

Biological Resource Evaluation

Sage Ranch Residential Development

Kern County, California



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August 2019

Contents

Executive Summary	iii
Abbreviations	iv
1.0 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Project Description	1
1.3 Project Location	1
1.4 Purpose and Need	4
1.5 Regulatory Framework	4
1.5.1 State Requirements.....	4
1.5.2 Federal Requirements	5
2.0 Methods	8
2.1 Desktop Review	8
2.2 Reconnaissance Survey.....	8
2.3 Significance Criteria	8
3.0 Results	10
3.1 Desktop Review	10
3.2 Reconnaissance Survey.....	16
3.2.1 Land Use and Habitats.....	16
3.2.2 Plant and Animal Species Observed	18
3.2.3 Special-Status Species	20
3.2.4 Nesting Birds and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.....	20
3.2.5 Regulated Habitats	20
4.0 Environmental Impacts.....	21
4.1 Significance Determinations	21
4.1.2 Cumulative Effects.....	23
4.1.3 Unavoidable Significant Adverse Effects	23
5.0 Literature Cited.....	24

Figures

Figure 1. Project Site vicinity map.	2
Figure 2. Project Site map.	3
Figure 3. CNDDDB occurrence map.	11
Figure 5. Photograph of the Project site, showing dense cover of ruderal plants.	17
Figure 6. Photograph of the Project site, showing dense cover of ruderal plants.	17

Tables

Table 1. Special-status species, their listing status, habitats, and potential to occur on or near the Project site.	12
Table 2. Plant and animal species observed during the reconnaissance survey.	18

Appendices

Appendix A. USFWS list of threatened and endangered species	25
Appendix B. CNDDDB occurrence records.....	33
Appendix C. CNPS plant list.....	39

Executive Summary

The City of Tehachapi (City) proposes to develop 138 acres of vacant land in the City of Tehachapi in Kern County, California. The parcel is bounded by Valley Boulevard to the north, Tract 6212 to the west, Piñon Street to the south, and Tehachapi High School to the east. The City proposes to construct a 1068-unit single- and multi-family housing development that includes five centrally located civic spaces and pedestrian sheds. The purpose of this project is to build low-income housing and provide a communal living space for families.

To evaluate whether the project may affect biological resources under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) purview, we (1) obtained official lists from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service of special-status species, (2) reviewed other relevant background information such as aerial images and topographic maps, and (3) conducted a field reconnaissance survey of the project site.

This biological resource evaluation summarizes existing biological conditions on the project site, the potential for special-status species and regulated habitats to occur on or near the Project site, the potential effects of the project on biological resources and regulated habitats, and measures to reduce those potential effects to a less-than-significant level under CEQA.

We conclude that the project could impact one state-listed as threatened species and nesting migratory birds but impacts can be reduced to less-than-significant levels with mitigation. We also concluded the project will not affect regulated habitats.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CFGF	California Fish and Game Code
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FE	Federally listed as Endangered
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FP	Fully Protected
FT	Federally listed as Threatened
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
NPLH	No Place Like Home
SE	State-listed as Endangered
SSSC	State Species of Special Concern
ST	State-listed as Threatened
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

The City of Tehachapi proposes to build 1068 residential housing units on a 138-acre parcel of vacant land between Valley Boulevard and Piñon Street in the City of Tehachapi in Kern County, California (the Project). In addition to single- and multifamily housing, the Project will involve constructing green spaces or parks and a community garden.

The purpose of this biological resource evaluation is to determine whether the Project will affect state- or federally-protected resources pursuant to CEQA guidelines. Such resources include species of plants or animals listed or proposed for listing under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) of Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), as well as those covered under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the California Native Plant Protection Act, and various other sections of the California Fish and Game Code. This biological resource evaluation also addresses Project-related impacts to regulated habitats, which are those under the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), State Water Resources Control Board, or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

1.2 Project Description

The Project will involve building a 1068-unit single- and multi-family rental housing development, civic space, and several parks. The development will include 376 single-family units, 368 multifamily units, 11 parks, and one community garden. The Project will require a zoning change, and rezoning must be approved through Kern County prior to construction.

1.3 Project Location

The Project site is south of State Route 58, in the City of Tehachapi, in southeastern Kern County, California (Figure 1). It is bordered by Valley Boulevard to the north, residential development to the west, Piñon Street to the south, and Tehachapi High School to the east; vacant land is north of the parcel, on the north side of Valley Boulevard, as well as adjoining the parcel to the northeast (Figure 2). The elevation of the parcel ranges from 4027 to 4092 feet above mean sea level.

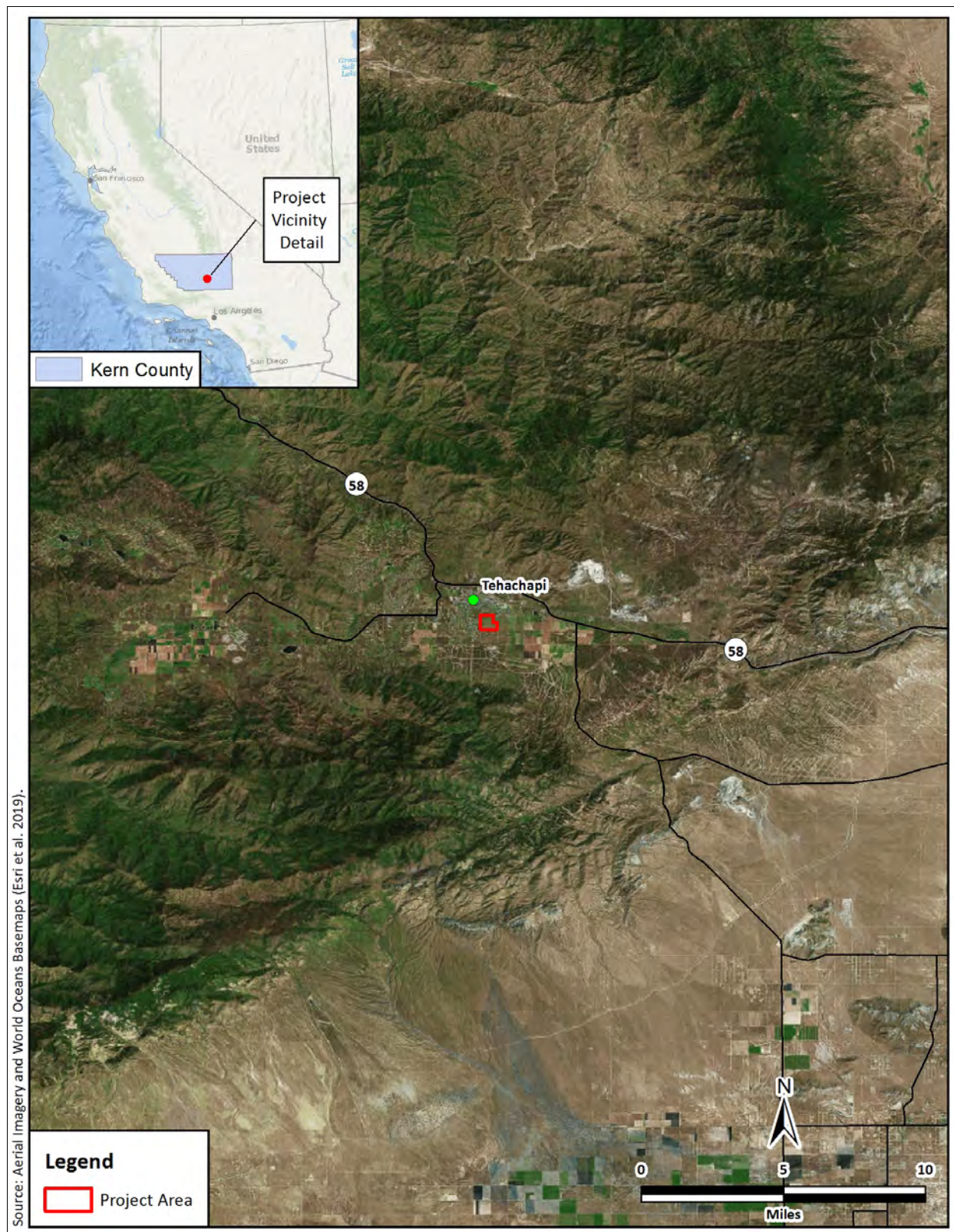


Figure 1. Project Site vicinity map.



Figure 2. Project Site map.

1.4 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the Project is to provide single- and multifamily housing options in a master-planned community. The Project is needed to facilitate population growth in the City of Tehachapi.

1.5 Regulatory Framework

The relevant federal and state regulatory requirements and policies that guide the effects analysis of the Project are summarized below.

1.5.1 State Requirements

California Endangered Species Act. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) of 1970 (Fish and Game Code § 2050 et seq. and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Subsection 670.2, 670.51) prohibits the take of species listed under CESA (14 CCR Subsection 670.2, 670.5). Take is defined as hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill. Under CESA, state agencies are required to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife when preparing CEQA documents. Consultation ensures that proposed projects or actions do not have a negative effect on state-listed species. During consultation, CDFW determines whether take would occur and identifies “reasonable and prudent alternatives” for the project and conservation of special-status species. CDFW can authorize take of state-listed species under Sections 2080.1 and 2081(b) of Fish and Game Code in those cases where it is demonstrated that the impacts are minimized and mitigated. Take authorized under section 2081(b) must be minimized and fully mitigated. A CESA permit must be obtained if a project will result in take of listed species, either during construction or over the life of the project. Under CESA, CDFW is responsible for maintaining a list of threatened and endangered species designated under state law (Fish and Game Code § 2070). CDFW also maintains lists of species of special concern, which serve as “watch lists.” Pursuant to the requirements of CESA, a state or local agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether the proposed project will have a potentially significant impact upon such species. Project-related impacts to species on the CESA list would be considered significant and would require mitigation. Impacts to species of concern or fully protected species would be considered significant under certain circumstances.

California Environmental Quality Act. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Subsections 21000–21178) requires that CDFW be consulted during the CEQA review process regarding impacts of proposed projects on special-status species. Special-status species are defined under CEQA Guidelines subsection 15380(b) and (d) as those listed under FESA and CESA and species that are not currently protected by statute or regulation but would be considered rare, threatened, or endangered under these criteria or by the scientific community. Therefore,

species considered rare or endangered are addressed in this biological resource evaluation regardless of whether they are afforded protection through any other statute or regulation. The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) inventories the native flora of California and ranks species according to rarity (CNPS 2017). Plants with Rare Plant Ranks 1A, 1B, 2A, or 2B are considered special-status species under CEQA.

Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and state statutes, CEQA Guidelines Section 15380(d) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if it can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definition in the FESA and the section of the California Fish and Game Code dealing with rare and endangered plants and animals. Section 15380(d) allows a public agency to undertake a review to determine if a significant effect on species that have not yet been listed by either the USFWS or CDFW (i.e., candidate species) would occur. Thus, CEQA provides an agency with the ability to protect a species from the potential impacts of a project until the respective government agency has an opportunity to designate the species as protected, if warranted.

California Native Plant Protection Act. The California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (California Fish and Game Code §§ 1900–1913) requires all state agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve endangered and otherwise rare species of native plants. Provisions of the act prohibit the taking of listed plants from the wild and require the project proponent to notify CDFW at least 10 days in advance of any change in land use, which allows CDFW to salvage listed plants that would otherwise be destroyed.

Nesting birds. California Fish and Game Code Subsections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800 prohibit the possession, incidental take, or needless destruction of birds, their nests, and eggs. California Fish and Game Code Section 3511 lists birds that are “Fully Protected” as those that may not be taken or possessed except under specific permit.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Jurisdiction. The CDFW has regulatory jurisdiction over lakes and streams in California. Activities that divert or obstruct the natural flow of a stream; substantially change its bed, channel, or bank; or use any materials (including vegetation) from the streambed, may require that the project applicant enter into a Streambed Alteration Agreement with the CDFW in accordance with California Fish and Game Code Section 1602.

1.5.2 Federal Requirements

Federal Endangered Species Act. The USFWS and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) enforce the provisions stipulated in the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA, 16 United States Code [USC] § 1531 et seq.). Threatened and endangered species on the federal list (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 17.11 and 17.12) are protected from take unless a Section 10 permit is granted

to an entity other than a federal agency or a Biological Opinion with incidental take provisions is rendered to a federal lead agency via a Section 7 consultation. Take is defined as harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct. Pursuant to the requirements of the FESA, an agency reviewing a proposed action within its jurisdiction must determine whether any federally listed species may be present in the proposed action area and determine whether the proposed action may affect such species. Under the FESA, habitat loss is considered to be an effect to a species. In addition, the agency is required to determine whether the proposed action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species that is listed or proposed for listing under the FESA (16 USC § 1536[3], [4]). Therefore, proposed action-related effects to these species or their habitats would be considered significant and would require mitigation.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC § 703, Supp. I, 1989) prohibits killing, possessing, trading, or other forms of take of migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. “Take” is defined as the pursuing, hunting, shooting, capturing, collecting, or killing of birds, their nests, eggs, or young (16 USC § 703 and § 715n). This act encompasses whole birds, parts of birds, and bird nests and eggs. The MBTA specifically protects migratory bird nests from possession, sale, purchase, barter transport, import, and export, and take. For nests, the definition of take per 50 CFR 10.12 is to collect. The MBTA does not include a definition of an “active nest.” However, the “Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum” issued by the USFWS in 2003 clarifies the MBTA in that regard and states that the removal of nests, without eggs or birds, is legal under the MBTA, provided no possession (which is interpreted as holding the nest with the intent of retaining it) occurs during the destruction (USFWS 2003).

United States Army Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction. Areas meeting the regulatory definition of “waters of the United States” (jurisdictional waters) are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (1972) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (1899). These waters may include all waters used, or potentially used, for interstate commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, all interstate waters, all other waters (intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, playa lakes, natural ponds, etc.), all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States, tributaries of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States, the territorial seas, and wetlands adjacent to waters of the United States (33 CFR part 328.3). Ditches and drainage canals where water flows intermittently or ephemerally are not regulated as waters of the United States. Wetlands on non-agricultural lands are identified using the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* and related Regional Supplement (USACE 1987 and 2008). Construction activities, including direct removal, filling, hydrologic disruption, or other means in jurisdictional waters are regulated by the USACE. The placement of dredged or fill material into such waters must comply with permit requirements of the USACE. No USACE permit will be effective in the absence of state water quality certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The State Water Resources Control Board is the state agency (together

with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards) charged with implementing water quality certification in California.

2.0 Methods

2.1 Desktop Review

As a framework for the evaluation and reconnaissance survey, we obtained a USFWS species list for the Project site (USFWS 2019, Appendix A). In addition, we searched the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB, CNDDDB 2019) and the California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (CNPS 2019) for records of special-status plant and animal species near the Project site. Regional lists of special-status species were compiled using the USFWS list and results from CNDDDB and CNPS database searches that were confined to the Tehachapi South 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quad, which contains the Project site, and the eight surrounding quads (Cummings Mtn., Keene, Liebre Twins, Monolith, Tehachapi North, Tehachapi NE, Tylerhorse Canyon, and Willow Springs). Local lists of special-status species were compiled using CNDDDB records from within 5 miles of the Project site. Species that lack a special-status designation by state or federal regulatory agencies were omitted from the final list. Species for which the Project site does not provide habitat were eliminated from further consideration. We also reviewed aerial imagery from Google Earth (Google 2019) and other sources, USGS topographic maps, the Web Soil Survey (NRCS 2019), and relevant literature.

2.2 Reconnaissance Survey

Colibri Senior Scientist Elias Elias conducted a field reconnaissance survey of the Project site on 7 June 2019. The Project site and a 50-foot buffer surrounding the Project site were walked and thoroughly inspected to evaluate and document the potential for the area to support state- or federally protected resources. All plants except those under cultivation or planted in residential areas and all animals (vertebrate wildlife species) observed within the survey area were identified and documented. The survey area was evaluated for the presence of regulated habitats, including lakes, streams, and other waters using methods described in the *Wetlands Delineation Manual* and regional supplement (USACE 1987, 2008) and as defined by the CDFW (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/lisa>).

2.3 Significance Criteria

CEQA defines "significant effect on the environment" as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in the environment." (Public Resource Code, § 21068). Under CEQA Guidelines Section 15065, a project's effects on biological resources are deemed significant where the project would do the following:

- a) Substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species,
- b) Cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels,

- c) Threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or
- d) Substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal.

In addition to the Section 15065 criteria, Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines includes six additional impacts to consider when analyzing the effects of a project. Under Appendix G, a project's effects on biological resources are deemed significant where the project would do the following:

- e) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or the USFWS.
- f) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS.
- g) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- h) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- i) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.
- j) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

These criteria were used to determine whether the potential effects of the Project on biological resources qualify as significant.

3.0 Results

3.1 Desktop Review

The USFWS species list for the Project (USFWS 2019a, Table 1, Appendix A) includes three species listed as threatened or endangered under the FESA. Those species include the endangered California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*), the endangered blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia sila*), and the threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*).

Searching the CNDDDB (CNDDDB 2019) for records of special-status species from the Tehachapi South 7.5-minute USGS topographic quad and the eight surrounding quads produced 159 records of 43 species (Table 1, Appendix B). Of those, 21 are known from within 5 miles of the Project site (Table 1, Figure 3). Of those 21 species, four are not given further consideration because they are not recognized as special-status species by state or federal regulatory agencies. Those species include Comstock's blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides comstocki*), Tehachapi silverspot butterfly (*Speyeria egleis tehachapina*), yellow-blotched salamander (*Ensatina eschscholtzii croceator*), and prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*).

Searching the CNPS inventory of rare and endangered plants of California yielded 34 taxa (CNPS 2019, Appendix C), 20 of which have of a Rare Plant Rank of 1B or 2B (Table 1). None of those species are expected to occur on or near the Project site due to a lack of habitat or a lack of records from within 5 miles (Table 1).

The Project site is underlain by Steuber sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes and Steuber sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (NRCS 2019). It has been disturbed by plowing or disking at least since 1992, when portions of the Project site were under cultivation (Google 2019).

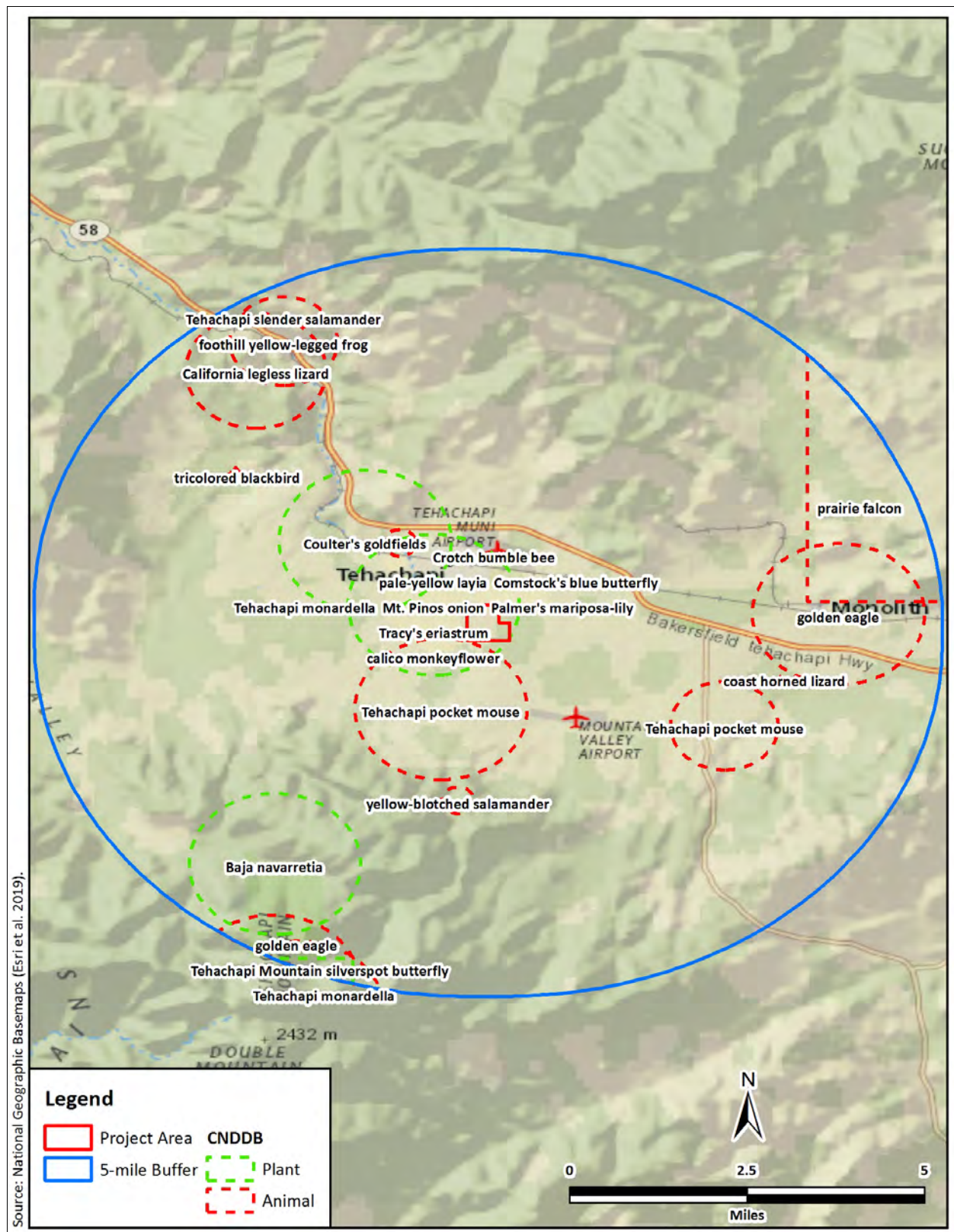


Figure 3. CNDDDB occurrence map.

Table 1. Special-status species, their listing status, habitats, and potential to occur on or near the Project site.

Species	Status ¹	Habitat	Potential to Occur ²
Federally and State-Listed Endangered or Threatened Species			
Crotch bumble bee (<i>Bombus crotchii</i>)	SCE	Grassland and scrub.	None. Habitat lacking.
California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>).	FT, SSC	Creeks, ponds, and marshes for breeding; burrows for upland refuge.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site lacks required aquatic habitat features.
Foothill yellow-legged frog (<i>Rana boylei</i>)	SCT	Rocky streams and rivers with rocky substrates; open, sunny banks in forests, chaparral, and woodlands.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site lacks required aquatic habitat features.
Tehachapi slender salamander (<i>Batrachoseps stebbinsi</i>)	ST	North-facing moist canyons and ravines in oak woodland with talus slopes, debris, and leaf litter.	None. Habitat lacking.
Blunt-nosed leopard lizard (<i>Gambelia silus</i>)	FE, SE, FP	Upland scrub and sparsely vegetated grassland with small mammal burrows between 100 and 2400 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is above known elevation range.
Desert tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>)	FT, ST	Sandy flats to rocky foothills, alluvial fans, washes, and canyons with overhanging rocks or bushes; between sea level and 3500 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is above known elevation range.
California condor (<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>)	FE, SE	Rocky, forested regions including canyons, gorges and mountains.	None. Habitat lacking.
Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>)	ST	Large trees for nesting with open areas for foraging.	None. Outside current known local range; no records from within 5 miles.
Tricolored blackbird (<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>)	ST, SSC	Freshwater marsh with emergent vegetation or other areas with prickly or thorny vegetation for nesting; wetlands, grassland, feedlots, and some agricultural fields (especially alfalfa fields) for foraging.	Present. A total of 18 birds observed during the survey, including three that landed on the Project site and 15 that flew over it.

Species	Status ¹	Habitat	Potential to Occur ²
State Species of Special Concern			
American badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>)	SSC	Grasslands and open habitats with friable soil and a small mammal prey base.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is open with friable soils but mammal prey base nearly absent, and no records from within five miles.
Burrowing owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	SSC	Open, treeless areas with sparse vegetation in grassland, desert, or agricultural fields with subterranean burrows or burrow surrogates with openings > 4 inches.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is densely vegetated and lacks suitably sized burrows or burrow surrogates; no records from within five miles.
Coast horned lizard (<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>)	SSC	Open, generally sandy areas, washes, and flood plains in a variety of habitats.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site contains sandy soils but is densely vegetated and subject to periodic ground disturbance by disking.
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	FP	Cliffs or large trees in open areas for nesting; open grassland, desert, savannah, or early-successional forest for foraging.	None. Habitat lacking.
LeConte's thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>)	SSC	Sparsely vegetated saltbush scrub.	None. Habitat lacking.
Loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	SSC	Open areas with short vegetation and well-spaced shrubs or low trees for nesting.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site lacks trees or shrubs.
Northern California legless lizard (<i>Anniella pulchra</i>)	SSC	Moist warm loose soil in sparsely vegetated areas of beach dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodlands, desert scrub, and sandy wash.	None. Habitat lacking.

Species	Status ¹	Habitat	Potential to Occur ²
Tehachapi pocket mouse (<i>Perognathus alticola inexpectatus</i>)	SSC	Prefers loose, sandy soils in grasslands, chaparral, coastal sage, Joshua tree woodland, piñon-juniper and yellow pine woodland, and oak savanna; between 3500 and 6000 feet.	None. Habitat lacking.
Tulare grasshopper mouse (<i>Onchomys torridus tularensis</i>)	SSC	Arid upland scrub with alkaline soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
California Rare Plants			
Alkali mariposa-lily (<i>Calochortus striatus</i>)	1B.2	Alkaline and mesic chaparral, chenopod scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, and meadows and seeps.	None. Habitat lacking.
Baja navarretia (<i>Navarretia peninsularis</i>)	1B.2	Mesic chaparral openings, yellow-pine forest, meadows and seeps, and piñon-juniper woodland between 4920 and 7550 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is below known elevation range.
Calico monkeyflower (<i>Mimulus pictus</i>)	1B.2	Bare, sunny, shrubby areas, around granite outcrops between 330 and 4690 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking.
Coulter's goldfields (<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>)	1B.1	Saltmarsh, playas, and vernal pools between sea level and 4000 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking.
Greenhorn fritillary (<i>Fritillaria brandegeei</i>)	1B.3	Lower montane conifer forest with granitic soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
Grey-leaved violet (<i>Viola pinetorum</i> ssp. <i>grisea</i>)	1B.3	Meadows and seeps in subalpine conifer forest and upper montane conifer forest.	None. Habitat lacking.
Horn's milk-vetch (<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i>)	1B.1	Lake margins, meadows, seeps, and playas with alkaline soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
Kern buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum kennedyi</i> var. <i>pinicola</i>)	1B.1	Chaparral and pinyon and juniper woodland with clay soils.	None. Habitat lacking.

Species	Status ¹	Habitat	Potential to Occur ²
Latimer's woodland-gilia (<i>Saltugilia latimeri</i>)	1B.2	Rocky, sandy, or granitic areas in chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, and pinyon and juniper woodland.	None. Habitat lacking.
Madera leptosiphon (<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i>)	1B.2	Woodland and chaparral openings between 980 and 4300 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking.
Mt. Pinos onion (<i>Allium howellii</i> var. <i>clokeyi</i>)	1B.3	Edges of meadows and seeps, Great Basin scrub, and piñon-juniper woodland.	None. Habitat lacking.
Pale-yellow layia (<i>Layia heterotricha</i>)	1B.1	Cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grassland with alkaline or clay soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
Palmer's mariposa-lily (<i>Calochortus palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i>)	1B.2	Meadows and seeps, chaparral, and lower montane coniferous forest between 2330-7840 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking.
Piute Mountain navarretia (<i>Navarretia setiloba</i>)	1B.1	Cismontane woodland, pinyon and juniper woodland, and valley and foothill grassland with clay or gravelly loam soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
Piute Mountain triteleia (<i>Triteleia piutensis</i>)	1B.1	Openings in pinyon and juniper woodland with fine volcanic soil among scattered boulders or heavy clay soil with volcanic hardpan.	None. Habitat lacking.
Piute Mountains jewelflower (<i>Streptanthus cordatus</i> var. <i>piutensis</i>)	1B.1	Broadleaf upland forest, closed-cone conifer forest, and pinyon-juniper woodland with clay or metamorphic soils.	None. Habitat lacking.
Sagebrush loeflingia (<i>Loeflingia squarrosa</i> var. <i>artemisiarum</i>)	2B.2	Desert dunes, Great Basin scrub, and Sonoran Desert scrub.	None. Habitat lacking.
Spanish Needle onion (<i>Allium shevockii</i>)	1B.3	Rocky areas in pinyon and juniper woodlands and upper montane conifer forests.	None. Habitat lacking.

Species	Status ¹	Habitat	Potential to Occur ²
Spjut's bristle moss (<i>Orthotrichum spjutii</i>)	1B.3	Rocky or granitic areas in lower montane conifer forest, pinyon and juniper woodland, subalpine conifer forest, and upper montane conifer forest.	None. Habitat lacking.
Tehachapi monardella (<i>Monardella linoides</i> ssp. <i>oblonga</i>)	1B.3	Lone formation and other soils in chaparral and cismontane woodland at 260–3510 feet elevation.	None. Habitat lacking; Project site is above known elevation range.
Tejon poppy (<i>Eschscholzia lemmonii</i> ssp. <i>kernensis</i>)	1B.1	Chenopod scrub and valley and foothill grassland.	None. Habitat lacking.

Status¹ (CDFW 2019, CNPS 2019, and USFWS 2019).	Potential to Occur²
FE = Federally listed as Endangered	None: Species or sign not observed; conditions unsuitable for occurrence.
FT = Federally listed as Threatened	Present: Species or sign was observed.
FP = State Fully Protected	
SCE = State Candidate for listing as Endangered	
SCT = State Candidate for listing as Threatened	
SE = State-listed Endangered	
ST = State-listed Threatened	
SSC = State Species of Special Concern	

CNPS California Rare Plant Rank:	Threat Ranks:
1B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.	0.1 – seriously threatened in California (> 80% of occurrences).
2B – plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere.	0.2 – moderately threatened in California (20-80% of occurrences).
	0.3 – not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences).

3.2 Reconnaissance Survey

3.2.1 Land Use and Habitats

The Project site consists of fallow agricultural fields that were likely plowed historically when under cultivation and disked more recently for fire suppression. It was densely vegetated with ruderal plants (Figures 5 and 6) and contained very few small mammal burrows.



Figure 4. Photograph of the Project site, showing dense cover of ruderal plants.



Figure 5. Photograph of the Project site, showing dense cover of ruderal plants.

3.2.2 Plant and Animal Species Observed

Nonnative plants such as red stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), and Indian hedge mustard (*Sisymbrium orientale*) and ruderal native plants such as bristly fiddleneck (*Amsinckia tessellata*) dominate the site. In all, 30 plant species (12 native, 17 nonnative, and one unknown) were found during the survey (Table 2). A total of one reptile species, 16 bird species, and two mammal species were also detected (Table 2).

Table 2. Plant and animal species observed during the reconnaissance survey.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Plants		
Family Asteraceae		
Annual agoseris	<i>Agoseris heterophylla</i> var. <i>heterophylla</i>	Native
Annual bursage	<i>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</i>	Native
California matchweed	<i>Gutierrezia californica</i>	Native
Common gumplant	<i>Grindelia camporum</i>	Native
Cottonbatting plant	<i>Pseudognaphalium stramineum</i>	Native
Goat's beard	<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	Nonnative
Prickly lettuce	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Nonnative
Tocalote	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	Nonnative
Western thistle	<i>Cirsium occidentale</i>	Native
Family Boraginaceae		
Bristly fiddleneck	<i>Amsinckia tessellata</i>	Native
Family Brassicaceae		
Black mustard	<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Nonnative
Indian hedge mustard	<i>Sisymbrium orientale</i>	Nonnative
Wild radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	Nonnative
Slender tropidocarpum	<i>Tropidocarpum gracili</i>	Native
Family Chenopodiaceae		
Russian thistle	<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Nonnative
Family Fabaceae		
Alfalfa	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Nonnative
Douglas's milkvetch	<i>Astragalus douglasii</i>	Native
Lupine	<i>Lupinus</i> sp.	Native
Family Geraniaceae		
Red stemmed filaree	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Nonnative
Family Lamiaceae		
White horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Nonnative
Family Papaveraceae		
California poppy	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	Native
Family Poaceae		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Annual grass	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Nonnative
Barley	<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	?
Bulbous blue grass	<i>Poa bulbosa</i>	Nonnative
Common wheat	<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	Nonnative
Foxtail brome	<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i>	Nonnative
Rattail sixweeks grass	<i>Festuca myuros</i>	Nonnative
Family Polygonaceae		
Prostrate knotweed	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Nonnative
Family Salicaceae		
Arroyo willow	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Native
Family Ulmaceae		
Elm	<i>Ulmus</i> sp.	Nonnative
Birds		
Family Accipitridae		
Red-tailed hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Alaudidae		
Horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Cathartidae		
Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Charadriidae		
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Columbidae		
Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	None
Family Corvidae		
American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Common raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Fringillidae		
House finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Lawrence's goldfinch	<i>Spinus lawrencei</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Icteridae		
Red-winged blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	MBTA, CFGC, ST
Brewer's blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Mimidae		
Northern mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Family Passeridae		
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	None
Family Sturnidae		
European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	None
Family Tyrannidae		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Say's phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	MBTA, CFGC
Mammals		
Family Geomyidae		
Botta's pocket gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	None
Family Sciuridae		
California ground squirrel	<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	None
Reptiles		
Family Phrynosomatidae		
Common side-blotched lizard	<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	None

MBTA = Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.); CFGC = Protected under the California Fish and Game Code (FGC § 3503 and 3513); ST = State Threatened.

3.2.3 Special-Status Species

One special-status species, the state-listed as threatened tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), could occur on or near the Project site based on its presence on and near the site during the reconnaissance survey (Table 1). This species breeds in freshwater marshes, where it nests colonially in emergent vegetation such as cattails (*Typha* spp.) or bulrushes (*Schoenoplectus* spp.). Less frequently it nests in prickly or thorny vegetation such as blackberries (*Rubus* spp.), thistles (*Cirsium* and *Centaurea* spp.), and nettles (*Urtica* sp.) and sometimes black mustard (*Brassica nigra*) (Beedy et al. 2018). It forages for seeds and insects in wetlands, irrigated pastures, grasslands, some agricultural fields (especially alfalfa), and other areas.

Eighteen individuals in two flocks were observed during the reconnaissance survey. One flock of three landed briefly on the north edge of the Project site. A second flock of 15 flew low over the site from east to west. Although no evidence of nesting was found on the Project site during the reconnaissance survey, dense stands of black mustard on a portion of the site (Figure 5) could provide suitable nesting substrates.

3.2.4 Nesting Birds and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Migratory birds could nest on or near the Project site. Species that may nest on or near the Project site include but are not limited to horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) and red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).

3.2.5 Regulated Habitats

No potentially regulated habitats were found on or within 50 feet of the Project site.

4.0 Environmental Impacts

4.1 Significance Determinations

This Project, which will result in permanent and temporary impacts to disturbed land cover, will not: (1) substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species (criterion a) as disturbed land cover is regionally abundant and ubiquitous; (2) cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels (criterion b) as no such potentially vulnerable population is known from the area; (3) threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community (criterion c) as no such potentially vulnerable communities are known from the area; (4) substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal (criterion d) as no such potentially vulnerable species are known from the area; (5) have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS (criterion f) as no riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community was present in the survey area; (6) have a substantial adverse effect on wetlands (including, but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means (criterion g) as no impacts to wetlands will occur; (7) conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance (criterion i) as no trees or biologically sensitive areas will be impacted; or (8) conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan (criterion j) as no such plan has been adopted. Thus, these significance criteria are not analyzed further.

The remaining statutorily defined criteria provided the framework for criteria BIO1 and BIO2 below. These criteria are used to assess the impacts to biological resources stemming from the Project and provide the basis for determinations of significance:

- Criterion BIO1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS (significance criterion e).
- Criterion BIO2: Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites (significance criterion h).

4.1.1 Direct and Indirect Impacts

4.1.1.1 Potential Impact #1: Have a Substantial Effect on any Special-Status Species (Criterion BIO1)

The Project could substantially impact one state-listed species, tricolored blackbird. Construction disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or young or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Such loss or abandonment would constitute a significant impact. We recommend that Mitigation Measure B1 (below) be included in the conditions of approval to reduce the potential impact to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure B1. Protect nesting tricolored blackbirds.

1. To the extent practicable, construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season, which extends from February through August.
2. If it is not possible to schedule construction between September and January, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting tricolored blackbirds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no active nests will be disturbed during the implementation of the Project. A pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nest substrates in and within 350 feet of the impact areas. If an active nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the qualified biologist in consultation with the CDFW shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established around the nest. If work cannot proceed without disturbing the nesting birds, work may need to be halted or redirected to other areas until nesting and fledging are completed or the nest has failed for non-construction related reasons.

4.1.1.2 Potential Effect #2: Interfere Substantially with Native Wildlife Movements, Corridors, or Nursery Sites (Criterion BIO2)

The Project has the potential to impede the use of nursery sites for native birds protected under the MBTA and CFGC. Migratory birds are expected to nest on and near the Project site. Construction disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment or loss of reproductive effort can be considered take under the MBTA and CFGC. Loss of fertile eggs or nesting birds, or any activities resulting in nest abandonment, could constitute a significant effect if the species is particularly rare in the

region. Construction activities such as excavating, trenching, and grading that disturb a nesting bird on the Project site or immediately adjacent to the construction zone could constitute a significant effect. We recommend that the mitigation measure B2 (below) be included in the conditions of approval to reduce the potential effect to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure B2. Protect nesting birds.

3. To the extent practicable, construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season, which extends from February through August.
4. If it is not possible to schedule construction between September and January, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that no active nests will be disturbed during the implementation of the Project. A pre-construction clearance survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities. During this survey, the qualified biologist shall inspect all potential nest substrates in and immediately adjacent to the impact areas, including within 250 feet in the case of raptor nests. If an active nest is found close enough to the construction area to be disturbed by these activities, the qualified biologist shall determine the extent of a construction-free buffer to be established around the nest. If work cannot proceed without disturbing the nesting birds, work may need to be halted or redirected to other areas until nesting and fledging are completed or the nest has failed for non-construction related reasons.

4.1.2 Cumulative Effects

The Project site could provide nesting habitat for the state-listed as threatened tricolored blackbird and other migratory birds. However, the potential for the Project site to support nesting tricolored blackbirds is limited, and Mitigation Measures B1 and B2 would reduce any contribution to cumulative impacts on biological resources to a less-than-significant level.

4.1.3 Unavoidable Significant Adverse Effects

No unavoidable significant adverse effects on biological resources would occur from implementing the Project.

5.0 Literature Cited

- Beedy, E. C., W. J. Hamilton, III, R. J. Meese, D. A. Airola, and P. Pyle. 2018. Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), version 3.1. In *The Birds of North America* (P. G. Rodewald, Editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, USA. <https://doi.org/10.2173/bna.tribla.03.1>
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- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). 2019. RareFind [Internet]. California Department of Fish and Wildlife [Commercial Version Dated June 1, 2019]. <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/rarefind/view/RareFind.aspx>.
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- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 1987. Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual. Wetland Research Program Technical Report Y-87-1.
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2008. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region (Version 2.0). ERDC/EL TR-08-28. http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/regulatory/reg_supp/trel08-28.pdf.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019a. IPaC Information for Planning and Conservation. <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>. Accessed 13 June 2019.

Appendix A. USFWS list of threatened and endangered species.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713



In Reply Refer To:

June 13, 2019

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2019-SLI-2194

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2019-E-06989

Project Name: Sage Ranch

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building

2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605

Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

(916) 414-6600

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2019-SLI-2194

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2019-E-06989

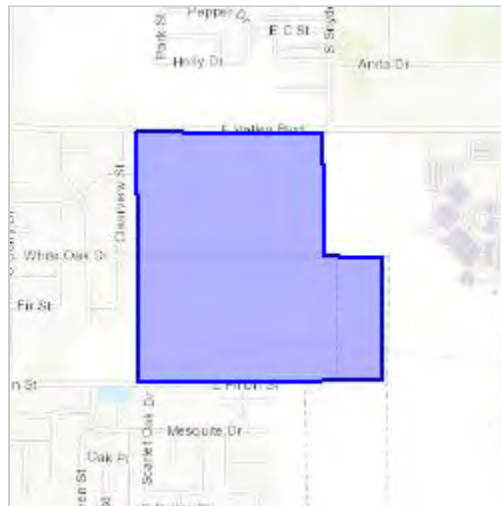
Project Name: Sage Ranch

Project Type: DEVELOPMENT

Project Description: Residential housing development.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.12055788627863N118.4414730570667W>



Counties: Kern, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [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.

Birds

NAME	STATUS
California Condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> Population: U.S.A. only, except where listed as an experimental population There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193	Endangered

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

Appendix B. CNDDDB occurrence records.



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad> IS > (Cummings Mtn. (3511815)> OR > Keene (3511825)> OR > Liebre Twins (3411885)> OR > Monolith (3511813)> OR > Tehachapi North (3511824)> OR > Tehachapi South (3511814)> OR > Tehachapi NE (3511823)> OR > Tylerhorse Canyon (3411884)> OR > Willow Springs (3411883))
> AND > Taxonomic Group> IS > (Dune> OR > Scrub> OR > Herbaceous> OR > Marsh> OR > Riparian> OR > Woodland> OR > Forest> OR > Alpine> OR > Inland Waters> OR > Marine> OR > Estuarine> OR > Riverine> OR > Palustrine> OR > Fish> OR > Amphibians> OR > Reptiles> OR > Birds> OR > Mammals> OR > Mollusks> OR > Arachnids> OR > Crustaceans> OR > Insects> OR > Ferns> OR > Gymnosperms> OR > Monocots> OR > Dicots> OR > Lichens> OR > Bryophytes)

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	G2G3 S1S2	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_EN-Endangered NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,781 3,902	955 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
<i>Allium howellii</i> var. <i>clokeyi</i> Mt. Pinos onion	G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive		25 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Allium shevockii</i> Spanish Needle onion	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive	4,675 5,225	12 S:5	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	5	0	0
<i>Anniella pulchra</i> northern California legless lizard	G3 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	3,293 4,570	375 S:6	0	3	1	0	0	2	0	6	6	0	0
<i>Anniella</i> sp. California legless lizard	G3G4 S3S4	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,202 3,971	119 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,990 7,980	321 S:5	1	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	5	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i> Horn's milk-vetch	G4G5T1T2 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive		14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,540 3,425	1984 S:12	0	5	0	1	0	6	0	12	12	0	0
<i>Batrachoseps stebbinsi</i> Tehachapi slender salamander	G2 S2S3	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	3,000 6,000	25 S:4	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	4	0	0
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee	G3G4 S1S2	None None		3,800 5,000	234 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
<i>Buteo regalis</i> ferruginous hawk	G4 S3S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,645 2,875	107 S:3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	0
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	G5 S3	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,860 2,880	2474 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0
<i>Calochortus palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i> Palmer's mariposa-lily	G3T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	4,000 5,100	111 S:4	0	3	0	0	0	1	4	0	4	0	0
<i>Calochortus striatus</i> alkali mariposa-lily	G3? S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	2,600 2,600	113 S:3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	0
<i>Diplacus pictus</i> calico monkeyflower	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	2,700 4,200	73 S:6	0	2	1	0	0	3	4	2	6	0	0



Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Ensatina eschscholtzii croceater</i> yellow-blotched salamander	G5T3 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_WL-Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive	3,345 6,410	46 S:10	2	1	0	0	0	7	1	9	10	0	0
<i>Eriastrum tracyi</i> Tracy's eriastrum	G3Q S3	None Rare	Rare Plant Rank - 3.2 USFS_S-Sensitive		119 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Eschscholzia lemmonii ssp. kernensis</i> Tejon poppy	G5T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_USDA-US Dept of Agriculture	4,435 4,435	86 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Euphilotes battoides comstocki</i> Comstock's blue butterfly	G5T2 S2	None None		4,020 4,020	2 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Falco columbarius</i> merlin	G5 S3S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,165 3,265	37 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> prairie falcon	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	4,924 5,500	460 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
<i>Gopherus agassizii</i> desert tortoise	G3 S2S3	Threatened Threatened	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	2,870 3,216	968 S:4	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	4	4	0	0
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> California condor	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_CR-Critically Endangered NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	4,200 4,200	13 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Helminthoglypta concolor</i> whitefir shoulderband	G1G2 S1S2	None None		5,289 5,852	4 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3	4	0	0
<i>Helminthoglypta greggi</i> Mohave shoulderband	G1 S1	None None		2,972 2,972	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike	G4 S4	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,830 3,280	110 S:3	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0



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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri</i> Coulter's goldfields	G4T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	4,000 4,000	111 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Layia heterotricha</i> pale-yellow layia	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_SBBG-Santa Barbara Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	4,000 5,080	125 S:7	0	1	1	2	0	3	3	4	7	0	0
<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i> Madera leptosiphon	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	1,000 1,000	27 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum</i> sagebrush loeflingia	G5T3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive		26 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Monardella linoides ssp. oblonga</i> Tehachapi monardella	G5T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	4,740 7,600	58 S:16	0	7	4	0	0	5	2	14	16	0	0
<i>Navarretia peninsularis</i> Baja navarretia	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	6,000 6,000	35 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Onychomys torridus tularensis</i> Tulare grasshopper mouse	G5T1T2 S1S2	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,255 3,800	53 S:3	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	0	0
<i>Perognathus alticola inexpectatus</i> Tehachapi pocket mouse	G1G2T1T2 S1S2	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_EN-Endangered USFS_S-Sensitive	3,150 4,275	26 S:11	0	2	4	0	0	5	5	6	11	0	0
<i>Perognathus inornatus</i> San Joaquin Pocket Mouse	G2G3 S2S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,200 3,200	127 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	G3G4 S3S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,005 4,560	779 S:9	1	0	0	1	0	7	0	9	9	0	0



Summary Table Report

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
<i>Rana boylei</i> foothill yellow-legged frog	G3 S3	None Candidate Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened USFS_S-Sensitive	2,534 3,000	2381 S:4	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	4
<i>Saltugilia latimeri</i> Latimer's woodland-gilia	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden SB_USDA-US Dept of Agriculture USFS_S-Sensitive	4,965 4,965	60 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Speyeria egleis tehachapina</i> Tehachapi Mountain silverspot butterfly	G5T2 S2	None None	USFS_S-Sensitive	7,000 7,000	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	2,520 4,180	589 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i> Le Conte's thrasher	G4 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,545 3,490	238 S:7	3	2	1	0	0	1	1	6	7	0	0
<i>Triteleia piutensis</i> Piute Mountains triteleia	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1	5,200 5,200	2 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
<i>Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea</i> grey-leaved violet	G4G5T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3	5,200 7,900	90 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0

Appendix C. CNPS plant list.

*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. [View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.](#)

Plant List

34 matches found. Click on scientific name for details

Search Criteria

Found in Quads 3511825, 3511824, 3511823, 3511815, 3511814, 3511813, 3411885 3411884 and 3411883;

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Allium howellii var. clokeyi	Mt. Pinos onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jun	1B.3	S2	G4T2
Allium howellii var. howellii	Howell's onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Mar-Apr	4.3	S3	G3G4T3
Allium shevockii	Spanish Needle onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jun	1B.3	S2	G2
Amsinckia douglasiana	Douglas' fiddleneck	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Mar-May	4.2	S4	G4
Astragalus hornii var. hornii	Horn's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	annual herb	May-Oct	1B.1	S1	G4G5T1T2
Calochortus palmeri var. palmeri	Palmer's mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S2	G3T2
Calochortus striatus	alkali mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jun	1B.2	S2S3	G3?
Calystegia peirsonii	Peirson's morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jun	4.2	S4	G4
Chorizanthe leptotheca	Peninsular spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	May-Aug	4.2	S3	G3
Cordylanthus rigidus ssp. brevibracteatus	short-bracted bird's-beak	Orobanchaceae	annual herb (hemiparasitic)	Jul-Aug(Oct)	4.3	S3	G5T3
Delphinium parryi ssp. purpureum	Mt. Pinos larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	4.3	S4	G4T4
Diplacus pictus	calico monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	Mar-May	1B.2	S2	G2
Eriastrum tracyi	Tracy's eriastrum	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	May-Jul	3.2	S3	G3Q
Eriogonum kennedyi var. pinicola	Kern buckwheat	Polygonaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun(Jul)	1B.1	S1	G4T1
Erythranthe sierrae	Sierra Nevada monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jul	4.2	S2	G2
Eschscholzia lemmonii ssp. kernensis	Tejon poppy	Papaveraceae	annual herb	(Feb)Mar-May	1B.1	S2	G5T2

<u>Eschscholzia procera</u>	Kernville poppy	Papaveraceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul(Aug)	3	S1?	G1?Q
<u>Fritillaria brandegeei</u>	Greenhorn fritillary	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jun	1B.3	S2S3	G2G3
<u>Fritillaria pinetorum</u>	pine fritillary	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jul(Sep)	4.3	S4	G4
<u>Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri</u>	Coulter's goldfields	Asteraceae	annual herb	Feb-Jun	1B.1	S2	G4T2
<u>Layia heterotricha</u>	pale-yellow layia	Asteraceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	1B.1	S2	G2
<u>Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum</u>	sagebrush loeflingia	Caryophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-May	2B.2	S2	G5T3
<u>Monardella linoides ssp. oblonga</u>	Tehachapi monardella	Lamiaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	(May)Jun-Aug	1B.3	S2	G5T2
<u>Navarretia peninsularis</u>	Baja navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	(May)Jun-Aug	1B.2	S2	G3
<u>Navarretia setiloba</u>	Piute Mountains navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jul	1B.1	S2	G2
<u>Nemacladus secundiflorus var. secundiflorus</u>	large-flowered nemacladus	Campanulaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	4.3	S3?	G3T3?
<u>Orthotrichum spjutii</u>	Spjut's bristle moss	Orthotrichaceae	moss		1B.3	S1	G1
<u>Perideridia pringlei</u>	adobe yampah	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun(Jul)	4.3	S4	G4
<u>Saltugilia latimeri</u>	Latimer's woodland-gilia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	1B.2	S3	G3
<u>Senecio astephanus</u>	San Gabriel ragwort	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	4.3	S3	G3
<u>Streptanthus cordatus var. piutensis</u>	Piute Mountains jewelflower	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	1B.2	S1	G5T1
<u>Syntrichopappus lemmonii</u>	Lemmon's syntrichopappus	Asteraceae	annual herb	Apr-May(Jun)	4.3	S4	G4
<u>Triteleia piutensis</u>	Piute Mountains triteleia	Themidaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jun	1B.1	S1	G1
<u>Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea</u>	grey-leaved violet	Violaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S3	G4G5T3

Suggested Citation

California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2019. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition, v8-03 0.39). Website <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org> [accessed 13 June 2019].

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