022 JN M:\Data\Marketing\Travertine Mitigation\GIS\APRX\Utility Field Parcels Travertine Land Development Project.aprx



Legend

-  Utility Field Parcel Boundaries
-  Interior Parcel Boundaries
-  Reference Point

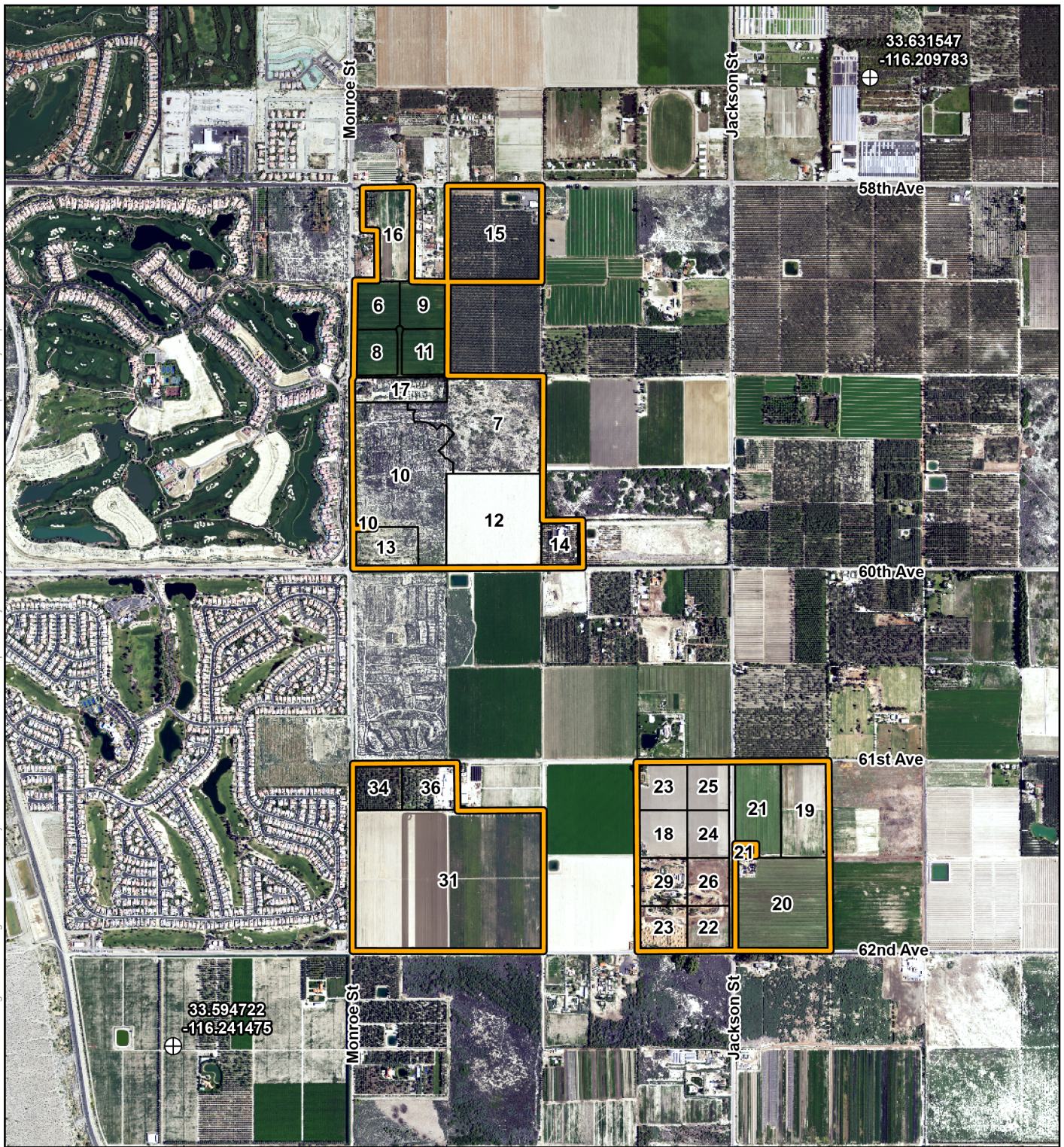
UTILITY FIELD PARCELS, TRAVERTINE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DUE DILIGENCE ASSESSMENT

Project Location Map over topo




Figure 2



7/21/2022 JN M:\Data\Marketing\Travertine Mitigation\GIS\APRX\Utility Field Parcels Travertine Land Development Project.aprx



Legend

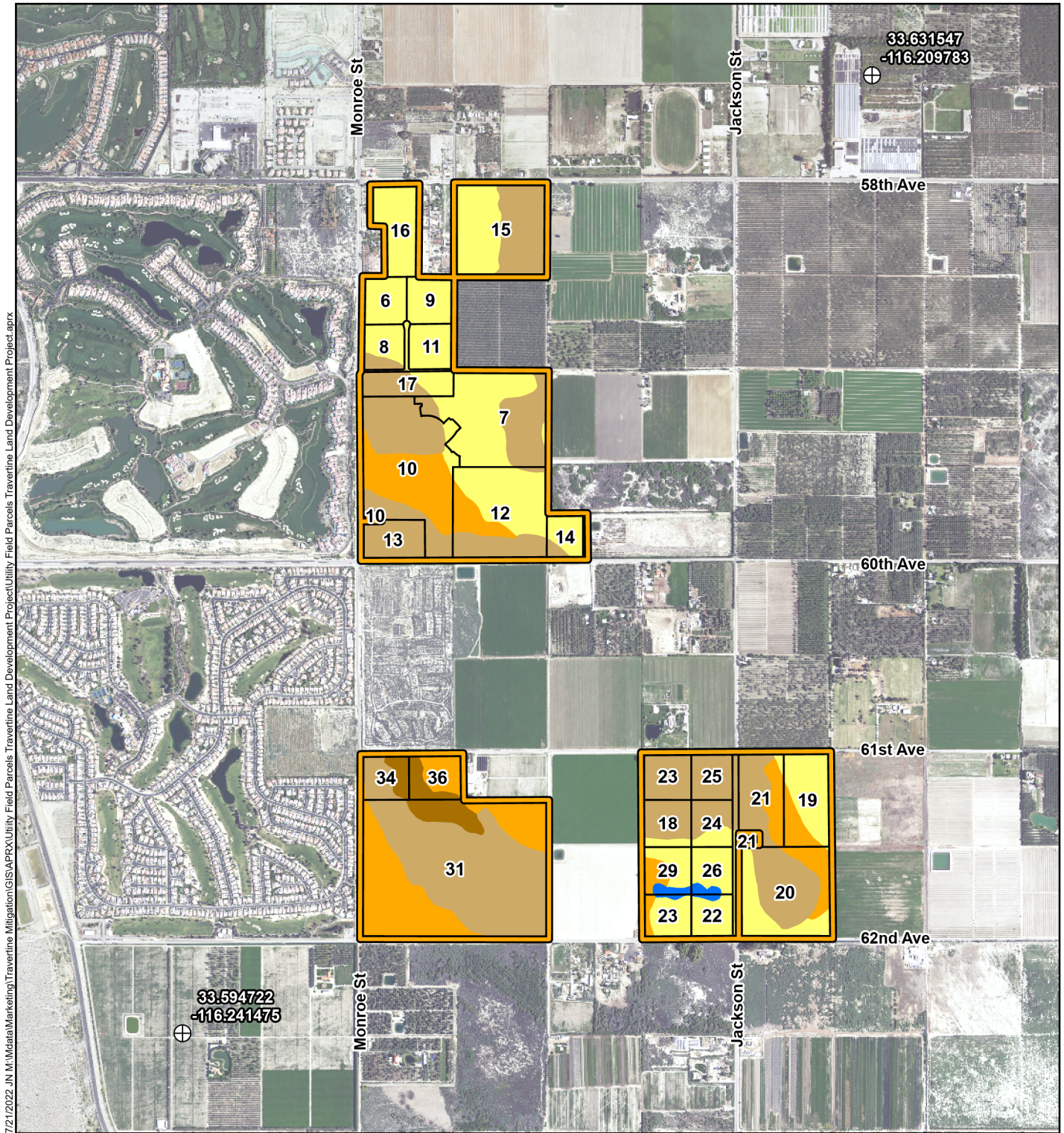
-  Utility Field Parcel Boundaries
-  Interior Parcel Boundaries
-  Reference Point

UTILITY FIELD PARCELS, TRAVERTINE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DUE DILIGENCE ASSESSMENT

Project Location Map over aerial

Figure 3





Legend



Utility Field Parcel Boundaries



Interior Parcel Boundaries



Reference Point



CrA - Coachella fine sand, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes



GcA - Gilman fine sandy loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes



Ir - Indio fine sandy loam, wet



It - Indio very fine sandy loam, wet



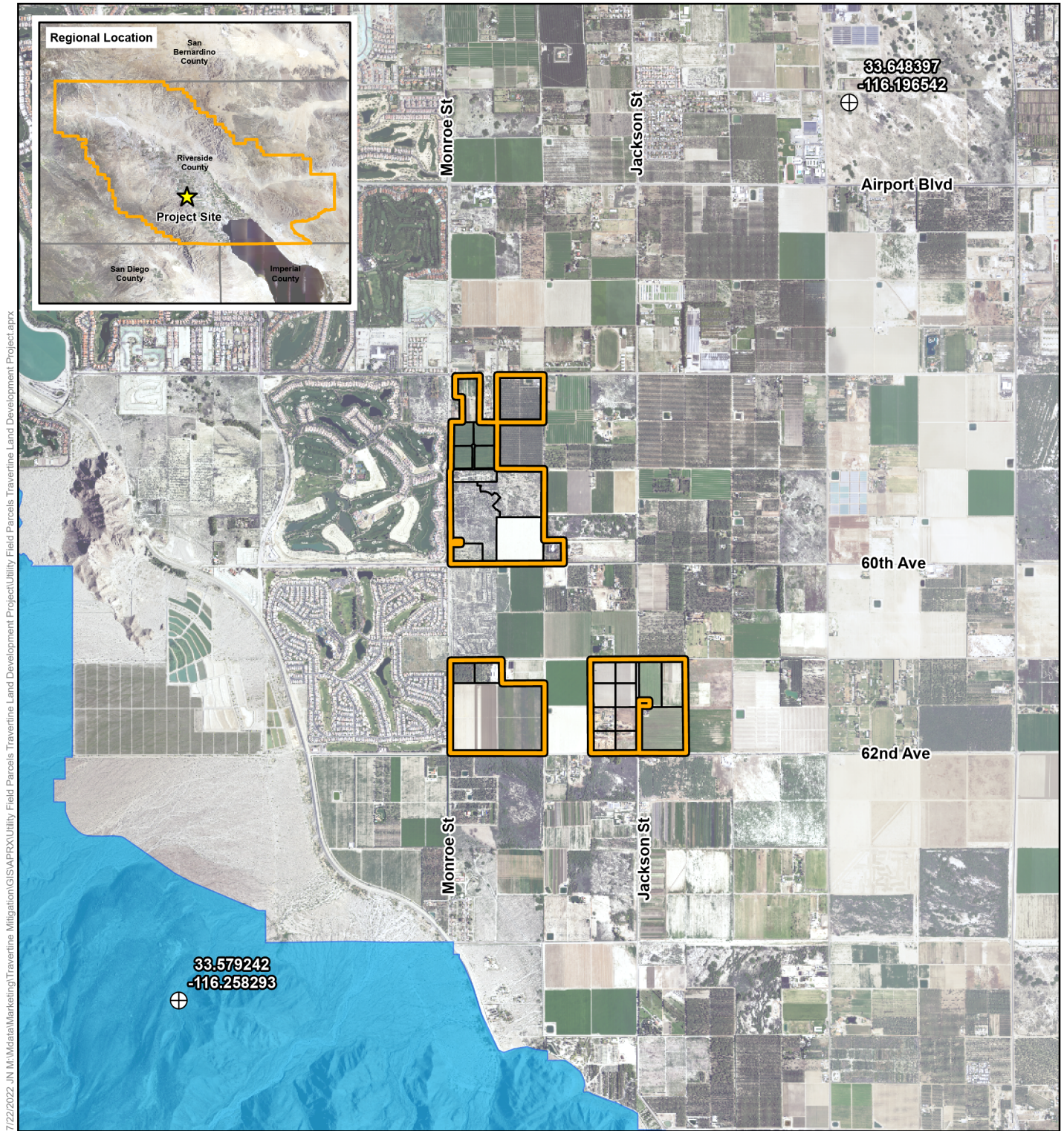
W - Water

UTILITY FIELD PARCELS, TRAVERTINE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DUE DILIGENCE ASSESSMENT


Soils Map

Figure 4





Legend

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Utility Field Parcel Boundaries |  Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Conservation Area |
|  Interior Parcel Boundaries |  Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Boundary |
|  Reference Point | |



Attachment C

Literature Review Results



Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad> IS >(Indio (3311662)> OR >Martinez Mtn. (3311653)> OR >Valerie (3311652)> OR >La Quinta (3311663))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> chaparral sand-verbena	PDNYC010P1	None	None	G5T2?	S2	1B.1
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>coachellae</i> Coachella Valley milk-vetch	PDFAB0FB97	Endangered	None	G5T1	S1	1B.2
<i>Astragalus preussii</i> var. <i>laxiflorus</i> Lancaster milk-vetch	PDFAB0F721	None	None	G4T2	S1	1B.1
<i>Astragalus sabulonum</i> gravel milk-vetch	PDFAB0F7R0	None	None	G4G5	S2	2B.2
<i>Astragalus tricarinatus</i> triple-ribbed milk-vetch	PDFAB0F920	Endangered	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Ayenia compacta</i> California ayenia	PDSTE01020	None	None	G4	S3	2B.3
<i>Batrachoseps major aridus</i> desert slender salamander	AAAAD02042	Endangered	Endangered	G4T1	S1	
<i>Bursera microphylla</i> little-leaf elephant tree	PDBUR01020	None	None	G4	S2	2B.3
<i>Buteo regalis</i> ferruginous hawk	ABNKC19120	None	None	G4	S3S4	WL
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse	AMAFD05032	None	None	G5T3T4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake	ARADE02090	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i> desert pupfish	AFCNB02060	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	
<i>Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland</i> Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland	CTT62300CA	None	None	G3	S3.2	
<i>Dinacoma caseyi</i> Casey's June beetle	IICOLX5010	Endangered	None	G1	S1	
<i>Ditaxis claryana</i> glandular ditaxis	PDEUP080L0	None	None	G3G4	S2	2B.2
<i>Ditaxis serrata</i> var. <i>californica</i> California ditaxis	PDEUP08050	None	None	G5T3T4	S2?	3.2
<i>Eriastrum harwoodii</i> Harwood's eriastrum	PDPLM030B1	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	AMACD02011	None	None	G4G5T4	S3S4	SSC



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Euparagia unidentata</i> Algodones euparagia	IIHYMBC010	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	ABNKD06090	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Funastrum crispum</i> wavyleaf twinvine	PDASC0F020	None	None	G4	S1	2B.2
<i>Jaffueliobryum raui</i> Rau's jaffueliobryum moss	NBMUS97010	None	None	G4	S2	2B.3
<i>Juniperella mirabilis</i> juniper metallic wood-boring beetle	IICOLX9010	None	None	G1	S1	
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	AMACC05070	None	None	G4G5	S3	SSC
<i>Leptosiphon floribundus ssp. hallii</i> Santa Rosa Mountains leptosiphon	PDPLM090J3	None	None	G4T1T2	S1S2	1B.3
<i>Macrobaenetes valgum</i> Coachella giant sand treader cricket	IIORT22020	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<i>Marina orcuttii var. orcuttii</i> California marina	PDFAB2F031	None	None	G2G3T1T2	S2?	1B.3
<i>Matelea parvifolia</i> spear-leaf matelea	PDASC0A0J0	None	None	G5	S3	2B.3
<i>Nemacaulis denudata var. gracilis</i> slender cottonheads	PDPGN0G012	None	None	G3G4T3?	S2	2B.2
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> pocketed free-tailed bat	AMACD04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Oliarces clara</i> cheeseweed owlfly (cheeseweed moth lacewing)	IINEU04010	None	None	G1G3	S2	
<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni pop. 2</i> Peninsular bighorn sheep DPS	AMALE04012	Endangered	Threatened	G4T3Q	S2	FP
<i>Perognathus longimembris bangsi</i> Palm Springs pocket mouse	AMAFD01043	None	None	G5T2	S1	SSC
<i>Phaseolus filiformis</i> slender-stem bean	PDFAB330P0	None	None	G5	S1	2B.1
<i>Phrynosoma mcallii</i> flat-tailed horned lizard	ARACF12040	None	None	G3	S2	SSC
<i>Poliophtila melanura</i> black-tailed gnatcatcher	ABPBJ08030	None	None	G5	S3S4	WL
<i>Pseudorontium cyathiferum</i> Deep Canyon snapdragon	PDSCR2R010	None	None	G4G5	S1	2B.3
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> vermillion flycatcher	ABPAE36010	None	None	G5	S2S3	SSC
<i>Selaginella eremophila</i> desert spike-moss	PPSEL010G0	None	None	G4	S2S3	2B.2



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Senna covesii</i> Cove's cassia	PDFAB491X0	None	None	G5	S3	2B.2
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i> purple stemodia	PDSCR1U010	None	None	G5	S2	2B.1
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Toxostoma crissale</i> Crissal thrasher	ABPBK06090	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i> Le Conte's thrasher	ABPBK06100	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Uma inornata</i> Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard	ARACF15010	Threatened	Endangered	G1Q	S1	
<i>Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus</i> Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel	AMAFB05161	None	None	G5T2Q	S2	SSC

Record Count: 47

California Native Plant Society - Rare Plant Inventory

Quad Search: La Quinta, Valerie, Martinez Mountain, and Indio

Scientific Name	Common Name	California Rare Plant Rank	Listing Under CESA	Listing Under FESA
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i>	chaparral sand-verbena	1B.1	None	None
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>borreganus</i>	Borrego milk-vetch	4.3	None	None
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>coachellae</i>	Coachella Valley milk-vetch	1B.2	None	Endangered
<i>Astragalus preussii</i> var. <i>laxiflorus</i>	Lancaster milk-vetch	1B.1	None	None
<i>Astragalus sabulonum</i>	gravel milk-vetch	2B.2	None	None
<i>Astragalus tricarlinatus</i>	triple-ribbed milk-vetch	1B.2	None	Endangered
<i>Ayenia compacta</i>	California ayenia	2B.3	None	None
<i>Bursera microphylla</i>	little-leaf elephant tree	2B.3	None	None
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i>	Peninsular spineflower	4.2	None	None
<i>Ditaxis claryana</i>	glandular ditaxis	2B.2	None	None
<i>Ditaxis serrata</i> var. <i>californica</i>	California ditaxis	3.2	None	None
<i>Eriastrum harwoodii</i>	Harwood's eriastrum	1B.2	None	None
<i>Funistrum crispum</i>	wavyleaf twinvine	2B.2	None	None
<i>Horsfordia alata</i>	pink velvet-mallow	4.3	None	None
<i>Horsfordia newberryi</i>	Newberry's velvet-mallow	4.3	None	None
<i>Jaffueliobryum raii</i>	Rau's jaffueliobryum moss	2B.3	None	None
<i>Johnstonella costata</i>	ribbed cryptantha	4.3	None	None
<i>Johnstonella holoptera</i>	winged cryptantha	4.3	None	None
<i>Juncus acutus</i> ssp. <i>leopoldii</i>	southwestern spiny rush	4.2	None	None
<i>Leptosiphon floribundus</i> ssp. <i>hallii</i>	Santa Rosa Mountains leptosiphon	1B.3	None	None
<i>Marina orcuttii</i> var. <i>orcuttii</i>	California marina	1B.3	None	None
<i>Matelea parvifolia</i>	spear-leaf matelea	2B.3	None	None
<i>Mirabilis tenuiloba</i>	slender-lobed four o'clock	4.3	None	None
<i>Nemacaulis denudata</i> var. <i>gracilis</i>	slender cottonheads	2B.2	None	None
<i>Phaseolus filiformis</i>	slender-stem bean	2B.1	None	None
<i>Pseudorontium cyathiferum</i>	Deep Canyon snapdragon	2B.3	None	None
<i>Selaginella eremophila</i>	desert spike-moss	2B.2	None	None
<i>Senna covesii</i>	Cove's cassia	2B.2	None	None
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i>	purple stemodia	2B.1	None	None

California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2022. Rare Plant Inventory (online edition, v9-01 1.5).
Website <https://www.rareplants.cnps.org> [accessed 19 July 2022].

IPaC resource list

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

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

Location

Riverside County, California



Local office

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (760) 431-9440

📠 (760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

Endangered species

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

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

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

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

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

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

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

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Peninsular Bighorn Sheep <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4970	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Least Bell's Vireo <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945	Endangered
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749	Endangered

Yuma Ridgway's Rail *Rallus obsoletus yumanensis*

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3505>

Reptiles

NAME

STATUS

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard *Uma inornata*

Threatened

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2069>

Desert Tortoise *Gopherus agassizii*

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4481>

Insects

NAME

STATUS

Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

Candidate

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743>

Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Coachella Valley Milk-vetch *Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *coachellae*

Endangered

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7426>

Critical habitats

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

This location overlaps the critical habitat for the following species:

NAME	TYPE
Peninsular Bighorn Sheep <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4970#crithab	Final

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

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

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

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

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

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

Costa's Hummingbird *Calypte costae*

Breeds Jan 15 to Jun 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9470>

Probability of Presence Summary

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

Probability of Presence (■)

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

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

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

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

Breeding Season (■)

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

Survey Effort (I)

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

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

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

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

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

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

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

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

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

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

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

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

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

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

Coastal Barrier Resources System

Projects within the [John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System](#) (CBRS) may be subject to the restrictions on federal expenditures and financial assistance and the consultation requirements of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). For more information, please contact the local [Ecological Services Field Office](#) or visit the [CBRA Consultations website](#). The CBRA website provides tools such as a flow chart to help determine whether consultation is required and a template to facilitate the consultation process.

THERE ARE NO KNOWN COASTAL BARRIERS AT THIS LOCATION.

Data limitations

The CBRS boundaries used in IPaC are representations of the controlling boundaries, which are depicted on the [official CBRS maps](#). The boundaries depicted in this layer are not to be considered authoritative for in/out determinations close to a CBRS boundary (i.e., within the "CBRS Buffer Zone" that appears as a hatched area on either side of the boundary). For projects that are very close to a CBRS boundary but do not clearly intersect a unit, you may contact the Service for an official determination by following the instructions here: <https://www.fws.gov/service/coastal-barrier-resources-system-property-documentation>

Data exclusions

CBRS units extend seaward out to either the 20- or 30-foot bathymetric contour (depending on the location of the unit). The true seaward extent of the units is not shown in the CBRS data, therefore projects in the offshore areas of units (e.g., dredging, breakwaters, offshore wind energy or oil and gas projects) may be subject to CBRA even if they do not intersect the CBRS data. For additional information, please contact CBRA@fws.gov.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

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

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

[Palustrine](#)

RIVERINE

[Riverine](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

Data limitations

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

result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

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

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

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

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

Attachment D

Special-Status Species and Sensitive Vegetation Communities Identified During the Database Review

Scientific Name Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES				
<i>Abronia villosa</i> <i>var. aurita</i> chaparral sand- verbena	1B.1 G5T2? S2	No	Annual herb. Occurs on sandy soils within chaparral, coastal scrub, and desert dunes. Grows in elevations ranging from 245 to 5,250 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Blooming period is (January) March through September.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus var. borreganus</i> Borrego milk- vetch	4.3 G5T5? S4	No	Annual herb. Grows on sandy soils within Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Grows in elevations ranging from 100 to 2,935 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Astragalus lentiginosus var. coachellae</i> Coachella Valley milk-vetch	FE 1B.2 G5T1 S1	Yes	Annual/perennial herb. Occurs on dunes and sandy flats along disturbed margins of sandy washes and on sandy soils along roadsides adjacent to existing sand dunes. May also occur on sandy substrates in creosote bush scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 130 to 2,150 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Astragalus preussii var. laxiflorus</i> Lancaster milk- vetch	1B.1 G4T2 S1	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on alkaline clay soils in flat, gravelly or sandy washes in chenopod scrub. Found at elevations ranging at or around 2,295 feet amsl. Blooming period is March through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species and there are no occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Astragalus sabulorum</i> gravel milk-vetch	2B.2 G4G5 S2	No	Annual/perennial herb. Associated with sandy, sometimes gravelly flats, washes, and roadsides. Habitats include desert dunes, Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran Desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from -195 to 3,050 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through June.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species and there are no occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Astragalus tricarinatus</i> triple-ribbed milk- vetch	FE 1B.2 G2 S2	Yes	Perennial herb. Found on sandy or gravelly soils within Joshua tree woodland and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 1,475 to 3,905 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species.
<i>Ayenia compacta</i> California ayenia	2B.3 G4 S3	No	Perennial herb. Grows on rocky canyon bottoms within Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 490 to 3,595 feet amsl. Blooming period is from March to April.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Bursera microphylla</i> little-leaf elephant tree	2B.3 G4 S2	No	Perennial deciduous tree. Occurs in rocky environments found in Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 655 to 2,295 feet amsl. Blooming period is June through July.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i> Peninsular spineflower	4.2 G3 S3	No	Annual herb. Occurs on granitic soils in chaparral, coastal scrub, and lower montane coniferous forest habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 985 to 6,235 feet amsl. Blooming period is May through August.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Ditaxis claryana</i> glandular ditaxis	2B.2 G3G4 S2	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on sandy soils in dry washes and on rocky hillsides in Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 1,525 feet amsl. Blooming period is October to March.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Ditaxis serrata</i> <i>var. californica</i> California ditaxis	3.2 G5T3T4 S2?	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on sandy washes and alluvial fans of the foothills and lower desert slopes in Sonoran Desert scrub habitat at elevations ranging from 100 to 3,280 feet amsl. Blooming period is March through December.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Eriastrum harwoodii</i> Harwood's eriastrum	1B.2 G2 S2	No	Annual herb. Found in desert dune habitats. Occurs at elevations ranging from 410 to 3,000 feet amsl. Blooming period is from March to June.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Funastrum crispum</i> wavyleaf twinvine	2B.2 G4 S1	No	Perennial herb. Grows within chaparral and pinyon and juniper woodland. Found at elevations ranging from 3,820 to 6,035 feet amsl. Blooming period is May through August.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Horsfordia alata</i> pink velvet-mallow	4.3 G5 S4	No	Perennial shrub. Grows on rocky soils within Sonoran Desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 330 to 1,640 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through December.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Horsfordia newberryi</i> Newberry's velvet-mallow	4.3 G5 S4	No	Perennial shrub. Grows on rocky soils within Sonoran Desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 10 to 2,625 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through December.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Jaffueliobryum raui</i> Rau's jaffueliobryum moss	2B.3 G4 S2	No	Moss. Occurs on carbonate dry, openings, and rock crevices within alpine dwarf scrub, chaparral, Mojavean Desert scrub, and Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations found from 1,610 to 6,890 feet amsl.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Johnstonella costata</i> ribbed cryptantha	4.3 G4G5 S4	No	Annual herb. Grows on sandy soils within desert dunes in Mojavean Desert scrub, and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from -195 to 1,640 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Johnstonella holoptera</i> winged cryptantha	4.3 G4G5 S4	No	Annual herb. Found in Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Grows in elevations ranging from 330 to 5,545 feet amsl. Blooming period is March through April.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Juncus acutus ssp. leopoldii</i> southwestern spiny rush	4.2 G5T5 S4	No	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Occurs within coastal dunes (mesic), meadows and seeps (alkaline seeps), and marshes and swamps (coastal salt). Found at elevations ranging from 10 to 2,955 feet amsl. Blooming period is (March) May through June.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Leptosiphon floribundus ssp. hallii</i> Santa Rosa Mountains leptosiphon	1B.3 G4T1T2 S1S2	No	Perennial herb. Occurs within pinyon and juniper woodland and Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 3,280 to 6,560 feet amsl. Blooming period is May through July (November).	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Marina orcuttii var. orcuttii</i> California marina	1B.3 G2G3T1T2 S2?	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on rocky soils within chaparral, pinyon and juniper woodland, and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 3,445 to 3,805 feet amsl. Blooming period is May through October.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Matelea parvifolia</i> spear-leaf matelea	2B.3 G5 S3	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on rocky soils within Mojavean desert scrub and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 1,445 to 3,595 feet amsl. Blooming period is March through May (July).	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Mirabilis tenuiloba</i> slender-lobed four o'clock	4.3 G5 S4	No	Perennial herb. Occurs within Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 755 to 3,595 feet amsl. Blooming period is (February) March through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Nemacaulis denudata</i> var. <i>gracilis</i> slender cottonheads	2B.2 G3G4T3? S2	No	Annual herb. Occurs in coastal dunes, desert dunes, and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats. Found at elevations ranging from -165 to 1,310 feet amsl. Blooming period is (March) April through May.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Phaseolus filiformis</i> slender-stem bean	2B.1 G5 S1	No	Annual herb. Occurs within Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from at or around 410 feet amsl. Blooms during the month of April.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Pseudorontium cyathiferum</i> Deep Canyon snapdragon	2B.3 G4G5 S1	No	Annual herb. Grows on rocky soils within Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 2,625 feet amsl. Blooming period is February through April.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Selaginella eremophila</i> desert spike-moss	2B.2 S2S3 G4	No	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Found in chaparral and Sonoran Desert scrub habitats on gravelly or rocky soils. Found at elevations ranging from 655 to 4,250 feet amsl. Blooming month is (May) June (July).	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Senna covesii</i> Cove's cassia	2B.2 G5 S3	No	Perennial herb. Found on dry, sandy desert washes and slopes within Sonoran Desert scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 740 to 4,250 feet amsl. Blooming period is from March to June (August).	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i> purple stemodia	2B.1 G5 S2	No	Perennial herb. Occurs on sandy soils and mesic sites within Sonoran Desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 591 to 984 feet amsl. Blooming period is from (January) April to December.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels are located outside of the known elevation range for this species and do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES				
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	SSC G4 S3	Yes	Yearlong resident of California. Primarily a grassland species, but it persists and even thrives in some landscapes highly altered by human activity. Occurs in open, annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Also known to occur in along flood control channels, disturbed lots, and other lands devoid of vegetation. The overriding characteristics of suitable habitat appear to be the presence of suitable burrows for roosting and nesting in areas with relatively short vegetation with only sparse shrubs and limited taller vegetation.	Low: The utility field parcels may provide potentially suitable habitat for this species; however, no records of this species from the past 50 years occurs within 5 miles of the utility parcel sites.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Batrachoseps major aridus</i> desert slender salamander	FE SE G4T1 S1	No	Known only from Hidden Palm Canyon (2,800 feet amsl) and Guadalupe Creek on the eastern slope of the Santa Rosa Mountains in Riverside County. Inhabits year-round seeps and moist cliffs with limestone sheets, rocks, and talus, shaded by California fan palms and willow trees.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Buteo regalis</i> ferruginous hawk	WL G4 S3S4	No	Common winter resident of grassland habitats and agricultural areas in southwestern California. Frequents open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills surrounding valleys, and fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats. This species does not breed in California.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species. Additionally, this species does not nest in California and only occurs during the winter.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse	SSC G5T3T4 S3S4	No	Common resident of sandy herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel in southwestern California. Occurs mainly in arid coastal and desert border areas in eastern San Diego County. Habitats include coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, sagebrush, desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, pinyon-juniper, and annual grassland.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species and no records of this species exist within 5 miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake	SSC G4 S3	No	Found in southwestern California, from the Morongo Valley west to the coast and south along the peninsular ranges to mid Baja California. It can be found from the desert, through dense chaparral in the foothills (it avoids the mountains above around 4,000 feet amsl), to warm inland mesas and valleys, all the way to the cool ocean shore. It is most commonly associated with heavy brush with large rocks or boulders. Dense chaparral in the foothills, boulders associated coastal sage scrub, oak/pine woodlands, and desert slope scrub associations; however, chamise and red shank associations may offer better structural habitat for refuges and food resources for this species than other habitats.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i> desert pupfish	FE SE G1 S1	Yes	Historically occurred in several springs, seeps, and slow-moving streams in the Salton Sink Basin, as well as in backwaters and sloughs along the lower Colorado River. Currently, natural populations of desert pupfish occur in the Salton Sea and nearby shoreline pools, freshwater ponds, and irrigation drains, as well as in portions of creeks/washes that are tributary to the Salton Sea. The desert pupfish tolerates an extreme range of environmental conditions: salinities ranging from freshwater to 68-90 parts per thousand, water temperatures as high as 108 °F and as low as 40 °F.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Dinacoma caseyi</i> Casey's June beetle	FE G1 S1	No	Only two known populations in a small area of southern Palm Springs. Found in sandy soils within desert wash and Mojavean desert scrub habitat; the females live underground and only come to the ground surface to mate.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> southwestern willow flycatcher	FE SE G5T2 S1	Yes	Uncommon summer resident in southern California primarily found in lower elevation riparian habitats occurring along streams or in meadows. The structure of suitable breeding habitat typically consists of a dense mid-story and understory and can also include a dense canopy. Nest sites are generally located near surface water or saturated soils. The presence of surface water, swampy conditions, standing or flowing water under the riparian canopy are preferred.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	SSC G4G5T4 S3S4	No	Primarily a cliff-dwelling species, roost generally under exfoliating rock slabs. Roosts are generally high above the ground, usually allowing a clear vertical drop of at least 10 feet below the entrances for flight, in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels. In California, it is most frequently encountered in broad open areas. Its foraging habitat includes dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, and agricultural areas.	Low: The utility field parcels provides marginal foraging habitat for this species. However, suitable roosting habitat is not present and there are no recent occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	WL G5 S4	No	The prairie falcon is associated primarily with perennial grasslands, savannahs, rangeland, some agricultural fields during the winter season, and desert scrub areas, all typically dry environments of western North American where there are cliffs or bluffs for nest sites. The species requires sheltered cliff ledges for cover and nesting which may range in height from low rock outcrops of 30 feet to vertical, 400 feet high (or more) cliffs and typically overlook some treeless country for hunting. Open terrain is used for foraging.	Moderate: The utility field parcels provide suitable foraging habitat for this species; however, there is no suitable nesting habitat within the utility field parcels.
<i>Gopherus agassizii</i> desert tortoise	FT ST G3 S2S3	Yes	Can be found in a wide variety of habitats, such as alluvial fans, desert washes, canyons, and saltbush plains; most tortoises in the Mojave Desert are usually associated with creosote bush scrub on alluvial fans and bajadas. Wildflowers, grasses, and in some cases, cacti make up the bulk of their diet. Some of the more common forbs consumed by the tortoise include desert dandelion, primrose, gilias, desert plantain, milkvetches, desert marigold, Mojave lupine, phacelia, desert wishbone bush, forget-me-knots, lotus, goldfields, California coreopsis, white-margin sandmat, and the introduced red stemmed filaree.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels provide little suitable habitat for this species, there are no occurrence records within five miles, and the utility field parcels are not connected to any known populations.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike	SSC G4 S4	No	Yearlong resident of California. Prefers open habitats with bare ground, scattered shrubs, and areas with low or sparse herbaceous cover including open-canopied valley foothill hardwood, riparian, pinyon-juniper desert riparian, creosote bush scrub, and Joshua tree woodland. Requires suitable perches including trees, posts, fences, utility lines, or other perches. Nests in branches up to 14 feet above the ground frequently in a shrub with thorns or with tangled branching habitats.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginally suitable habitat for this species, and it was observed during field surveys conducted by Michael Baker of the Travertine Development project site in 2022.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	SSC G4G5 S3	Yes	Uncommon in California, known only in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. Occurs in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats. Prefers to roost and feed in, and near, palm oases and riparian habitats. Commonly found in the southwestern U.S. roosting in the skirt of dead fronds in both native and non-native palm trees.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginal foraging habitat for this species. However, suitable roosting habitat is not present and there are no recent occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> pocketed free-tailed bat	SSC S3S4 S3	No	Often found in pinyon-juniper woodlands, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, desert riparian, desert wash, alkali desert scrub, Joshua tree woodland, and palm oasis habitats. The species roosts primarily in crevices of rugged cliffs, high rocky outcrops, and slopes. May also roost in buildings, caves, and under roof tiles.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginal foraging habitat for this species. However, suitable roosting habitat is not present and there are no recent occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni pop. 2</i> Peninsular bighorn sheep DPS	FE ST FP G4T3Q S2	Yes	Eastern slopes of the Peninsular Ranges below 4,600 feet asml. This DPS of the subspecies inhabits the Peninsular Ranges in southern California from the San Jacinto Mountains south to the US-Mexico International Border. Optimal habitat includes steep walled canyons and ridges bisected by rocky or sandy washes, with available water. Alluvial fans and washes in flatter terrain are also used for foraging and water. Peninsular bighorn sheep in particular avoid higher elevations that support chaparral.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Perognathus longimembris bangsi</i> Palm Springs pocket mouse	SSC G5T2 S2	Yes	Known from various vegetation communities, including creosote scrub, desert scrub, and grasslands, generally occurring on loosely packed or sandy soils with sparse to moderately dense vegetative cover. No longer occur on the valley floor from Palm Springs to the Salton Sea in areas developed for urban and agricultural land uses.	Not Expected: There is no suitable habitat within the utility field parcels and there are no occurrence records for this species within five miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Phrynosoma mcallii</i> flat-tailed horned lizard	SSC G3 S2	Yes	Restricted to desert washes and desert flats in desert dunes, Mojavean desert scrub, and Sonoran Desert scrub. Critical habitat element is fine sand with high density of harvester ants and fine windblown sand, but do not normally occur in habitats characterized as marshes and tamarisk-arrowweed thickets, or agricultural and developed areas.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Polioptila melanura</i> black-tailed gnatcatcher	WL G5 S3S4	No	In Mojave, Great Basin, Colorado and Sonoran Desert communities, prefers nesting and foraging in densely lined arroyos and washes dominated by creosote bush and saltbush, with scattered bursage, ocotillo, saguaro, barrel cactus, prickly pear cactus, and cholla.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i> vermillion flycatcher	SSC G5 S2S3	No	Occurs in a variety of open habitats including open woodland, clearings, desert scrub, savannah, agricultural land, golf courses, and recreational parks. The species tends to stay near water, often occurring in riparian vegetation characterized by Fremont cottonwoods, mesquite, willows, and California sycamores.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginal foraging habitat for this species. However, suitable nesting habitat is not present and there are no recent occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Rallus obsoletus</i> [=longirostris] <i>yumanensis</i> Yuma Ridgways (clapper) Rail	FE	Yes	Consistently found in freshwater marshes that are composed of bulrush and cattail with an average height greater than 6 feet tall.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	SSC G5 S3	No	Occupies a wide variety of habitats including dry, open grassland, sagebrush, and woodland habitats. Require dry, friable, often sandy soil to dig burrows for cover, food storage, and giving birth. Occasionally found in riparian zones and open chaparral with less than 50% plant cover.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginal habitat for this species; however, there are no known records of this species within 5 miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Toxostoma crissale</i> Crissal thrasher	SSC G5 S3	Yes	Common yearlong resident in southern California. Occupies arid habitats including desert washes, riparian brush, and mesquite thickets at lower elevations and dense scrub in arroyos at higher elevations. Nests in dense vegetation along streams/washes dominated by mesquite, screwbean mesquite, ironwood, catclaw, acacia, arrowweed, willow.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i> Le Conte's thrasher	SSC G4 S3	Yes	Common yearlong resident in southern California. Primarily occurs in open desert wash, desert scrub, alkali desert scrub, and desert succulent shrub habitats; also occurs in Joshua tree habitat with scattered shrubs. Habitats with a high proportion of one or more species of saltbush and/or cylindrical cholla cactus is preferred. The ground is generally bare or with sparse patches of grasses and annuals forming low ground cover. Commonly nests in a dense, spiny shrub or densely branched cactus in desert wash habitat, usually 2 to 8 feet above ground.	Low: The utility field parcels provide marginal foraging habitat for this species; however, suitable nesting habitat is not present and there are no recent occurrence records within five miles of the utility field parcels.
<i>Uma inornata</i> Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard	FT SE G1Q S1	Yes	Sparsely vegetated arid areas with fine wind-blown sand, including dunes, washes, alkali scrub, and flats with sandy hummocks formed around the bases of vegetation. Requires fine, loose, wind-blown sand for burrowing.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.

<i>Scientific Name</i> Common Name	Special- Status Rank*	CVMSHCP Covered Species	Habitat Preferences and Distribution Affinities	Potential to Occur
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo	FE SE SSC G5T2 S2	Yes	Summer resident in southern California. Breeding habitat generally consists of dense, low, shrubby vegetation in riparian areas, and mesquite brushlands, often near water in arid regions. Early successional cottonwood-willow riparian groves are preferred for nesting. The most critical structural component of nesting habitat in California is a dense shrub layer that is 2 to 10 feet above ground. The presence of water, including ponded surface water or moist soil conditions, may also be a key component for nesting habitat.	Not Expected: The utility field parcels do not provide suitable habitat for this species.
<i>Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus</i> Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel	SSC G5T2Q S2	Yes	Prefers open, flat, grassy areas in fine-textured, sandy soil. Habitats include mesquite- and creosote-dominated sand dunes, creosote bush scrub, creosote-paloverde, and saltbush/alkali scrub. Substrates include wind-blown sand, coarse sand, and packed silt with desert pavement.	
SENSITIVE VEGETATION COMMUNITIES				
CNDDB/Holland (1986) Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland MCV (1995) Fan Palm Series NVCS (2009) <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> seasonally flooded woodland alliance	G3 S3.2	N/A	Found at elevations ranging from 328 to 2,952 feet amsl in desert springs in canyon waterways or along fault lines where underground water is continuously available. The USFWS Wetland Inventory (1996 national list) recognizes <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> as a FACW plant. <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> is dominant or co-dominant in the tree canopy with white alder (<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>), Arizona ash (<i>Fraxinus velutina</i>), California sycamore, Fremont cottonwood, honey mesquite (<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>), screwbean mesquite (<i>Prosopis pubescens</i>), narrow leaved willow (<i>Salix exigua</i>), Goodding's black willow (<i>Salix gooddingii</i>), and arroyo willow (<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>). Trees are less than 98 feet tall; canopy is open to continuous. Shrubs include saltbush, willow baccharis (<i>Baccharis salicina</i>), brittlebush (<i>Encelia farinose</i>), arrowweed, bush seepweed (<i>Suaeda nigra</i>) or tamarix. Herbaceous layer is open to continuous.	Absent: This vegetation community does not occur within the utility field parcels.

* **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**

FE Endangered – any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

FT Threatened – any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

SE	Endangered – any native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.
ST	Threatened – any native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required under the California Endangered Species Act.
FP	Fully Protected – any native species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, or reptile that were determined by the State of California to be rare or face possible extinction.
SSC	Species of Special Concern – any species, subspecies, or distinct population of fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, or mammal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- is extirpated from California or, in the case of birds, in its primary seasonal or breeding role;- is listed as Federally-, but not State-, threatened or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed.- is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; or- has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for State threatened or endangered status.
WL	Watch List - taxa that were previously designated as “Species of Special Concern” but no longer merit that status, or which do not yet meet SSC criteria, but for which there is concern and a need for additional information to clarify status.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank

1B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
2B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere.
3	Plants about which more information is needed – Review List.
4	Plants of limited distribution – Watch List.

Threat Ranks

- .1 Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened/high degree any immediacy of threat).
- .2 Moderately threatened in California (20 to 80 percent of 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).

NatureServe Conservation Status Rank

The Global Rank (G#) reflects the overall condition and imperilment of a species throughout its global range. The Intraspecific Taxon Rank (T#) reflects the global situation of just the subspecies or variety. The State Rank (S#) reflects the condition and imperilment of an element throughout its range within California. (G#Q) reflects that the element is very rare but there are taxonomic questions associated with it; the calculated G rank is qualified by adding a Q after the G#). Adding a ? to a rank expresses uncertainty about the rank.

G1/T1	Critically Imperiled – At very high risk of extinction due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.
G2/T2	Imperiled— At high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.
G3/T3	Vulnerable— At moderate risk of extinction due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
G4/T4	Apparently Secure— Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
G5/T5	Secure – Common; widespread and abundant.
S1	Critically Imperiled – Critically imperiled in the state because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the State.
S2	Imperiled – Imperiled in the State because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the nation or State.
S3	Vulnerable – Vulnerable in the State due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.
S4	Apparently Secure – Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.

Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

Yes – Fully Covered.

No – Not Covered.