

State of California – Natural Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE Central Region 1234 East Shaw Ave Fresno, California 93710 www.wildlife.ca.gov

May 22, 2020

Jason Waters

City of Woodlake

**Community Service Director** 

350 North. Valencia Avenue

Woodlake, California 93286

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



Governor's Office of Planning & Research

#### MAY 22 2020

## **STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

## Subject: Woodlake Stormwater Basin Project MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) SCH No.: 2020040272

Dear Mr. Waters:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a Notice of Intent to Adopt an MND from City of Woodlake for the Project pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.<sup>1</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

## **CDFW ROLE**

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statue for all the people of the State (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a)). CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (*Id.*, § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), related authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code may be required.

**Nesting Birds**: CDFW has jurisdiction over actions with potential to result in the disturbance or destruction of active nest sites or the unauthorized take of birds. Fish and Game Code sections that protect birds, their eggs and nests include, sections 3503 (regarding unlawful take, possession or needless destruction of the nest or eggs of any bird), 3503.5 (regarding the take, possession or destruction of any birds-of-prey or their nests or eggs), and 3513 (regarding unlawful take of any migratory nongame bird).

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

#### Proponent: City of Woodlake

**Objective:** The objective of the Project is to construct and operate a 17-acre storm water retention basin. Primary Project activities include construction of the basin, installation of a 4,611-foot pipeline from the new basin to the Manzanillo Pump Station, installation of a 930-foot pipeline from the new basin to Palm St.

**Location:** North of Little Bravo Lake, south of W. Ropes Avenue and northwest of Mulberry Street on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 060-170-016 and -015.

#### Timeframe: Unspecified

## COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist City of Woodlake in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. Editorial comments or other suggestions may also be included to improve the document.

There are many special-status resources present in and adjacent to the Project area. These resources may need to be evaluated and addressed prior to any approvals that would allow ground-disturbing activities or land use changes. The MND indicates there

are potentially significant impacts unless mitigation measures are taken but CDFW is concerned that the proposed mitigation measures may not be sufficient to reduce impacts to less than significant. CDFW is concerned regarding potential impacts to special-status species including, but not limited to: the State candidate-listed as endangered Crotch bumble bee (Bombus crotchii), the State threatened Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor), the State species of special concern burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia), western spadefoot (Spea hammondii), and Western pond turtle (Emys marmorata). In order to adequately assess any potential impact to biological resources, focused biological surveys should be conducted by a qualified wildlife biologist/botanist during the appropriate survey period(s) in order to determine whether any special-status species and/or suitable habitat features may be present within the Project area. Properly conducted biological surveys, and the information assembled from them, are essential to identify any mitigation, minimization, and avoidance measures and/or the need for additional or protocol-level surveys, especially in the areas not in irrigated agriculture, and to identify any Project-related impacts under CESA and other species of concern.

#### I. Project Description and Related Impact Shortcoming

Would the Project 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 CDFW or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)?

#### COMMENT 1: Crotch Bumble Bee (CBB)

**Issue:** CBB have been documented to occur within and near the vicinity of the Project area (CDFW 2020). Though these sightings may have been from a long time ago, potential CBB habitat may still occur near the Project site. Suitable CBB habitat include areas of grasslands and upland scrub that contain requisite habitat elements, such as small mammal burrows. CBB primarily nest in late February through late October underground in abandoned small mammal burrows, but may also nest under perennial bunch grasses or thatched annual grasses, underbrush piles, in old bird nests, and in dead trees or hollow logs (Williams et al. 2014; Hatfield et al. 2015). Overwintering sites utilized by CBB mated queens include soft, disturbed soil (Goulson 2010), or under leaf litter or other debris (Williams et al. 2014). Therefore, potential ground disturbance and vegetation removal associated with Project implementation may significantly impact local CBB populations.

**Specific impact:** Without appropriate avoidance and minimization measures for CBB, potentially significant impacts associated with ground- and vegetation-disturbing activities associated with implementation of the Project, and related future projects, could include loss of foraging plants, changes in foraging behavior,

burrow collapse, nest abandonment, reduced nest success, reduced health and vigor of eggs, young and/or queens, in addition to direct mortality in violation of Fish and Game Code.

**Evidence impact is potentially significant:** CBB was once common throughout most of the central and southern California; however, it now appears to be absent from most of it, especially in the central portion of its historic range within California's Central Valley (Hatfield et al. 2014). Analyses by the Xerces Society et al. (2018) suggest there have been sharp declines in relative abundance by 98% and persistence by 80% over the last ten years.

#### **Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s)**

To evaluate potential impacts to CBB associated with the Project, CDFW recommends incorporating the following mitigation measures into the MND prepared for this Project and implementing the following mitigation measures as a condition of approval for the Project.

## **Recommended Mitigation Measure 1: CBB Surveys**

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct focused surveys for CBB, and their requisite habitat features prior to Project implementation to evaluate impacts resulting from potential ground- and vegetation-disturbing activities that may result from the approval of the MND.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 2: CBB Take Avoidance**

If surveys cannot be completed, CDFW recommends that all small mammal burrows and thatched/bunch grasses be avoided by a minimum of 50 feet to avoid take and potentially significant impacts. If ground-disturbing activities will occur during the overwintering period (October through February), consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement Project activities and avoid take. Any detection of CBB prior to or during Project implementation warrants consultation with CDFW to discuss how to avoid take.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 3: CBB Take Authorization**

If CBB is identified during surveys, consultation with CDFW is warranted to determine if the Project can avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take authorization prior to any ground-disturbing activities may be warranted. Take authorization would occur through issuance of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) by CDFW, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b).

#### COMMENT 2: Tricolored Blackbird (TRBL)

**Issue**: TRBL has the potential to occur near the Project site. Review of aerial imagery indicates that the Project site is near dense low vegetation fields next to a water source that may serve as nest colony sites. The MND states that TRBL do not have the potential to be present near the Project site due to low habitat quality on the Project site itself. However, the MND also states that the small semi-permanent wetland at the southern Project site boundary supported hydrophytic plants including tule (*Schoenoplectus acutus*), which can support TRBL nest colonies (Meese 2017). Based on the information in the MND, it's unclear why the semi-permanent wetland was eliminated as potential habitat. The Project activities have the potential to impact nearby TRBL nesting colonies should they occur in the Project vicinity.

**Specific impact:** Without appropriate avoidance and minimization measures for TRBL, potential significant impacts include nest and/or colony abandonment, reduced reproductive success, and reduced health and vigor of eggs and/or young.

**Evidence impact would be significant:** TRBL aggregate and nest colonially, forming colonies of up to 100,000 nests (Meese et al. 2014). Approximately 86% of the global population is found in the San Joaquin Valley (Kelsey 2008, Weintraub et al. 2016). Increasingly, TRBL are forming larger colonies that contain progressively larger proportions of the species' total population (Kelsey 2008). In 2008, for example, 55% of the species' global population nested in only two colonies, which were located in silage fields (Kelsey 2008). In 2017, approximately 30,000 TRBL were distributed among only 16 colonies in Merced County (Meese 2017). Nesting can occur synchronously, with all eggs laid within one week (Orians 1961). For these reasons, depending on timing, disturbance to nesting colonies can cause abandonment, significantly impacting TRBL populations (Meese et al. 2014).

#### **Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s)**

To evaluate potential Project-related impacts to TRBL, CDFW recommends conducting the following evaluation of the Project site prior to construction and editing the MND to include the following measures.

#### Recommended Mitigation Measure 4: TRBL Habitat Assessment

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct a habitat assessment of the Project site in and around the area in advance of Project implementation, to determine if the Project site or the surrounding area may contain suitable habitat for TRBL.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 5: TRBL Surveys**

If suitable nesting habitat is on or adjacent to the Project site, CDFW recommends that Project activities be timed to avoid the typical bird breeding season (February 1 through September 15). However, if Project activities must take place during that time, CDFW recommends that a qualified wildlife biologist conduct surveys for nesting TRBL, within a minimum 500-foot buffer from the Project site, no more than 10 days prior to the start of implementation to evaluate presence/absence of TRBL nesting colonies in proximity to Project activities and to evaluate potential Projectrelated impacts.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 6: TRBL Avoidance**

If an active TRBL nesting colony is found during pre-activity nesting bird surveys, CDFW recommends implementation of a minimum 300-foot no-disturbance buffer in accordance with CDFW's "*Staff Guidance Regarding Avoidance of Impacts to Tricolored Blackbird Breeding Colonies on Agricultural Fields in 2015*" (CDFW 2015b). CDFW advises that this buffer remain in place until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that nesting has ceased, the birds have fledged, and are no longer reliant upon the colony or parental care for survival. It is important to note that TRBL colonies can expand over time and for this reason, the colony may need to be reassessed to determine the extent of the breeding colony within 10 days prior to Project initiation.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 7: TRBL Take Authorization**

In the event that a TRBL nesting colony is detected during surveys, consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, to acquire an ITP, pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081subdivision (b), prior to any ground-disturbing activities.

#### COMMENT 3: Burrowing Owl (BUOW)

**Issue:** BUOW may occur near the Project site (CDFW 2020). BUOW inhabit open grassland or adjacent canal banks, ROWs, vacant lots, etc. containing small mammal burrows, a requisite habitat feature used by BUOW for nesting and cover. Review of aerial imagery indicates that some of the Project site is bordered by annual grassland and/or potentially fallow agricultural fields.Reconnaissance survey results provided in the MND state California ground squirrels (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) are present on the Project site and their burrows may provide adequate nesting habitat or refugia for BUOW provide refugia or nesting habitat for BUOW foraging in these areas..

**Specific impact:** Potentially significant direct impacts associated with subsequent activities include burrow collapse, inadvertent entrapment, nest abandonment, reduced reproductive success, reduction in health and vigor of eggs and/or young, and direct mortality of individuals.

**Evidence impact is potentially significant:** BUOW rely on burrow habitat yearround for their survival and reproduction. Habitat loss and degradation are considered the greatest threats to BUOW in California's Central Valley (Gervais et al. 2008). Subsequent ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project have the potential to significantly impact local BUOW populations. In addition, and as described in CDFW's "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012), excluding and/or evicting BUOW from their burrows is considered a potentially significant impact under CEQA.

# Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s) (Regarding Environmental Setting and Related Impact)

To evaluate potential impacts to BUOW, CDFW recommends conducting the following evaluation of the Project site, incorporating the following mitigation measures into the MND prepared for this Project, and that these measures be made conditions of approval for the Project.

## **Recommended Mitigation Measure 8: BUOW Surveys**

CDFW recommends assessing presence/absence of BUOW by having a qualified biologist conduct surveys following the California Burrowing Owl Consortium's "Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines" (CBOC 1993) and CDFW's Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012). Specifically, CBOC and CDFW's Staff Report suggest three or more surveillance surveys conducted during daylight with each visit occurring at least three weeks apart during the peak breeding season (April 15 to July 15), when BUOW are most detectable, if BUOW habitat is present.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 9: BUOW Avoidance**

CDFW recommends no-disturbance buffers, as outlined in the "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012), be implemented prior to and during any ground-disturbing activities. Specifically, CDFW's Staff Report recommends that impacts to occupied burrows be avoided in accordance with the following table unless a qualified biologist approved by CDFW verifies through non-invasive methods that either: 1) the birds have not begun egg laying and incubation; or 2) that juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival.

Location	Time of Year	Level of Disturbance		
		Low	Med	High
Nesting sites	April 1-Aug 15	200 m*	500 m	500 m
Nesting sites	Aug 16-Oct 15	200 m	200 m	500 m
Nesting sites	Oct 16-Mar 31	50 m	100 m	500 m

\* meters (m)

# **Recommended Mitigation Measure 10: BUOW Passive Relocation and Mitigation**

If BUOW are found within these recommended buffers and avoidance is not possible, it is important to note that according to the Staff Report (CDFG 2012), exclusion is not a take avoidance, minimization, or mitigation method and is considered a potentially significant impact under CEQA. However, if necessary, CDFW recommends that burrow exclusion be conducted by qualified biologists and only during the non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods, such as surveillance. CDFW recommends replacement of occupied burrows with artificial burrows at a ratio of 1 burrow collapsed to 1 artificial burrow constructed (1:1) as mitigation for the potentially significant impact of evicting BUOW. BUOW may attempt to colonize or re-colonize an area that will be impacted; thus, CDFW recommends ongoing surveillance, at a rate that is sufficient to detect BUOW if they return.

#### **COMMENT 4: Western spadefoot**

**Issue:** Western spadefoot inhabit grassland habitats, breed in seasonal wetlands, and seek refuge in upland habitat where they occupy burrows outside of the breeding season (Thomson et al. 2016). Review of aerial imagery indicates that the Project is near these requisite habitat elements. The Project states that the small semi-permanent wetland at the southern Project site boundary which may be adequate habitat.

**Specific impact:** Western Spadefoot are known to occur near the Project area (CDFW 2020). Without appropriate avoidance and minimization measures for western spadefoot, potentially significant impacts associated with ground disturbance include; collapse of small mammal burrows, inadvertent entrapment, loss of upland refugia, water quality impacts to breeding sites, reduced reproductive success, reduction in health and vigor of eggs and/or young, and direct mortality of individuals.

**Evidence impact is potentially significant:** Habitat loss and fragmentation resulting from agricultural and urban development is the primary threat to western

spadefoot (Thomson et al. 2016). The Project area is within the range of western spadefoot, near suitable upland habitat (i.e., grasslands interspersed with burrows) and what appears to be suitable breeding habitat (i.e. the season wetlands or swale south of the Project site). As a result, ground-disturbing activities associated with development of the Project site have the potential to significantly impact local populations of this species.

#### **Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s)**

To evaluate potential impacts to western spadefoot associated with the Project, CDFW recommends conducting the following evaluation of the Project site, incorporating the following mitigation measures into the MND prepared for this Project, and that these measures be made conditions of approval for the Project.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 11: Western Spadefoot Surveys**

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct focused surveys for western spadefoot and their requisite habitat features to evaluate potential impacts resulting from ground- and vegetation-disturbance.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 12: Western Spadefoot Avoidance**

Avoidance whenever possible is encouraged via delineation and observance of a 50-foot no-disturbance buffer around burrows. If western spadefoot are observed on the Project site, CDFW recommends that Project activities in their immediate vicinity cease and individuals be allowed to leave the Project site on their own accord. Alternatively, a qualified biologist with appropriate take authorization can move them out of harm's way and to a suitable location.

#### COMMENT 5: Western pond turtle (WPT)

**Issue:** WPT may occur near in the area of the Project site due to the small semipermanent wetland on the southern border. WPT are known to nest in the spring or early summer within 100 meters of a water body, although nest sites as far away as 500 meter have also been reported (Thomson et al. 2016).

**Specific impact:** Without appropriate avoidance and minimization measures for WPT, potentially significant impacts associated with Project activities could include nest reduction, inadvertent entrapment, reduced reproductive success, reduction in health or vigor of eggs and/or young, and direct mortality.

**Evidence impact is potentially significant:** The Project site is in close proximity of potential WPT habitat. Additionally, noise, vegetation removal, movement of

workers, and ground disturbance as a result of Project activities have the potential to significantly impact WPT populations.

#### **Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s)**

To evaluate potential impacts to WPT, CDFW recommends conducting the following evaluation of the Project site, editing the MND to include the following measures specific to WPT, and that these measures be made conditions of approval for the Project.

#### **Recommended Mitigation Measure 13: WPT Surveys**

CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist assess the Project site for suitable WPT habitat. If suitable habitat is present on or immediately adjacent to the Project site, CDFW recommends a qualified biologist conduct focused surveys for WPT ten days prior to Project implementation. In addition, CDFW recommends that focused surveys for nests occur during the egg-laying season (March through August) and that any nests discovered remain undisturbed until the eggs have hatched. CDFW recommends that any detected WPT nests not be surrounded by exclusion fencing and be provided clear movement corridors to suitable habitat features.

#### Recommended Mitigation Measure 14: WPT Relocation

CDFW recommends that if any WPT are discovered at the site immediately prior to or during Project activities, they be allowed to move out of the area on their own, or a qualified biologist with appropriate take authorization move them out of harm's way to an appropriate location. Please note that capture is a form of take as defined by section 86 of Fish and Game Code, therefore anyone relocating WPT would need take authorization.

#### **II.** Editorial Comments and/or Suggestions

Lake and Streambed Alteration: The Project contains activities that may result in the Project site being subject to CDFW's regulatory authority pursuant Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW prior to commencing any activity that may (a) substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; (b) substantially change or use any material from the bed, bank, or channel of any river, stream, or lake; or (c) deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream, or lake. "Any river, stream, or lake" includes those that are ephemeral or intermittent, such as the unnamed stream within the Project site, as well as those that are perennial in nature.

For additional information on notification requirements, please contact our staff in the Lake and Streambed Alteration Program at (559) 243-4593. It is important to note,

CDFW is required to comply with CEQA, as a Responsible Agency, when issuing a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA). If inadequate, or no environmental review, has occurred, for the Project activities that are subject to notification under Fish and Game Code section 1602, CDFW will not be able to issue the Final LSAA until CEQA analysis for the project is complete. This may lead to considerable Project delays.

**Nesting birds:** CDFW encourages that Project implementation occur during the bird non-nesting season; however, if ground-disturbing or vegetation-disturbing activities must occur during the breeding season (February through mid-September), the Project applicant is responsible for ensuring that implementation of the Project does not result in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or relevant Fish and Game Codes as referenced above.

To evaluate Project-related impacts on nesting birds, CDFW recommends that a qualified wildlife biologist conduct pre-activity surveys for active nests no more than 10 days prior to the start of ground or vegetation disturbance to maximize the probability that nests that could potentially be impacted are detected. CDFW also recommends that surveys cover a sufficient area around the Project site to identify nests and determine their status. A sufficient area means any area potentially affected by the Project. In addition to direct impacts (i.e. nest destruction), noise, vibration, and movement of workers or equipment could also affect nests. Prior to initiation of construction activities, CDFW recommends that a qualified biologist conduct a survey to establish a behavioral baseline of all identified nests. Once construction begins, CDFW recommends having a qualified biologist continuously monitor nests to detect behavioral changes resulting from the Project. If behavioral changes occur, CDFW recommends halting the work causing that change and consulting with CDFW for additional avoidance and minimization measures.

If continuous monitoring of identified nests by a qualified wildlife biologist is not feasible, CDFW recommends a minimum no-disturbance buffer of 250 feet around active nests of non-listed bird species and a 500-foot no-disturbance buffer around active nests of non-listed raptors. These buffers are advised to remain in place until the breeding season has ended or until a qualified biologist has determined that the birds have fledged and are no longer reliant upon the nest or on-site parental care for survival. Variance from these no-disturbance buffers is possible when there is compelling biological or ecological reason to do so, such as when the construction area would be concealed from a nest site by topography. CDFW recommends that a qualified wildlife biologist advise and support any variance from these buffers and notify CDFW in advance of implementing a variance.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DATA**

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a data base which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). The CNDDB field survey form can be found at the following link: <a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/CNDDB\_FieldSurveyForm.pdf">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/CNDDB\_FieldSurveyForm.pdf</a>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to CNDDB at the following email address: <a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/CNDDB\_atthefollowing\_email\_address:">CNDDB@wildlife.ca.gov</a>. The types of information reported to CNDDB can be found at the following email address:

## **FILING FEES**

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.)

#### CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND to assist City of Woodlake in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Aimee Braddock, Environmental Scientist at (559) 243-4014 extension 243 or <u>Aimee.Braddock@wildlife.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

-DocuSigned by: Julie Vance -FA83F09FE08945A...

Julie A. Vance Regional Manager

Attachment

cc: Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

#### REFERENCES

- California Burrowing Owl Consortium. 1993. Burrowing owl survey protocol and mitigation guidelines. April 1993.
- CDFG. 2012. Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation. California Department of Fish and Game.
- CDFW. 2015b. Staff Guidance Regarding Avoidance of Impacts to Tricolored Blackbird Breeding Colonies on Agricultural Fields in 2015. March 19, 2015.
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- Williams, P. H., R. W. Thorp, L. L. Richardson, and S. R. Colla. 2014. Bumble bees of North America: An Identification guide. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. 208pp.

### Attachment 1

#### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP)

#### **PROJECT: Woodlake Stormwater Basin Project**

#### SCH No.: 2020040272

RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURE	STATUS/DATE/INITIALS			
Before Disturbing Soil or Vegetation				
Mitigation Measure 1: CBB Surveys				
Mitigation Measure 3: CBB Take Authorization				
Mitigation Measure 4: TRBL Habitat Assessment				
Mitigation Measure 5: TRBL Surveys				
Mitigation Measure 7: TRBL Take Authorization				
Mitigation Measure 8: BUOW Surveys				
Mitigation Measure 10: BUOW passive Relocation and Mitigation				
Mitigation Measure 11: Western Spadefoot Surveys				
Mitigation Measure 13: WPT Surveys				
Mitigation Measure 14: WPT Relocation				
During Construction				
Mitigation Measure 2: CBB Take Avoidance				
Mitigation Measure 6: TRBL Avoidance				
Mitigation Measure 9: BUOW Avoidance				
Mitigation Measure 12: Western Spadefoot Avoidance				