

# **APPENDIX C**

# MOORE BIOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

November 19, 2019

Mr. Daniel Kramer, C.E.G.  
Petralogix Engineering, Inc.  
212 Pine Street, Ste. 2  
Lodi, CA 95240

Subject: "CORPORATION YARD RELOCATION PROJECT" AT AMERICAN  
RIVER COLLEGE, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA: BIOLOGICAL  
RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

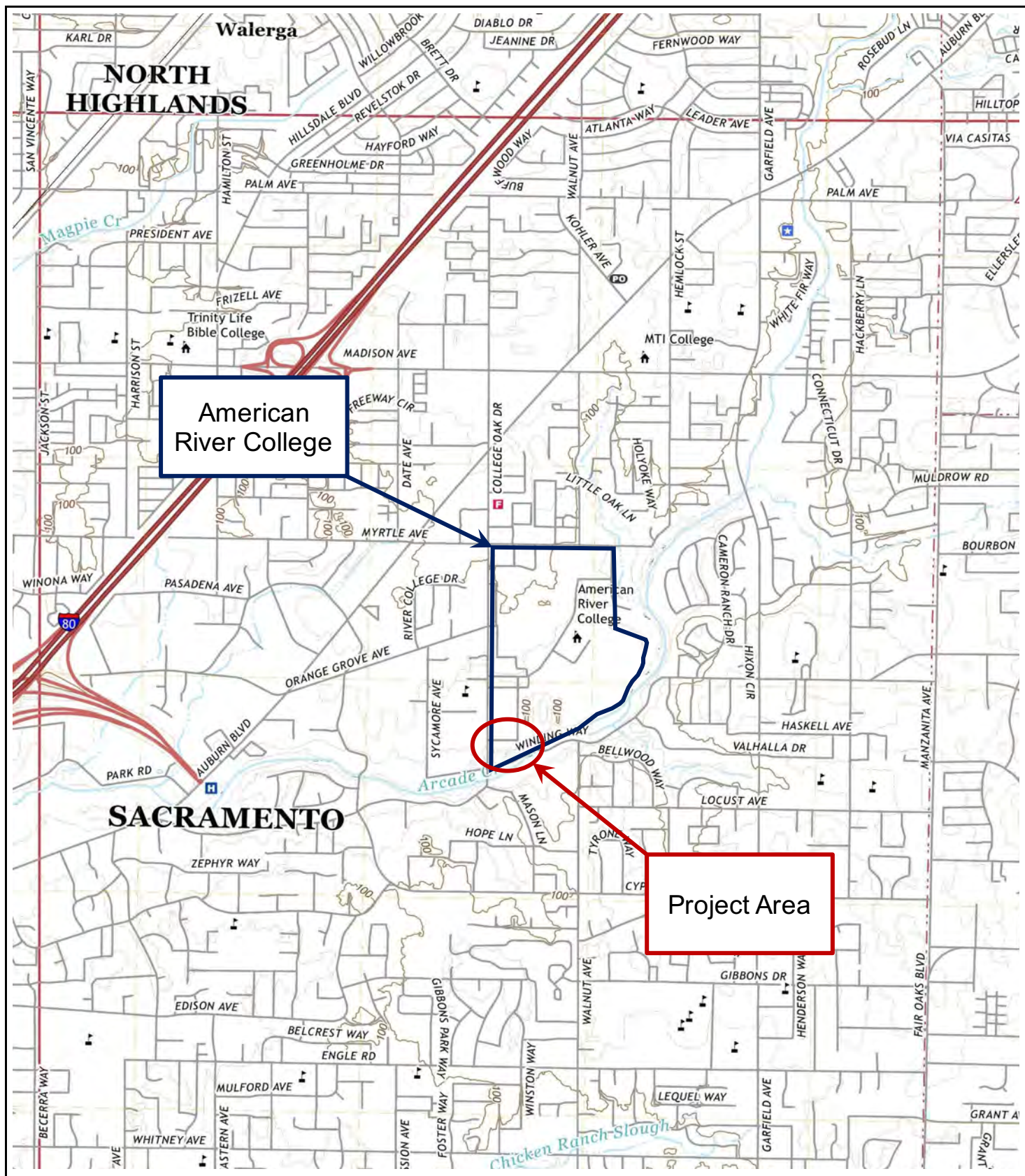
Dear Daniel:

Thank you for asking Moore Biological Consultants to assist with a biological resources assessment of the "Corporation Yard Relocation Project" at American River College, in Sacramento, California (Figures 1 and 2). The focus of our work was to assess the site for potentially regulated Waters of the U.S. and wetlands, and to search for special-status species or potentially suitable habitat for special-status species within and near the site. This letter summarizes information related to biological resources in or near the site that was compiled by reviewing databases and available documents, and conducting a reconnaissance-level field survey on October 24, 2019.

PROJECT OVERVIEW: The Los Rios Community School District is proposing to construct a new Corporation Yard located in the southwest portion of the American River College campus located at 4700 College Oak Drive, Sacramento, California (Figure 3 and Site Plan in Attachment A). The area proposed for the new Corporation Yard currently consists of asphalt parking, with some minor landscaping which includes five small trees (see Demolition Plan in Attachment A and photographs in Attachment B).







Source: USGS 7.5-minute Citrus Heights topographic quadrangle

**Moore Biological**



0 2000 4000 Feet

**FIGURE 2**

**PROJECT LOCATION**





Source (Basemap): Google Earth

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Consultants**



**FIGURE 3**

**AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH**



The proposed Corporation Yard Project will include the construction of a single-story, 30,000 square-foot building. Associated improvements will include, but are not limited to, the construction of underground utilities, landscaping, below-grade loading docks, trash enclosures, covered storage areas, exterior flatwork, a car wash station, and new asphalt in the paved parking areas. The relocated Corporation Yard will facilitate maintenance operations for American River College. There are currently corporation yard facilities located throughout the site; the new Corporation Relocation Yard Project will consolidate these facilities, therefore, there will be no growth in employees or an increase in traffic associated with the proposed project.

In order to accommodate the proposed project, the existing surface area within the project will be demolished, including pavement, concrete, and subbase. Five trees, with trunk diameter ranging from a minimum of two inches to a maximum of nine inches, will be removed within the demolition area, with remaining trees near the project area protected during construction activities. Five existing streetlights and one drain inlet within the proposed project area will be removed; the existing fence along the perimeter of the proposed project will remain.

Construction activities, including demolition, are projected to begin November 1, 2020, and end December 1, 2021. The anticipated start of the operation date for the proposed relocated Corporation Yard is January 1, 2022.

**GENERAL SETTING:** The project site is located in Sacramento County (Figure 1). The site is in Section 46 within Township 9 North, Range 6 East of the USGS 7.5-minute Citrus Heights topographic quadrangle (Figure 2). Project development will occur in the south tip of a large parking lot at the south end of the college (Figure 3 and photographs in Attachment B).

**VEGETATION:** Natural habitats in the project vicinity, including those in the site, have been entirely replaced by development. Most of the site is a fully paved parking lot with narrow landscape strips along the south and west edges of the

lot (Figure 3 and photographs in Attachment B). There is a notably large blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) near the northwest corner of the project site and a row of large ornamental trees along the south edge of the parking lot consisting of American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), California black walnut (*Juglans californica*) and American sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). There are also a few smaller ornamental trees and shrubs in landscaped plots in the body of the parking area and in the landscaped strips along the edges. Additionally, there are several large trees adjacent to the site, notably in the center divider on College Oak Drive, surrounding residential subdivisions, and along the corridor of Arcade Creek, located just south of the work area. Trees in close proximity of the site are similar to those found in the work area, consisting primarily of ornamental species and oaks.

There are sparse amounts of ruderal grassland vegetation within the landscaped strips and plots in the project site. Dominant species include oats (*Avena fatua*), wall barley (*Hordeum murinum*), radish (*Raphanus sativa*), annual fireweed (*Epilobium brachycarpum*) and flax-leaved horseweed (*Erigeron bonariensis*).

WILDLIFE: Only a few bird species were observed in the. Turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), American crow (*Corvus branchyrhynchos*), and California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) were the only birds observed at the site during the survey.

There are a few large trees in the site and several large trees near the project site and the school that are suitable for nesting raptors and other protected migratory birds. No stick nests were observed in any of the trees in the site or viewable from the site with binoculars. Given the presence of large trees in and near the site, it is likely one or more additional pairs of raptors, plus a variety of songbirds, nest in trees in or near the school each year. Further, it is considered likely that numerous songbirds nest within trees and shrubs in and adjacent to the school each year.

WATERS OF THE U.S. AND WETLANDS: Jurisdictional “wetlands” includes vegetated wetland areas, which meet the technical criteria described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Supplement (2008), or water bodies or channels that meet the criteria identified in 33 CFR 328.4, which define “Waters of the U.S.”. Jurisdictional “Waters of the U.S” includes intermittent and perennial "blue line" streams mapped on USGS topographic maps, even when these features have been re-aligned and seasonal wetland swales and vernal pools that are hydrologically connected to or in proximity to tributary drainages.

There are no potentially jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. or wetlands in the site. The site consists entirely of developed and landscaped areas that are highly disturbed. Specifically, we observed no relatively permanent or intermittent drainages, vernal pools, seasonal wetlands, marshes, ponds, lakes, or riparian wetlands of any type within the site.

It should be noted that Arcade Creek, a jurisdictional Water of the U.S., is located across Winding Way, to the south of the site. The project will not involve any work in or adjacent to the Arcade Creek corridor; all work will occur on the campus, north of Winding Way.

SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES: Special-status species are plants and animals that are legally protected under the state and/or federal Endangered Species Act or other regulations. The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) of 1973 declares that all federal departments and agencies shall utilize their authority to conserve endangered and threatened plant and animal species. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) of 1984 parallels the policies of FESA and pertains to native California species.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB, 2019) is helpful to identify special-status species that have



been previously documented in the greater project vicinity or have the potential to occur based on presence of suitable habitat and geographical distribution. Numerous special-status species have been documented within the Citrus Heights, Rio Linda, Sacramento East and Carmichael topographic quadrangles (see CNDDDB Search Results in Attachment C). However, no special-status species are documented within the CNDDDB within a few miles of the site. The nearest special status species occurrence to the site is vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), approximately 3 miles west of the project site.

Special-status plants generally occur in relatively undisturbed areas in vegetation communities such as vernal pools, marshes and swamps, chenopod scrub, seasonal wetlands, riparian scrub, and areas with unusual soils. The site has been disturbed by development and does not provide suitable habitat for special-status plants. No special-status plants or highly suitable habitat for special-status plants were observed in or adjacent to the site.

While the project site may have provided habitat for special-status wildlife species at some time in the past, development has substantially modified natural habitats in the greater project vicinity, including those within the American River College campus. Of the wildlife species identified in the CNDDDB search, Swainson's hawk is the only species with potential to occur in the project site on more than a transitory or very occasional basis. Due to a lack of suitable habitat, it is unlikely other special-status species have potential to occur at the school site.

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** The Swainson's hawk is a migratory hawk listed by the State of California as a Threatened species. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Fish and Game Code of California protect Swainson's hawks year-round, as well as their nests during the nesting season (March 1 through September 15). Swainson's hawk are found in the Central Valley primarily during their breeding season, a population is known to winter in the San Joaquin Valley.

Swainson's hawks prefer nesting sites that provide sweeping views of nearby foraging grounds consisting of grasslands, irrigated pasture, hay, and wheat crops. Most Swainson's hawks are migratory, wintering in Mexico and breeding in California and elsewhere in the western United States. This raptor generally arrives in the Central Valley in mid-March, and begins courtship and nest construction immediately upon arrival at the breeding sites. The young fledge in early July, and most Swainson's hawks leave their breeding territories by late August.

There is only one record of nesting Swainson's hawk in the CNDDDB (2019) search area within 5 miles of the project site. The closest record is approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the site. The landscaped strips and developed areas in the school do not provide suitable Swainson's hawk foraging habitat, but large trees in and near the school could be used for nesting. No Swainson's hawks were observed during the recent survey; however, this survey was conducted outside of the nesting season for this species.

**CRITICAL HABITAT:** Critical habitat is areas mapped by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as being critical to maintain and/or manage in a relatively natural state for the recovery of a listed species. The site is not in designated critical habitat of any federally listed species.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

- The American River College campus primarily consists of developed areas and areas of landscaping that are biologically unremarkable. The project site is a parking lot with limited landscaping and is biologically unremarkable.
- There are no potentially jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. or wetlands in the site.



- Due to a lack of suitable habitat, it is very unlikely that special-status plants occur in the site.
- With the exception of Swainson's hawk, no special-status wildlife species are expected to occur in the body of the site on more than a very occasional or transitory basis. Swainson's hawks can be disturbed if loud and intensive construction activities occur in close proximity to their nests. Even though the site is on a busy campus in an urban setting, loud construction activities such as pavement grinding or jackhammering could result in disturbance to Swainson's hawks, if any, nesting in or near the site.
- Pre-construction surveys for nesting Swainson's hawks within 0.25 miles of the project site are recommended if construction commences between March 1 and September 15. If active nests are found, a qualified biologist should determine the need (if any) for temporal restrictions on construction. The determination should be pursuant to criteria set forth by CDFW (CDFG, 1994) and the Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee (SHTAC) survey guidelines (SHTAC, 2000).
- The site is not within designated critical habitat for any federally listed species.
- On-site trees, shrubs, and grasslands may be used by nesting birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and Fish and Game Code of California. If vegetation removal and/or project construction occurs between February 1 and August 31, a pre-construction nesting bird survey is recommended. If active nests are found within the survey area, vegetation removal and/or project construction should be delayed until a qualified biologist determines nesting is complete.

We hope this information is useful. Please call me at (209) 745-1159 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Diane S. Moore, M.S.  
Principal Biologist

## References and Literature Consulted

ACOE (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). 1987. Technical Report Y87-1. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MI.

ACOE. 2008. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region. U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS. September.

CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2019. California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Heritage Program, Sacramento, California.

CDFG (California Department of Fish and Game). 1994. Staff Report regarding Mitigation for Impacts to Swainson's Hawks (*Buteo Swainsoni*) in the Central Valley of California. November.

SHTAC (Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee). 2000. Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley. May 31.



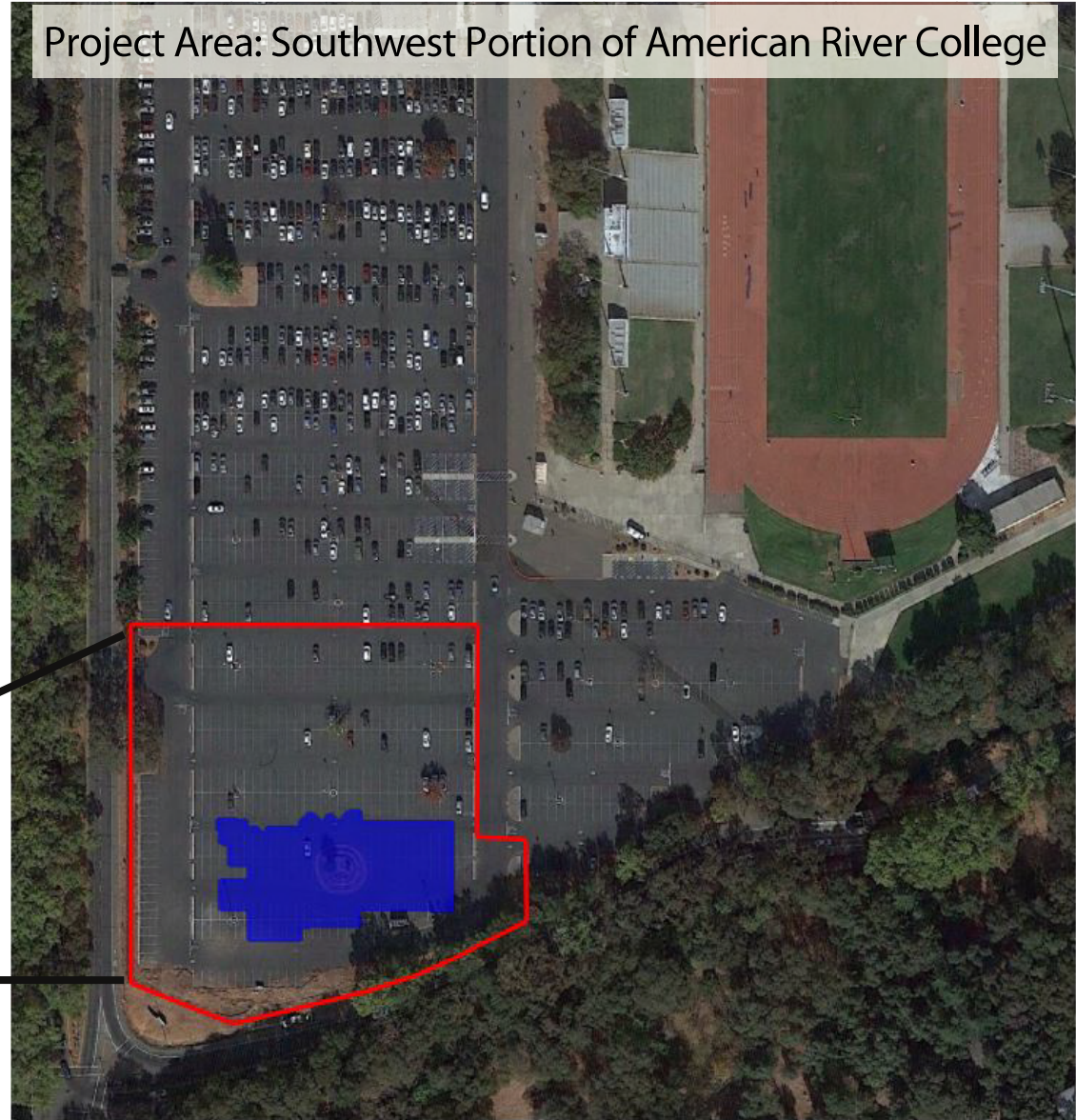
Attachment A

Limits of Work Exhibit

# American River College



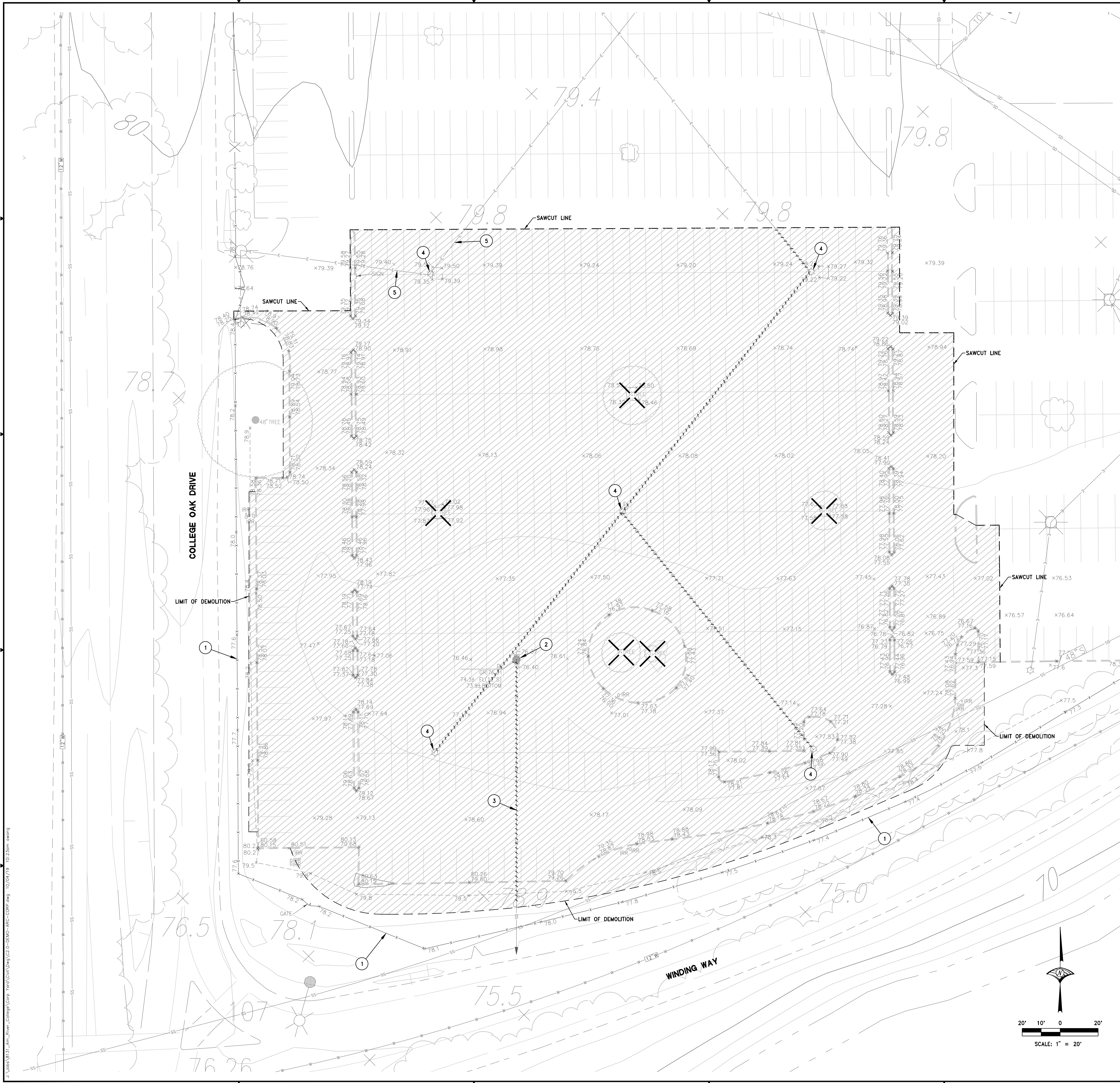
Project Area: Southwest Portion of American River College



## American River College: Corporation Yard Relocation Project

- Legend
-  Proposed Corporation Yard Relocation Area
  -  Approximate Building Footprint





LEGEND

- SAWCUT LINE
- LIMIT OF PROJECT SURFACE IMPROVEMENTS
- APPROXIMATE AREA OF DEMOLITION (SEE ALSO GENERAL NOTES THIS SHEET.)
- TREE TO BE REMOVED (ALL TREES WITHIN AREA OF DEMOLITION NOT SHOWN WITH THIS SYMBOL ARE TO REMAIN.)
- LINEAL DEMOLITION ITEM AS SHOWN AND/OR NOTED IN PLAN.

GENERAL NOTES

- ALL EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS SURROUNDING THE PROJECT SITE SHALL REMAIN UNDISTURBED UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
- SAWCUT SHALL BE PROVIDED WHERE SHOWN TO ENSURE A CLEAN EDGE TO PAVE TO. DO NOT OVERCUT AT ANGLE POINTS.
- AREA OF SURFACE DEMOLITION: IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN WITHIN AREA (INCLUDING PAVEMENT, CONCRETE, SUBBASE, STRIPING, CURBING, MISC LANDSCAPING, ETC) ARE TO BE DEMOLISHED OR REMOVED UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE. SEE LANDSCAPE PLANS FOR SPECIFICS REGARDING LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION, AND SEE PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL PLANS FOR SPECIFICS REGARDING ALL LIGHTING, DRY UTILITIES AND APPURTENANCES.
- CONTRACTOR TO DISPOSE OF ANY TREES REMOVED DURING GRADING BY MEANS OTHER THAN LANDFILL.
- TREES TO REMAIN SHALL BE PROTECTED.
- OWNER SHALL BE GIVEN OPTION TO SALVAGE ANY MATERIAL SHOWN TO BE DEMOLISHED. SALVAGED MATERIALS SHALL BE STOCKPILED AT A LOCATION ON SITE.
- SAWCUT AND REMOVE ASPHALT PAVEMENT, CONCRETE PAVEMENT, CURBS, GUTTERS, SIDEWALKS, BOLLARDS AND BASE MATERIAL AS INDICATED BY HATCHED AREA. AT CONTRACTOR'S OPTION, ASPHALT AND BASE MATERIAL MEETING SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PROCESSED AND USED AS FILL MATERIAL IN HARDSCAPE AREAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT.

DEMOLITION NOTES

- EXISTING FENCE TO REMAIN.
- EXISTING DRAIN INLET TO BE REMOVED.
- EXISTING DRAIN LINE TO BE REMOVED APPROX. AS SHOWN. SEE WET UTILITY PLANS FOR DETAILS.
- EXISTING STREET LIGHT TO BE REMOVED.
- EXISTING STREET LIGHT CONDUIT TO REMAIN.

100% DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



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Sacramento, CA 95816  
916 498-7900



LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE  
CORPORATION YARD

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95841

DEMOLITION PLAN

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REVISIONS	

DATE	OCTOBER 4, 2019
SCALE	AS NOTED
DRAWN BY	A. WONG
JOB NO.	19-06
SHEET	



C2.0

Attachment B

Photographs





Landscape area along the south edge of the parking lot, looking southeast from the southwest corner of the site; 10/24/19.



East edge of the site, looking north from the southeast corner of the site; 10/24/19.





West edge of the site, looking north from the southwest corner of the site; 10/24/19. There is a notable blue oak (circled) along the west edge of the site.



College Oak Drive is adjacent to the west edge of the site, looking south from the entrance to the parking lot in the northwest corner of the site; 10/24/19. There are several large trees in the center divider of College Oak Drive.



Body of the project site, looking northwest at the body of the parking lot from the southeast corner of the site; 10/24/19.



North edge of the site, looking west from the northeast corner of the site; 10/24/19.

Attachment C

CNDDDB Summary Report and Map





# Selected Elements by Scientific Name

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife

### California Natural Diversity Database



**Query Criteria:** Quad< IS </span>(Citrus Heights (3812163)<span style="color:Red"> OR </span>Rio Linda (3812164)<span style="color:Red"> OR </span>Sacramento East (3812154)<span style="color:Red"> OR </span>Carmichael (3812153))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Accipiter cooperii</i></b> Cooper's hawk	ABNKC12040	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<b><i>Agelaius tricolor</i></b> tricolored blackbird	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<b><i>Andrena subapasta</i></b> An andrenid bee	IIHYM35210	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b><i>Aquila chrysaetos</i></b> golden eagle	ABNKC22010	None	None	G5	S3	FP
<b><i>Ardea alba</i></b> great egret	ABNGA04040	None	None	G5	S4	
<b><i>Ardea herodias</i></b> great blue heron	ABNGA04010	None	None	G5	S4	
<b><i>Athene cunicularia</i></b> burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Branchinecta lynchi</i></b> vernal pool fairy shrimp	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
<b><i>Branchinecta mesoovallensis</i></b> midvalley fairy shrimp	ICBRA03150	None	None	G2	S2S3	
<b><i>Buteo regalis</i></b> ferruginous hawk	ABNKC19120	None	None	G4	S3S4	WL
<b><i>Buteo swainsoni</i></b> Swainson's hawk	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
<b><i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i></b> western yellow-billed cuckoo	ABNRB02022	Threatened	Endangered	G5T2T3	S1	
<b><i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i></b> valley elderberry longhorn beetle	IICOL48011	Threatened	None	G3T2	S2	
<b><i>Downingia pusilla</i></b> dwarf downingia	PDCAM060C0	None	None	GU	S2	2B.2
<b><i>Dumontia oregonensis</i></b> hairy water flea	ICBRA23010	None	None	G1G3	S1	
<b><i>Elanus leucurus</i></b> white-tailed kite	ABNKC06010	None	None	G5	S3S4	FP
<b><i>Elderberry Savanna</i></b> Elderberry Savanna	CTT63440CA	None	None	G2	S2.1	
<b><i>Emys marmorata</i></b> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Fritillaria agrestis</i></b> stinkbells	PMLIL0V010	None	None	G3	S3	4.2





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



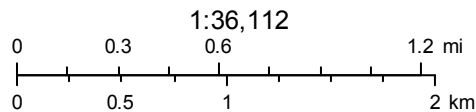
Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Gratiola heterosepala</i></b> Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop	PDSCR0R060	None	Endangered	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Hydrochara rickseckeri</i></b> Ricksecker's water scavenger beetle	IICOL5V010	None	None	G2?	S2?	
<b><i>Juncus leiospermus</i> var. <i>ahartii</i></b> Ahart's dwarf rush	PMJUN011L1	None	None	G2T1	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Legenere limosa</i></b> legenere	PDCAM0C010	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Lepidurus packardii</i></b> vernal pool tadpole shrimp	ICBRA10010	Endangered	None	G4	S3S4	
<b><i>Linderiella occidentalis</i></b> California linderiella	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<b><i>Melospiza melodia</i></b> song sparrow ("Modesto" population)	ABPBXA3010	None	None	G5	S3?	SSC
<b><i>Northern Claypan Vernal Pool</i></b> Northern Claypan Vernal Pool	CTT44120CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b><i>Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool</i></b> Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool	CTT44110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	
<b><i>Northern Volcanic Mud Flow Vernal Pool</i></b> Northern Volcanic Mud Flow Vernal Pool	CTT44132CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b><i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> pop. 11</b> steelhead - Central Valley DPS	AFCHA0209K	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	
<b><i>Orcuttia viscida</i></b> Sacramento Orcutt grass	PMPOA4G070	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Progne subis</i></b> purple martin	ABPAU01010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<b><i>Riparia riparia</i></b> bank swallow	ABPAU08010	None	Threatened	G5	S2	
<b><i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i></b> Sanford's arrowhead	PMALI040Q0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<b><i>Spea hammondi</i></b> western spadefoot	AAABF02020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b><i>Taxidea taxus</i></b> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<b><i>Thamnophis gigas</i></b> giant gartersnake	ARADB36150	Threatened	Threatened	G2	S2	

Record Count: 37

# Map of Project Area

California Natural Diversity  
Database (CNDDB) Commercial  
[ds85]

- Plant (80m)
- Plant (specific)
- Plant (non-specific)
- Plant (circular)
- Animal (80m)
- Animal (specific)
- Animal (non-specific)
- Animal (circular)
- Terrestrial Comm. (80m)
- Terrestrial Comm. (specific)
- Terrestrial Comm. (non-specific)
- Terrestrial Comm. (circular)
- Aquatic Comm. (80m)
- Aquatic Comm. (specific)
- Aquatic Comm. (non-specific)
- Aquatic Comm. (circular)
- Multiple (80m)
- Multiple (specific)
- Multiple (non-specific)
- Multiple (circular)
- Sensitive EO's (Commercial only)



October 23, 2019



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri