

APPENDIX B

MOORE BIOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

January 3, 2020

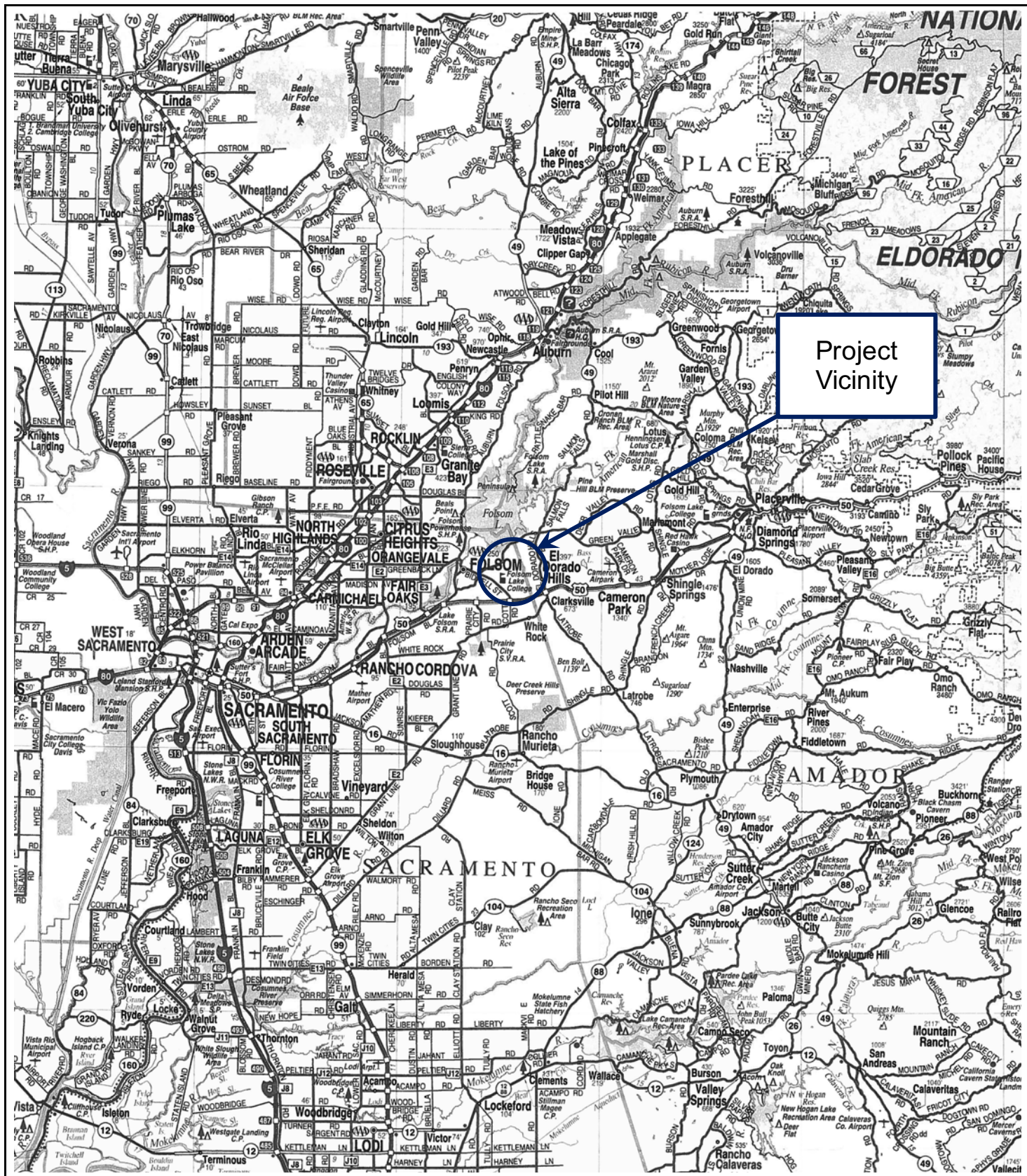
Mr. Daniel Kramer, C.E.G.
Petralogix Engineering, Inc.
212 Pine Street, Ste. 2
Lodi, CA 95240

Subject: "FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE PHASE 2.1 INSTRUCTIONAL
BUILDING", PROJECT, FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA: BIOLOGICAL
RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Dear Daniel:

Thank you for asking Moore Biological Consultants to assist with a biological resources assessment of the "Phase 2.1 Instructional Building" project at Folsom Lake College, in Folsom, 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 December 30, 2019.

PROJECT OVERVIEW: The Los Rios Community College District is proposing to construct a new instructional building located in the southwest portion of the Folsom Lake College campus located at 10 College Parkway, Folsom, California (Figures 1 and 2 and Site Plan in Attachment A). The building will house instructional, office, and support spaces for the chemistry, biology, physical



Source: California State
Automobile Association

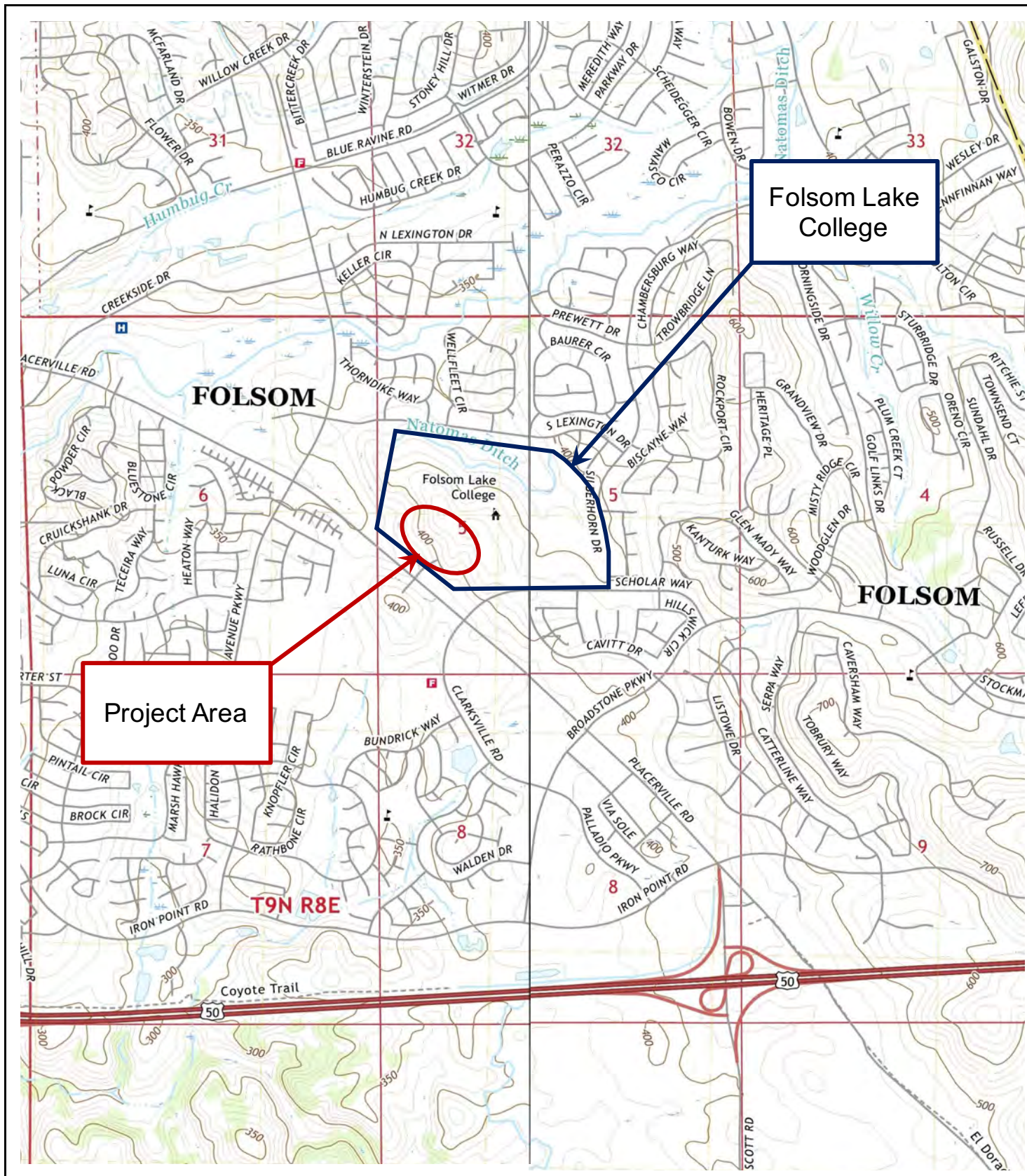
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Consultants**



0 9 18 Miles

FIGURE 1

PROJECT VICINITY



Source: USGS 7.5-minute
Folsom & Clarksville topographic
quadrangles

Moore Biological



0 2000 4000 Feet

FIGURE 2

PROJECT LOCATION

sciences and career and technical education departments. The area proposed for the new instructional building is a bare grassland area on a hill slope (Figure 3 and photographs in Attachment B).

GENERAL SETTING: The project site is located in Sacramento County (Figure 1). The site is in Section 5 within Township 9 North, Range 8 East of the USGS 7.5-minute Folsom topographic quadrangle (Figure 2). The new instructional building will be constructed in the southwest portion of the college campus (Figure 3 and photographs in Attachment B).

VEGETATION: A majority of the natural habitats in the project vicinity, including those in the site, have been replaced by development. The site is currently an open grassland area on a hill slope (Figure 3 and photographs in Attachment B). There are a few ornamental landscape trees and shrubs associated with buildings and walking path along the north part of the site. Additionally, there are several relatively large trees adjacent to the site, primarily along College Parkway and near parking lots and buildings in close proximity to the project site.

There open grassland field supports primarily non-native grasses and weeds. Dominant grass species include oats (*Avena fatua*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), and wall barley (*Hordeum murinum*). Other grassland species including long-beaked stork's bill (*Erodium botrys*), prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), and flax-leaved horseweed (*Erigeron bonariensis*) are intermixed with the grasses. There are no trees or shrubs of any kind in the open field.

WILDLIFE: Only a few bird species were observed in the site during the recent survey, all of which are commonly found in urban areas of Sacramento County. Turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), American crow (*Corvus branchyrhynchos*), California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), say's phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), and yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) were the only birds observed at the site



Source (Basemap): Google Earth

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Consultants**



FIGURE 3

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

during the survey. The only sign of mammal in the site were a few holes from pocket gopher activity.

As described above, while there are no trees in the open field where the new instructional building will be located, there are a few ornamental trees along the walking path that is along the north edge of the site that could be used by nesting birds. There are also a few large trees adjacent to and in close proximity to the site 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 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 of an open grassland field on a sloping hillside. Specifically, we observed no relatively permanent or intermittent drainages, vernal pools, seasonal wetlands, marshes, ponds, lakes, or riparian wetlands of any type within or adjacent to the site.

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 Folsom and Clarksville topographic quadrangles (see CNDDDB Search Results in Attachment C). There are a few records of special-status species documented in the CNDDDB in the project site and within a few miles of the 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 project site consists of an open grassland area vegetated in ruderal grasses and weeds. No special-status plants or highly suitable habitat for special-status plants were observed in or adjacent to the site. Additionally, there are no special-status plants recorded in the CNDDDB in close proximity to the project site.

The nearest record of special-status wildlife observed near the project site is a 1994 record of nesting tricolored blackbirds (*Agelaius tricolor*) “nonspecifically” mapped in the CNDDDB in a large area that encompasses the project site. Historically, Natomas Ditch was situated along the north edge of what is now Bidwell Street. The ditch was drained and then filled in the early 1990’s when construction of the college and surrounding lands commenced, resulting in destruction of the emergent wetland habitat in the ditch that supported the

blackbird colony. The tricolored blackbird colony reported in this location is described in the CNDDDB (2019) record as “Extirpated” (i.e., it no longer exists). There is also a 1991 record of western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*) in Natomas Ditch. This record is described as “Possibly Extirpated” in the CNDDDB (2019). Due to filling of this ditch and consequently, the lack of suitable habitat for these two species, it is considered highly unlikely that they would occur in or near the project site in present time.

Other species records in the CNDDDB (2019) within a few miles of the project site include valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), and Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*).

While the project site may have provided habitat for several 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 Folsom Lake 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. The closest record of nesting Swainson's hawk in the CNDDDB (2019) search area is a 1962 record approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the project site, mapped in a large nonspecific area surrounding the City of Folsom.

No Swainson's hawks were observed during the recent survey; however, this survey was conducted outside of the nesting season for this species. The grassland in the project site provides suitable foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk, although any use of this area by foraging Swainson's hawks is unknown. Due to the relatively small size of the site, surrounding development, and presence of other larger open fields in the greater project vicinity providing high quality forwarding habitat, it is unlikely Swainson's hawks forage in the site on more than an occasional basis. Swainson's hawks may use relatively larger trees in and near the school for nesting. However, as most of the trees in close proximity to the site are relatively small ornamentals, it is unlikely Swainson's hawks nest in close enough proximity to the site to be disturbed by construction activities.

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 Folsom Lake College campus primarily consists of developed areas and areas of landscaping that are biologically unremarkable. The project site is an open grassland area on a sloping hillside and is also 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.
- Trees, shrubs, and grasslands in and near the site 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.

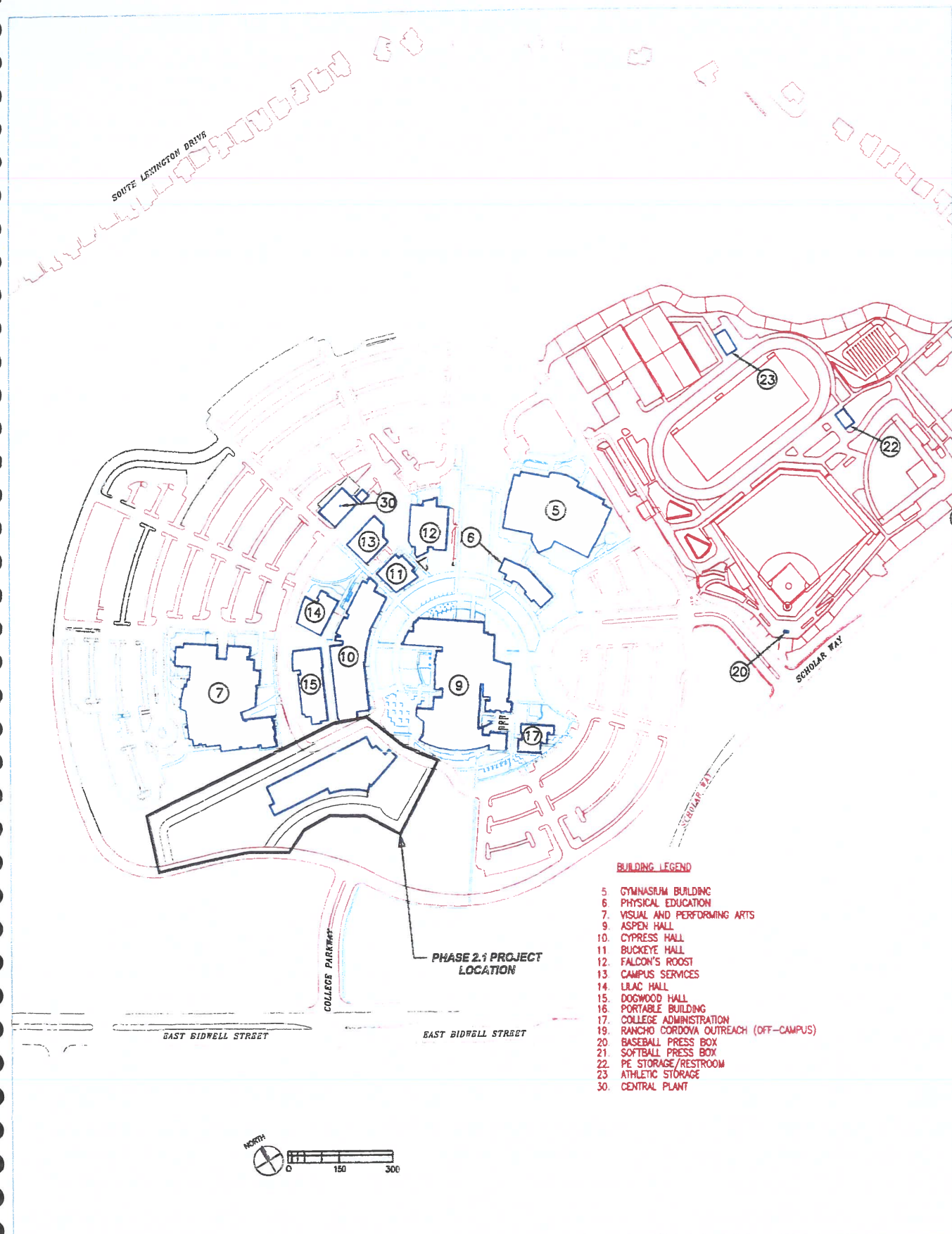
CNDDDB (California Natural Diversity Database). 2019. California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Heritage Program, Sacramento, California.

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

Project Plans (Sheets A1 – A3)



CAMPUS PLAN



SITE PLAN

DRAWING INDEX

- A1 CAMPUS PLAN, SITE PLAN, DRAWING INDEX
- A2 FPP INSTRUCTIONAL BUILDING FIRST FLOOR PLAN
- A3 FPP INSTRUCTIONAL BUILDING SECOND FLOOR PLAN
- A4 FPP MASSING DIAGRAMS

Folsom Lake
College

Los Rios
Community
College District

Phase 2.1
Instructional
Building

Final Project
Proposal

FPP
Pre-Schematic
Plans

Campus Plan

April 2016

A1

Folsom Lake
College

Los Rios
Community
College District

Phase 2.1
Instructional
Building

Final Project
Proposal

FPP
Pre-Schematic
Plans

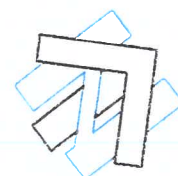
Instruc. Bldg
1st Floor Plan

April 2016

A2



0 15' 30' 60'



- Chemistry Lab ASF 11,000 TOP 1905
- Allied Health/Radiology Lab ASF: 2,900 TOP: 1201
- Lecture ASF: 3,900 TOP: 0099
- Office ASF: 3,900 TOP: 0099
- LRC Tutorial ASF: 1,800 TOP: 4901

INSTRUCTIONAL BUILDING FIRST FLOOR

Folsom Lake
College

Los Rios
Community
College District

Phase 2.1
Instructional
Building

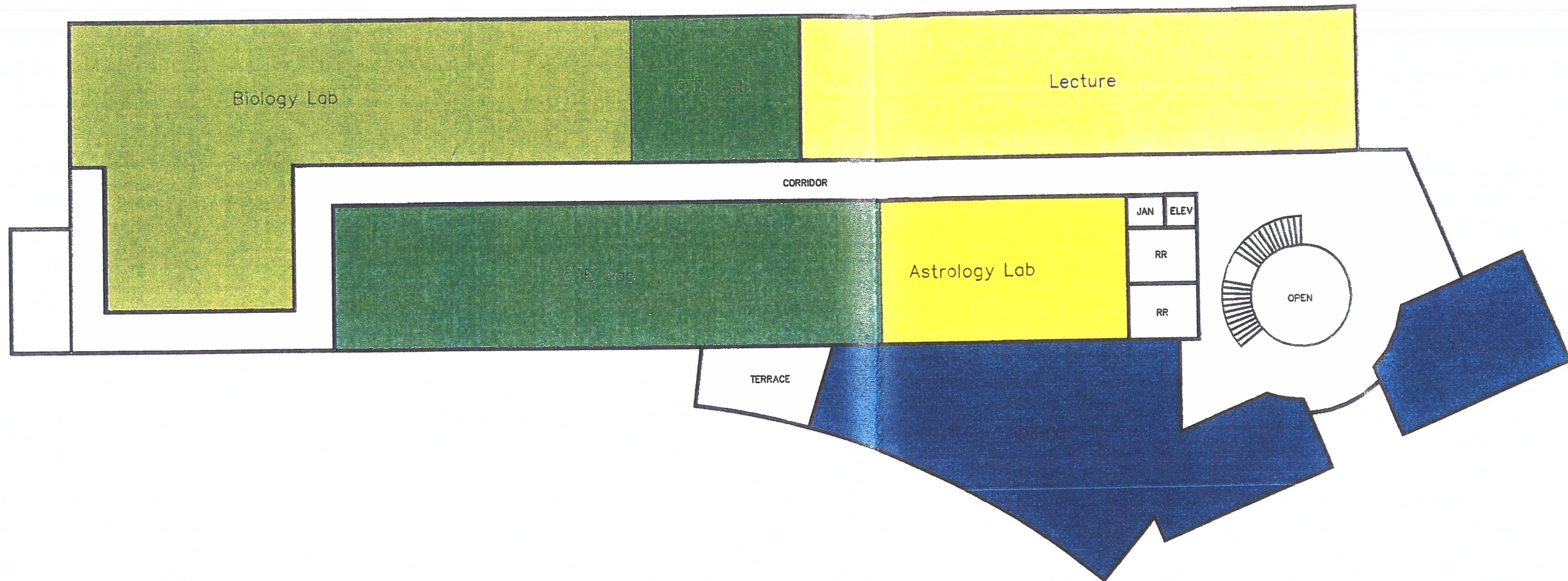
Final Project
Proposal

FPP
Pre--Schematic
Plans

Instruc. Bldg
2nd Floor Plan

April 2016

A3



- Biology Lab ASF: 6,500 TOP: 0401
- CTE Lab ASF: 6,300 TOP: 0301
- Astrology Lab ASF: 2,200 TOP: 1911
- Lecture ASF: 4,900 TOP: 0099
- Office ASF: 5,500 TOP: 0099

Attachment B

Photographs



Sloping hillside in the west part of the site, looking east from the west end of the project site; 12/30/19.



Open grassland field in the body of the site, looking northwest from the east end of the site; 12/30/19.



Road along the south edge of the site, looking southeast from the west end of the site; 12/30/19.



Sloping grassland area in the south part of the project site, looking northwest along the road that borders the south part of the site; 12/30/19.



Walking path adjacent to a few buildings along the north edge of the site, looking northwest; 12/30/19.



Open grassland field in the body of the site, looking west from the north edge of the site; 12/30/19. A fire access road will be constructed at this approximate location.



Walking path in the east part of the site, looking northwest toward a few of the buildings adjacent to the project site; 12/30/19.



East edge of the site, looking southwest from east tip of the site; 12/30/19.

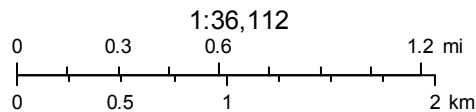
Attachment C

CNDDB Map and Summary Report

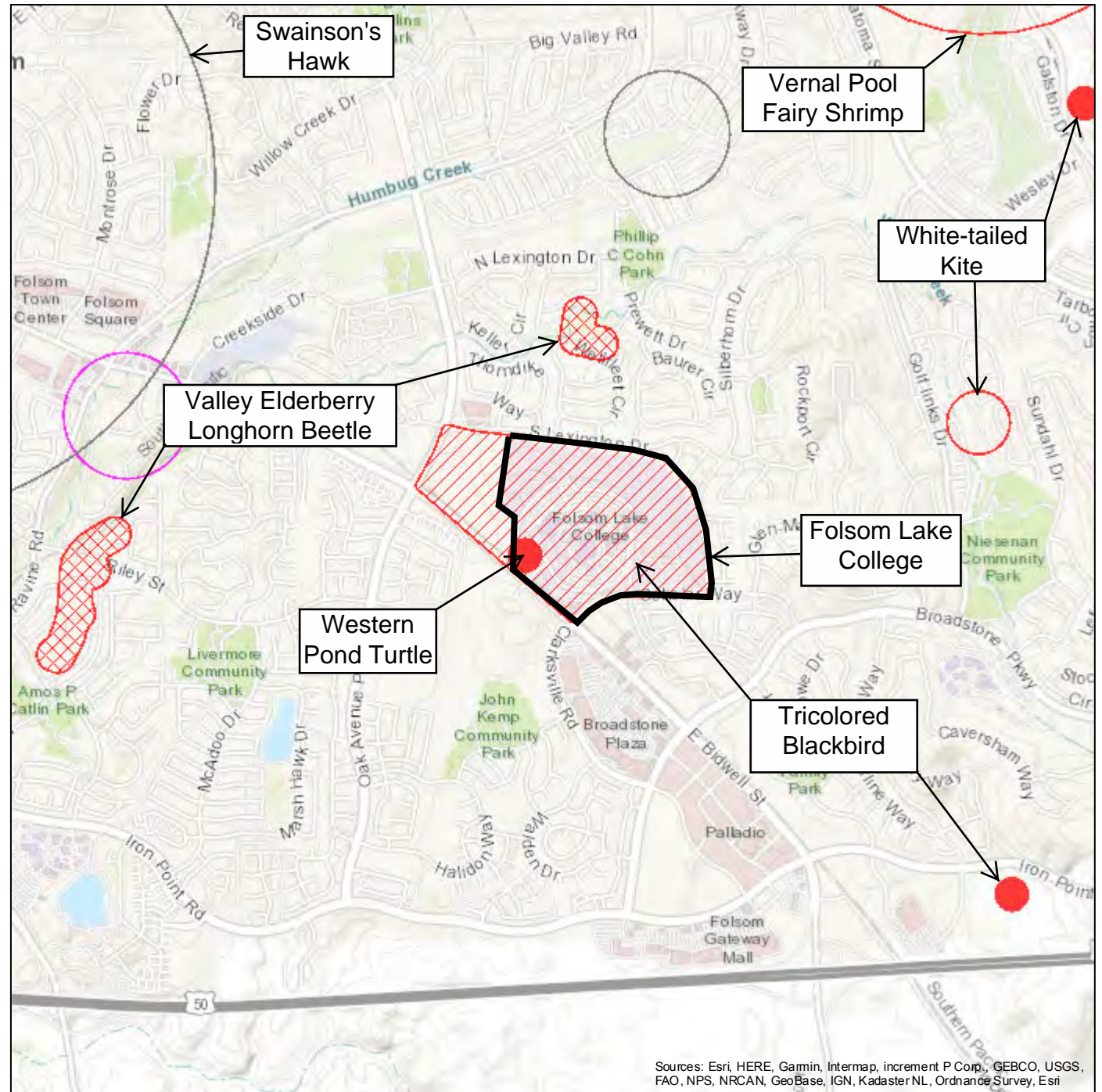
Map of Project Area

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)



December 30, 2019



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



Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad IS (Folsom (3812162) OR Clarksville (3812161))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	ABNKC12040	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<i>Andrena blennospermatis</i> Blennosperma vernal pool andrenid bee	IIHYM35030	None	None	G2	S2	
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> pallid bat	AMACC10010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	ABNKC22010	None	None	G5	S3	FP
<i>Ardea alba</i> great egret	ABNGA04040	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Ardea herodias</i> great blue heron	ABNGA04010	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> vernal pool fairy shrimp	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
<i>Ceanothus roderickii</i> Pine Hill ceanothus	PDRHA04190	Endangered	Rare	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Chlorogalum grandiflorum</i> Red Hills soaproot	PMLIL0G020	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<i>Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeae</i> Brandegee's clarkia	PDONA05053	None	None	G4G5T4	S4	4.2
<i>Crocانthemum suffrutescens</i> Bisbee Peak rush-rose	PDCIS020F0	None	None	G2?Q	S2?	3.2
<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> valley elderberry longhorn beetle	IICOL48011	Threatened	None	G3T2	S2	
<i>Downingia pusilla</i> dwarf downingia	PDCAM060C0	None	None	GU	S2	2B.2
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> white-tailed kite	ABNKC06010	None	None	G5	S3S4	FP
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i> North American porcupine	AMAFJ01010	None	None	G5	S3	
<i>Falco columbarius</i> merlin	ABNKD06030	None	None	G5	S3S4	WL



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



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Fremontodendron decumbens</i> Pine Hill flannelbush	PDSTE03030	Endangered	Rare	G1	S1	1B.2
<i>Galium californicum ssp. sierrae</i> El Dorado bedstraw	PDRUB0N0E7	Endangered	Rare	G5T1	S1	1B.2
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> bald eagle	ABNKC10010	Delisted	Endangered	G5	S3	FP
<i>Hydrochara rickseckeri</i> Ricksecker's water scavenger beetle	IICOL5V010	None	None	G2?	S2?	
<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i> silver-haired bat	AMACC02010	None	None	G5	S3S4	
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i> California black rail	ABNME03041	None	Threatened	G3G4T1	S1	FP
<i>Lepidurus packardii</i> vernal pool tadpole shrimp	ICBRA10010	Endangered	None	G4	S3S4	
<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i> California linderiella	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<i>Navarretia myersii ssp. myersii</i> pincushion navarretia	PDPLM0C0X1	None	None	G2T2	S2	1B.1
<i>Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool</i> Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool	CTT44110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	
<i>Northern Volcanic Mud Flow Vernal Pool</i> Northern Volcanic Mud Flow Vernal Pool	CTT44132CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11</i> steelhead - Central Valley DPS	AFCHA0209K	Threatened	None	G5T2Q	S2	
<i>Orcuttia viscida</i> Sacramento Orcutt grass	PMPOA4G070	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Packera layneae</i> Layne's ragwort	PDAST8H1V0	Threatened	Rare	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i> double-crested cormorant	ABNFD01020	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Rana boylei</i> foothill yellow-legged frog	AAABH01050	None	Candidate Threatened	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	AAABH01022	Threatened	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i> Sanford's arrowhead	PMALI040Q0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<i>Spea hammondi</i> western spadefoot	AAABF02020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Valley Needlegrass Grassland</i> Valley Needlegrass Grassland	CTT42110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	



Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Wyethia reticulata</i> El Dorado County mule ears	PDAST9X0D0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2

Record Count: 42