Bubbling Springs Natural Channel Vegetation Removal Project

Final Initial Study – Negative Declaration

prepared by

City of Port Hueneme
Public Works Department
250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, California 93041
Contact: Charles Cable, Principal Engineer

prepared with the assistance of

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003

June 2022

RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers
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Initial Study

1. Project Title

Bubbling Springs Natural Channel Vegetation Removal Project

2. Lead Agency Name and Address

City of Port Hueneme
250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, California 93041

3. Contact Person and Phone Number

Charles Cable
Principal Engineer
805-986-6658

4. Project Location

The project site consists of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, previously known as the Hueneme Drain, within the Bubbling Springs Recreation Greenbelt between Bard Road and the J Street Pump Station in the city of Port Hueneme. The project site traverses 23 parcels, which are identified by the following Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs):

231-005-121	231-005-122	233-001-004
207-029-019	207-028-072	207-028-069
207-025-003	207-025-009	207-020-214
207-020-219	207-020-217	207-018-314
207-018-309	207-018-307	207-018-305
207-018-303	207-018-301	207-018-139
207-014-154	207-014-329	207-001-009
207-001-001	207-008-101	

See Figure 1 for a map of the regional project site location; Figure 2 for a map of the northern portion of the project site location in a local context; and Figure 3 for a map of the southern portion of the project site location in a local context.

Figure 1 Regional Project Location

Basemap provided by Esri and its licensors © 2021.

Project Location

N

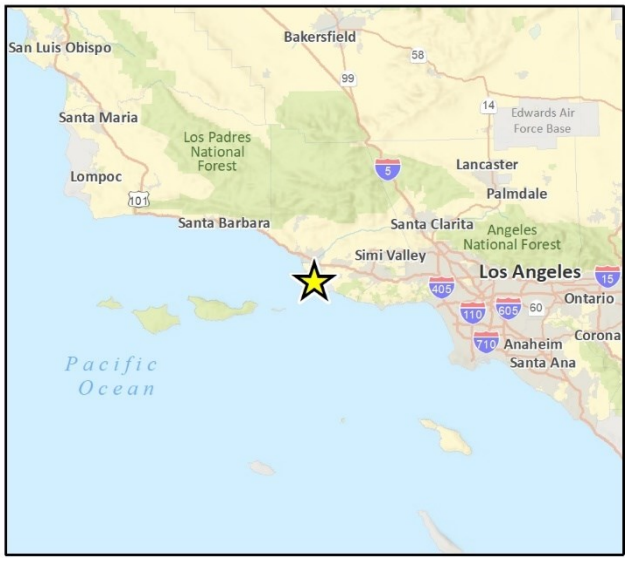

Figure 2 Project Site Location, North

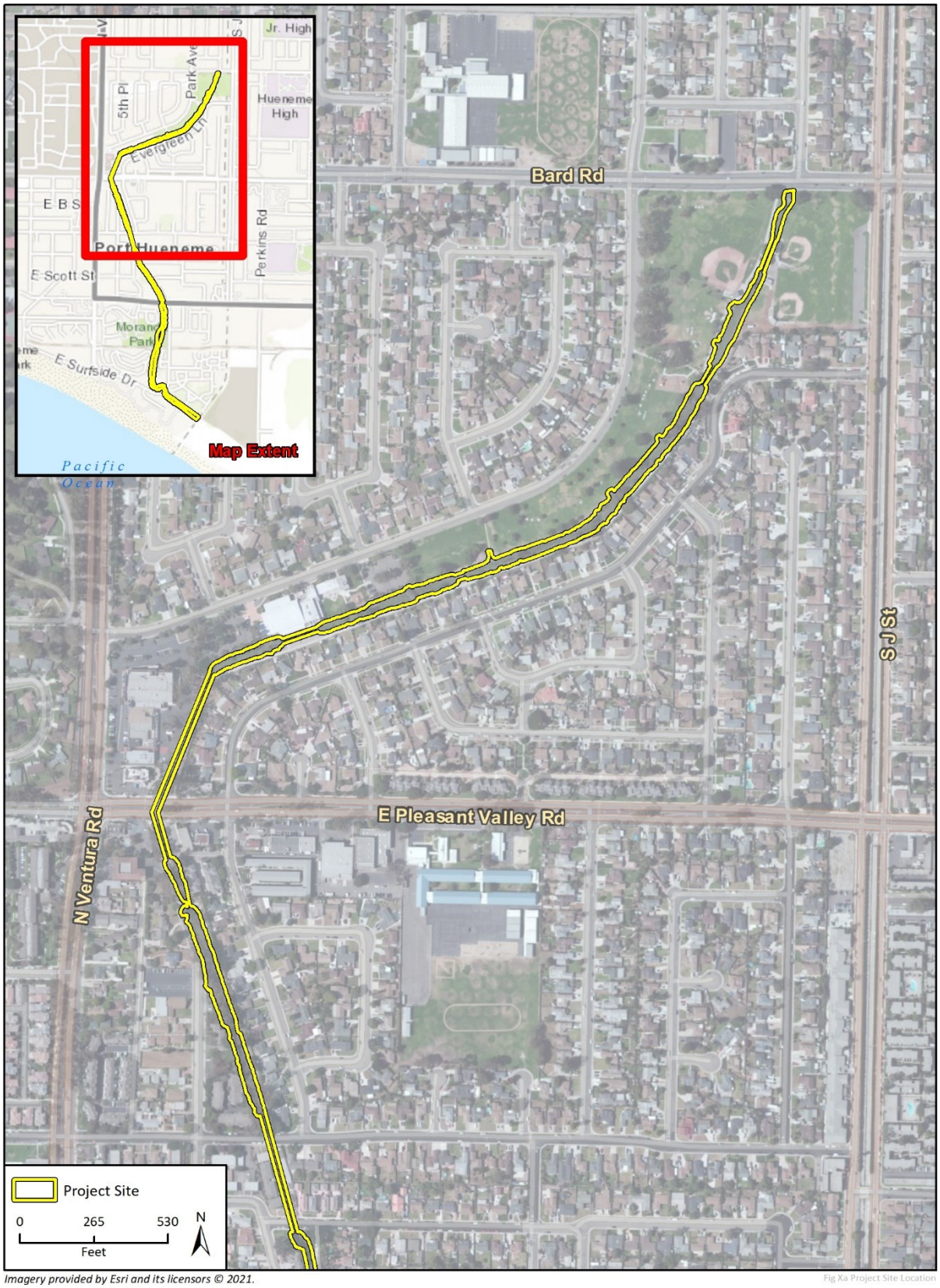

Figure 3 Project Site Location, South

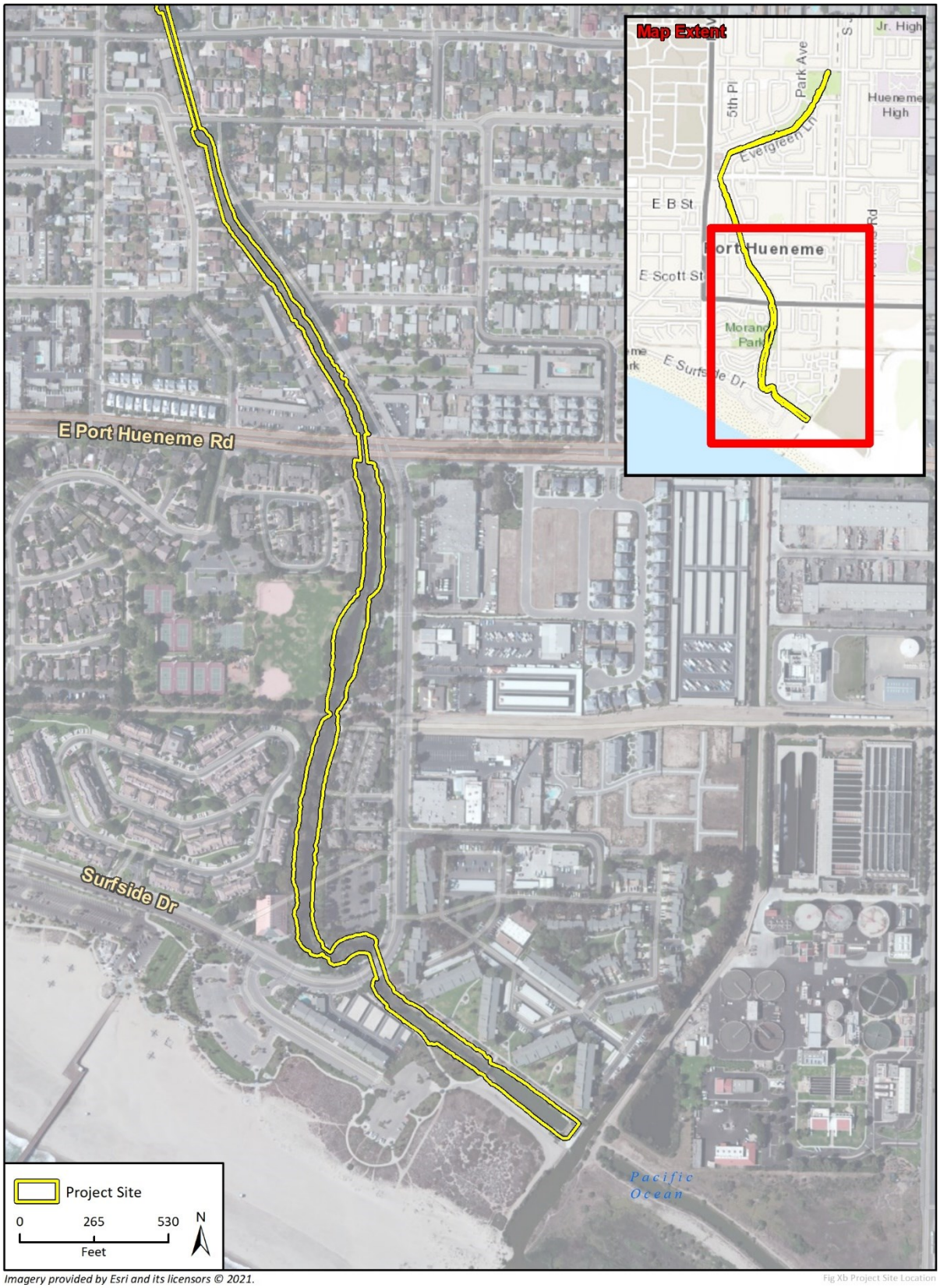

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Fig Xb Project Site Location

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address

City of Port Hueneme
250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, California 93041

6. General Plan Designation

The 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan land use designation for the majority of the project site is Parks and Open Space; however, two parcels (APNs 207-018-039 and 207-014-154) are designated Medium Density Residential (City of Port Hueneme 2021a).

7. Zoning

The current zoning of the majority of the project site is P-R (Park Reserve); however, two parcels (APNs 207-018-039 and 207-014-154) are zoned R-2 (Limited Multi-Family) (City of Port Hueneme 1998).

8. Description of Project

The City of Port Hueneme (City) has developed the Bubbling Springs Natural Vegetation Removal Project (proposed project) to restore the designed drainage capacity of the existing Bubbling Springs Natural Channel by removing vegetation that has overgrown the channel and thereby limited its conveyance capacity. Due to this reduction of capacity, the channel in its current condition may not be able to contain flood flows. The proposed project would reduce the risk of flooding currently associated with the vegetation overgrowth. The majority of the vegetation to be removed from the channel's bed and banks consist of cattails (*Typha angustifolia* and *T. latifolia*) and bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*) that have grown to heights of 10 feet or more, with a density that spans the full width of the natural channel.

Background

On June 13, 1978, the Ventura County Public Works Agency – Watershed Protection District (Watershed Protection District; formerly known as the Ventura County Flood Control District) and the City entered into a cooperative agreement to improve and maintain the Bubbling Springs Recreation Greenbelt within which the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is aligned. Under the 1978 agreement between the City and the Watershed Protection District, the City is responsible for routine maintenance of the channel, including the following: hydraulic integrity; irrigation; fertilizing; pruning; insect control; weed control; removal and replacement of dead plants; repair or replacement of irrigation facilities, walkways and lighting facilities; and removal of silt from the channel.

Under the 1978 cooperative agreement, the responsibility of the Watershed Protection District is exclusively the maintenance of a reinforced concrete box culvert between Joyce Drive and Clara Street. Maintenance of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel between Pleasant Valley Road and Bard Road is not the responsibility of the Watershed Protection District.

Introduction

Bubbling Springs is an intermittent and perennial riverine system with a predominantly sediment streambed, which provides substrate for common herbaceous wetland vegetation, notably cattails and bulrush. Cattails and bulrush occur in dense patches throughout the length of Bubbling Springs and increase the potential for flooding damage during rain events in several ways, including by accumulating at and slowing water flow through culverts. Flood damage is of concern because a majority of Bubbling Springs is adjacent to residential and commercial development.

The purpose of the proposed project is to restore and maintain flow conveyance capacity in the channel, providing the surrounding area with protection from flood-related hazards, including inundation, during large storm events. Under existing conditions, the channel is heavily overgrown with vegetation primarily consisting of cattails and bulrushes. The vegetation has grown to heights of 10 feet or more, and the density spans the full width of the channel. Therefore, project activities would include initial removal of existing vegetation within the channel as well as ongoing maintenance to prevent regrowth and maintain the conveyance capacity of the channel.

Proposed Project Activities

The proposed project consists of periodically removing vegetation overgrowth from within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel for approximately 40 workdays each year. The majority of vegetation to be removed consists of cattails and bulrushes that have grown to heights of 10 feet or more and a density that spans the full width of the channel. The initial effort of vegetation removal would be more intensive than subsequent maintenance efforts because once the existing congestion is removed, the vegetation that regrows within the channel will be removed before it reaches the severity of the current congestion. Following the initial vegetation removal, the City and its labor crews would periodically remove plant material within the bed and banks of the channel either quarterly, semiannually, or in anticipation of storm events depending on growth patterns of the cattails and bulrush plants. Additional maintenance would be conducted on an as-needed basis to prevent the reestablishment of in-channel vegetation that could affect channel capacity. Vegetation removed from within the channel would be placed in the linear park adjacent to the work area, where it would be allowed to dry in preparation for disposal by a local vendor. No excavation of channel materials or use of herbicides is proposed. No tree, shrub, or other woody vegetation is anticipated to be removed.

Vegetation removal would be conducted with both mechanized and hand equipment. Mechanized equipment would include a backhoe, which would allow crews to remove herbaceous vegetation to the root, reducing the potential for regrowth. However, portions of the project site are inaccessible for a backhoe due to surrounding development, thereby necessitating the use of hand-held mechanized and non-mechanized tools to conduct vegetation removal. Such hand tools would include, but would not necessarily limit to, the following: pruning saws, marine grade power weed cutters, pressure washer cutting nozzles that use filtered channel water to cut vegetation at the waterline, machete knifes, pruning shears, hand rakes, power hedge trimmers, and chain saws.

Best Management Practices

A suite of Best Management Practices (BMPs) has been incorporated into the proposed project design and would be implemented as part of the proposed project; as such, the BMPs are not mitigation measures, but rather are part of the project itself. The purpose of the BMPs is to minimize or avoid potentially adverse impacts associated with project implementation.

BMPs are generally considered standard practice are intended to provide a framework for good work practice aimed at environmental sensitivity. BMPs often include standard and general recommended avoidance or minimization measures outlined by an organization or agency, such as the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) or the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

The impact analyses provided in this Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration consider the effects of implementing BMPs as part of the project, when applicable to the respective issue area. If an identified impact is still considered potentially significant despite implementation of the following BMPs, then mitigation measures may be necessary to reduce or avoid potential impacts. Mitigation measures consist of additional actions or restrictions that would not otherwise occur under the project and are determined to be necessary to avoid adverse impacts or reduce potentially adverse impacts to a less-than-significant level.

BMP 1 – Site Maintenance Best Management Practices

General site maintenance BMPs would be implemented during the vegetation removal activities, and would include the following:

GENERAL

- Work boundaries would be clearly marked, using stakes or other high visibility marking (e.g., flagging), prior to project activities involving ground or vegetation disturbance. No work would occur outside of marked work area unless first approved by City Environmental Services staff.
- At the end of project activities, all temporary flagging, fencing, barriers, and associated materials (including BMPs) would be removed.
- Project activities would be conducted in a manner that prevents the introduction, transfer, and spread of invasive species, including plants, animals, and microbes by removing all visible soil/mud, plant materials, and animal remnants from all vehicles, tools, boots, and equipment.
- Trash and other project debris would be cleaned up daily. Fully covered trash receptacles with secure lids would be used to contain all trash. Receptacles would be removed from the site and emptied at least weekly.
- Staging/storage and refueling/maintenance of equipment and materials would be outside of habitat areas or 100 feet from the bank where practicable. All staged equipment would have drip pans or similar containment placed underneath when not in use.
- No substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life would be allowed to contaminate the soil and/or enter or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel.
- No native vegetation with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of more than four inches would be removed or damaged without approval.

EROSION CONTROL

- Chemical dust suppression agents would not be used within 100 feet of wetlands or water bodies.
- Fiber rolls would be located on level contours spaced as follows:
    - Slope inclination of 4:1 (Horizontal:Vertical) or flatter - fiber rolls would be placed at a maximum interval of 20 feet
    - Slope inclination between 4:1 and 2:1 (Horizontal:Vertical) fiber rolls would be placed at a maximum interval of 15 feet

- Slope inclination 2:1 (Horizontal:Vertical) or greater - fiber rolls would be placed at a maximum interval of 10 feet

SANITARY/SEPTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Temporary sanitary facilities would be located away from Bubbling Springs Natural Channel and traffic circulation. If site conditions allow, portable facilities would be placed a minimum of 50 feet from drainage conveyances and traffic areas. When subjected to high winds or risk of high winds, temporary sanitary facilities would be secured to prevent overturning.

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MATERIALS POLLUTION CONTROL

- All vehicles and equipment would be maintained in good working condition, free from leaks, and operating within normal parameters.
- Any vehicle or equipment fluid spills would be cleaned up immediately to ensure the project site is maintained clean and free of spills and contamination.
- The area where heavy equipment would operate would be limited to the minimum footprint necessary and would be contained within straw waddles or similar material to prevent runoff from the project site. If access to areas outside of the delineated footprint is required, it would require approval by a responsible City administrator.
- The project site would be maintained free of trash. All trash would be deposited in closed-lid receptacles and would be removed from the site at least weekly.
- If maintenance must occur on-site, designated areas located away from the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel would be used. Dedicated maintenance areas would be protected from stormwater run-on and run-off and would be located at least 50 feet from downstream drainage facilities and watercourses.
- All fueling trucks and fueling areas would have spill kits and/or use other spill protection devices.
- No pets or firearms would be permitted on the project site.

BMP 2 – Schedule/Timing of Work

No work would occur if flowing water in the drainage channel is present within the project site. Work would be conducted periodically in a dry drainage channel, ideally between September 15 and December 31 or whenever the majority of the channel is dry. Vegetation removal work would not be conducted during nesting bird season between February 1 through August 15 to avoid nesting birds that may be present during vegetation removal activities. If work must occur during nesting season, implementation of BMP-5 would occur.

Additional scheduling/timing of work conditions would include the following.

- Project activities may continue through December 31 if no rain events measuring a tenth of an inch or greater are reported by the National Weather Service Oxnard. If a rain event of a tenth of an inch or greater is forecasted within 72 hours, all project activities would stop, and all equipment would be removed from the bed, bank, and channel.
- Non-active areas would be stabilized as soon as practicable after the cessation of soil-disturbing activities or one day prior to the onset of precipitation.
- The time of day for work activities would be limited to daylight hours.

BMP 3 – Worker Environmental Awareness Training

To ensure all personnel associated with the project are fully familiar with the project activities, the special status species with potential to occur at the project site (e.g., western pond turtle), and the BMPs, all personnel would be required to attend a Worker Environmental Awareness Training (WEAT) before conducting work on the project. The WEAT would provide details pertaining to project activities and correct procedures to follow during work activities to ensure potential impacts to special status species are avoided and minimized. Other information provided in the WEAT would include identification of special status species with potential to occur in the project site and immediate vicinity, correct notification procedures, action to take in the event these species are encountered, and definitions of take.

The WEAT program would involve several components to ensure all project personnel are properly trained:

- Before initiation of project activities, the contracted qualified biologist(s) would be provided the WEAT material and would be thoroughly trained on the information and in how to teach the information.
- Before the start of any project activities, the qualified biologist would provide the WEAT to project personnel working on the site. Project personnel would attend the WEAT at a training facility designated by the City.
- After the initial WEAT, any workers new to the project would be provided the WEAT by City staff in a tail-gate format at the project site.
- WEAT handouts would always be available at the project site when work is being performed to be handed out to workers during on-site trainings.
- A record of all trained personnel would be kept by the City.

The WEAT would also contain the following information:

- A list of phone numbers for City's Public Works Department and relevant agency contacts to be kept on-site during work activities.
- A list of all BMPs for the project along with information on which project activity or special status species each BMP addresses.
- Instruction on identification of special status species and where and when special status species are most likely to be found.
- Instructions on correct techniques and procedures for working within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel.
- Instruction regarding the importance of maintaining a clean construction site, including ensuring that all food scraps, wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash from the project are deposited in closed trash containers.
- Instructions to notify the regional spill response coordinator in case of a hazardous materials spill or leak from equipment, or upon the discovery of soil or groundwater contamination.
- Instruction on proper notification procedures in the event of take of special status species. The on-site foreman would be notified immediately, followed directly by notification to the City's Public Works Department. Within 12 hours of the incidence of take, the notification would be provided to relevant agencies. Written documentation of the incidence would be provided to agencies within 48 hours.
- Instruction that noncompliance with any laws, rules, regulations, or BMPs could result in a worker(s) being barred from participating in any remaining construction activities associated with the proposed project.

BMP 4 – Pre-activity Surveys

Prior to any vegetation removal activities, a pre-activity survey would be conducted to identify the presence, or potential for presence, of special status ~~species~~ plants and wildlife. The pre-activity survey would be completed by a qualified biologist throughout all areas where vegetation removal would be conducted. The pre-activity survey would be completed no less than two weeks prior to the start of vegetation removal activities.

If special status species are found near any vegetation removal areas, avoidance or minimization measures would be implemented to reduce the potential of impacts to special status species. Species not listed as threatened or endangered, that can be safely relocated by a qualified biologist, for example, western pond turtle, would be relocated according to BMP 7. Species that cannot be safely relocated, or that would require an incidental take permit, would be avoided during project implementation through BMP 6 or through seasonal timing (BMP 2). Any individuals that can be avoided and left free of harm would be left undisturbed. If avoidance of western pond turtles is not possible, the qualified biologist would capture individual turtles and relocate them to nearby, suitable habitat a minimum of 300 feet downstream from the work area.

The proposed project would generally be completed outside the nesting bird season with project activities limited to the periods when the majority of the channel is dry and is not exhibiting flow; ideal conditions are generally between September 15 and December 31 (BMP 2). However, if work does occur during the nesting season, the qualified biologist would conduct a pre-activity survey to ensure no late-season nesting activity is occurring and to detect any existing inactive nests. The survey would cover an area not less than the project site and that provides a minimum 50-foot buffer from the project footprint. The survey would be completed no less than 14 days prior to the start of project activities.

BMP 5 – Nesting Birds

If project activities occur between February 1 and September 15, within the nesting bird season, the following BMPs would be implemented:

- Any nests encountered would be identified to nearest taxonomic level possible, activity status would be determined, and the nest location would be mapped with a Geographic Information System (GIS) unit and marked in the field. Field marks would include high visibility flagging located so as to not disturb the nest.
- If an inactive nest is found, a qualified biologist would determine if avoidance of the nest is feasible and would establish a minimum suitable vegetation buffer around the nest to the maximum extent practicable. If avoidance is not practicable, the qualified biologist would oversee removal of the nest.
- If an active nest is found, a qualified biologist would establish an avoidance buffer appropriate to the species (see BMP 6). No project activities would occur within the avoidance buffer until and only if a qualified biologist has determined the nest is no longer active. Avoidance buffers would be clearly delineated with highly reflective flagging or similar material.
- Buffer distances from the nest may be adjusted up or down in consultation with CDFW and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Buffer distances may be increased if a subject bird is displaying any signs of stress due to project activities. Buffer distances may be decreased if needed to adequately conduct project activities and if the subject bird is not displaying any signs of stress due to project activity.
- Upon completion of project activities, all nest and nest buffer markings and flagging would be removed.

- Survey results would be summarized in a report prepared by the qualified biologist and provided to the City prior to undertaking vegetation removal activities at the site.

BMP 6 – Special Status Species Avoidance Buffers

If any special status species are detected during pre-activity surveys, avoidance buffers would be established according to species. Typical avoidance buffers are as follows:

- All raptor nests would be avoided by no less than 300 feet
- All non-raptor bird nests would be avoided by no less than 150 feet
- All areas where special status reptiles or mammals are identified would be avoided by no less than 50 feet

BMP 7 – Species Capture and Relocation

To minimize impacts to special status species, the capture and relocation of individuals would be implemented only in the event that impacts cannot be avoided while undertaking project activities. No special status bird species would be relocated because of the higher susceptibility of birds to stress and the difficulty involved in capture and transport of birds. No federal or state threatened or endangered or candidate species would be captured or otherwise handled. The capture and relocation of individuals would be implemented using the best available approach based on current professional literature, resource agency guidance, and expert experience for capture, handling, and relocation.

The capture and relocation would safely capture and relocate special status species, primarily western pond turtle. Prior to the start of any project activity that would potentially require the capture and relocation of special status species, a qualified biologist would be provided with the WEAT material and conduct surveys (BMP 3 and BMP 4) of the project site for the presence of special status species that could occur in or could be impacted by the project. If not already identified, the surveys would also identify suitable relocation sites based on physical essential habitat characteristics and species presence at relocation sites. Only qualified biologists assigned by City's Environmental Services staff would conduct capture and relocation activities. All capture and relocation activities would be documented.

During capture and relocation activities, it is anticipated native non-special status species would be incidentally encountered and may require relocation to suitable habitats away from the project site. Relocation sites for native non-special status species may be within the immediate area if their return to the project site during project activities is not expected. Capture and relocation would occur only in the event special status species could be directly affected by project activities.

Any individuals encountered at the project site that require relocation to avoid project-related impacts would be captured in a manner deemed safe for the given species. Individuals would be captured and handled only by experienced qualified biologists designated by City Environmental Services staff. Individuals captured for relocation would be handled and temporarily housed in a manner deemed safe for the given species. Fresh substrate and water would be made available if housing persists for greater than four hours (not expected). All captured individuals would be released at the pre-determined relocation site within the same day. Individuals would be released at the relocation site near cover/shelter and away from areas that would make them immediately vulnerable to predation or other harm.

BMP 8 – Biological Monitoring

If any special status species are determined to be present during the pre-activity survey (BMP 4), a qualified biological monitor would be contracted by the City prior to conducting vegetation removal activities. At a minimum, qualified monitors would be able to demonstrate applied experience with special status species, including ability to identify the species, experience with the species' biological life history and behavior, experience with detection of the species in its natural habitat, and experience coordinating with project personnel in avoidance of impacts to special status species. Experience with handling of special status species would not be required for biological monitors; however, if such experience is lacking, the biological monitor would not handle special status species. Handling of special status species for any reason would only be performed by qualified biologists with demonstrated relevant experience.

The contracted qualified biologist would be present to monitor during all vegetation removal activities occurring within or adjacent to habitat areas where special status species are known to be present. The monitor's responsibilities would include observing and documenting project activities and providing recommendations designed to avoid or minimize potential impacts to special status species and ensure compliance with any applicable permits. The monitor would retain stop-work authority for instances in which special status species are observed to be at risk. If project activities do not have the potential to result in impacts to special status species, no biological monitoring would be required, and trained City staff would be able to complete the project activity.

BMP 9 – Invasive Species Management

During implementation of project activities, BMPs would be in place to avoid and minimize the introduction and spread of invasive species. These BMPs include ensuring all vehicles, equipment, tools, and sediment and erosion control activities are free of invasive plant and animal species. Invasive species management protocols would be implemented for all vegetation removal activities that occur within the Bubbling Springs channel, riparian, and riverine habitat.

The following BMPs would be implemented during all project activities:

- BMPs for invasive species management would be implemented when biological surveys are required (e.g., pre-activity surveys) in aquatic habitats suitable for covered species.
- Before entering the project site, all equipment would be washed at an off-site location, approved by City, to ensure equipment is free of mud, algae, snails, or other debris.
- All equipment would be inspected to ensure equipment is free of mud or other debris that could contain invasive species.
- All soils, seed mixes (e.g., for habitat restoration), or other material would be certified free of invasive species before being imported or exported to or from the project site.

BMP 10 – Stop Work Procedures

The City would implement the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Greenbook 2021 edition) Section 6-6.2. In accordance with this specification, if something of archaeological or paleontological interest or human artifacts/fossils is found, work would cease and would not resume until authorized by the Project Engineer.

BMP 11 – GHG Emissions Reduction Measures

The following GHG emission reduction measures would be incorporated into project activities to the maximum extent practicable:

- Green waste generated by project activities shall be disposed of at a green waste processing facility.
- Electric-powered mechanized hand tools shall be utilized instead of gasoline- or diesel-powered mechanized hand tools when commercially available.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is within the Bubbling Springs Recreation Greenbelt between Bard Road and the J Street Pump Station, and intersected by East Pleasant Valley Road, Port Hueneme Road, and Surfside Drive.

- Between Bard Road and East Pleasant Valley Road, Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is bordered by recreational fields to the north and west, residential development to the east, the Ray D. Prueter Library to the north, and commercial development to the west.
- Between East Pleasant Valley Road and Port Hueneme Road, Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is bordered by residential and commercial development.
- Between Port Hueneme Road and Surfside Drive, Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is bordered by public, residential, and commercial development to the east and the Walter B. Moranda Park and residential development to the west.
- Between Surfside Drive and the J Street Pump Station, Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is bordered by residential development to the north and south and open space to the south.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required

A long-term maintenance agreement (five years or more) is requested from CDFW.

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Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

This project would potentially affect the environmental factors checked below, involving at least one impact that is "Potentially Significant" or "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology and Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology and Water Quality	☐ Land Use and Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population and Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities and Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

Determination

Based on this initial evaluation:

■ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions to the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "less than significant with mitigation incorporated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potential significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

02/25/2022

Date

Charles Cable

Printed Name

Principal Engineer

Title

Environmental Checklist

1 Aesthetics

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

The 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan does not identify scenic vistas in the city; however, the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan states the primary scenic vista in the city occurs at the shoreline, particularly from Surfside Drive and Hueneme Beach Park (City of Port Hueneme 2021a and 2021b). The project site is surrounded by recreational, residential, institutional, and commercial development as well as open space. In the project site vicinity, public viewpoints of shoreline and ocean vistas would be limited to the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor south of Surfside Drive and Hueneme Beach Park. Both vantage points are located to the south of the project site; therefore, project activities would have no potential to interfere with public views of the shoreline and ocean vistas from these vantage points. Therefore, no impact on scenic vistas would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

In 1963, the State Legislature established the California Scenic Highway Program that established the development and designations of scenic highways. Scenic corridors consist of land that is visible from, adjacent to, and outside the highway right-of-way and is comprised primarily of scenic and natural features. Topography, vegetation, viewing distance, and/or jurisdictional lines determine the corridor boundaries. No designated scenic highways are located within two miles of the project site (California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] 2021). Therefore, project activities would not damage scenic resources within a state scenic highway, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

c. Would the project, in non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

The proposed project involves vegetation trimming and removal within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, which is located in an urbanized area. The project site has land use designations of Parks and Open Space and Medium Density Residential and is zoned P-R (Park Reserve) and R-2 (Limited Multi-Family) (City of Port Hueneme 1998 and 2021a). Goal COS 2 of the City's Conservation and Open Space Element is "Preservation of remaining open space areas and maintain recreational facilities" (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). In addition, pursuant to Port Hueneme Municipal Code (PHMC) Sections 10421 and 10521, public parks are a permitted use in the R-2 and P-R zones. As a result, the project would not conflict with zoning or General Plan policies governing scenic quality of open space areas, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

d. Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?

The proposed project involves vegetation trimming and removal within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. In accordance with BMP 2, work would only be conducted during daylight hours. No temporary or permanent lighting would be required. In addition, no temporary or permanent glare-producing components would be introduced to the project site. Therefore, the project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)); timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526); or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	■
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. *Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?*

b. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?*

c. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)); timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526); or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?*

d. Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

e. Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The project site is developed with recreational land uses and is surrounded by recreational, residential, institutional, and commercial development as well as open space. The project site has land use designations of Parks and Open Space and Medium Density Residential and is zoned P-R (Park Reserve) and R-2 (Limited Multi-Family) (City of Port Hueneme 1998 and 2021a). According to the California Department of Conservation's Important Farmland Finder, the project site is in an area classified as Urban and Built-Up land and not within an area of Prime or Unique Farmland (California Department of Conservation 2021). In addition, the project site and surrounding properties are not zoned for agricultural use, forest land, or timberland, and the project site is not under a Williamson Act contract (California Department of Conservation 2006). The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal within an existing recreational corridor and would not alter any land use on or near the project site. Accordingly, the project would not conflict with agricultural, forest land, or timberland zoning or a Williamson Act contract and would not result in the loss or conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

NO IMPACT

3 Air Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	■	☐
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	■	☐

Overview of Air Pollution

The federal and State Clean Air Acts mandate the control and reduction of certain air pollutants. Under these laws, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for "criteria pollutants" and other pollutants. Some pollutants are emitted directly from a source (e.g., vehicle tailpipe, an exhaust stack of a factory, etc.) into the atmosphere, including carbon monoxide, reactive organic compounds (ROC)/reactive organic gases (ROG),[1] nitrogen oxides (NO_X), particulate matter with diameters of ten microns or less (PM_{10}) and 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), sulfur dioxide, and lead. Other pollutants are created indirectly through chemical reactions in the atmosphere, such as ozone, which is created by atmospheric chemical and photochemical reactions primarily between ROC and NO_X. Secondary pollutants include oxidants, ozone, and sulfate and nitrate particulates (smog).

Air pollutant emissions are generated primarily by stationary and mobile sources. Stationary sources can be divided into two major subcategories:

- Point sources occur at a specific location and are often identified by an exhaust vent or stack. Examples include boilers or combustion equipment that produce electricity or generate heat.

[1] CARB defines ROC (also termed volatile organic compounds) and ROG similarly as, "any compound of carbon excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, and ammonium carbonate," with the exception that ROC are compounds that participate in atmospheric photochemical reactions. For the purposes of this analysis, ROC and ROG are considered comparable in terms of mass emissions, and the term ROC is used in this IS-MND.

- Area sources are widely distributed and include sources such as residential and commercial water heaters, painting operations, lawn mowers, agricultural fields, landfills, and some consumer products.

Mobile sources refer to emissions from motor vehicles, including tailpipe and evaporative emissions, and can also be divided into two major subcategories:

- On-road sources may be legally operated on roadways and highways.
- Off-road sources include aircraft, ships, trains, and self-propelled construction equipment.

Air pollutants can also be generated by the natural environment, such as when high winds suspend fine dust particles.

Air Quality Standards and Attainment

The project site is in the South Central Coast Air Basin (Basin), which covers San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. The Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD) monitors and regulates the local air quality in the Ventura County portion of the Basin. As the local air quality management agency, the VCAPCD is required to monitor air pollutant levels to ensure the NAAQS and CAAQS are met and, if they are not met, to develop strategies to meet the standards. Depending on whether the standards are met or exceeded, the Basin is classified as being in "attainment" or "nonattainment." In areas designated as non-attainment for one or more air pollutants, a cumulative air quality impact exists for those air pollutants, and the human health impacts associated with these criteria pollutants, presented in Table 1, are already occurring in that area as part of the environmental baseline condition. Under state law, air districts are required to prepare a plan for air quality improvement for pollutants for which the district is in non-compliance. The Basin is designated a nonattainment area for the ozone NAAQS and CAAQS and the PM_{10} CAAQS (VCAPCD 2021).

Table 1 Health Effects Associated with Non-Attainment Criteria Pollutants

Pollutant	Adverse Effects
Ozone	(1) Short-term exposures: (a) pulmonary function decrements and localized lung edema in humans and animals and (b) risk to public health implied by alterations in pulmonary morphology and host defense in animals; (2) long-term exposures: risk to public health implied by altered connective tissue metabolism and altered pulmonary morphology in animals after long-term exposures and pulmonary function decrements in chronically exposed humans; (3) vegetation damage; and (4) property damage.
Suspended particulate matter (PM_{10})	(1) Excess deaths from short-term and long-term exposures; (2) excess seasonal declines in pulmonary function, especially in children; (3) asthma exacerbation and possibly induction; (4) adverse birth outcomes including low birth weight; (5) increased infant mortality; (6) increased respiratory symptoms in children such as cough and bronchitis; and (7) increased hospitalization for both cardiovascular and respiratory disease (including asthma).

Source: U.S. EPA 2021a

San Joaquin Valley Fever (formally known as Coccidioidomycosis, hereafter referred to as Valley Fever) is an infectious disease caused by the fungus *Coccidioides immitis*. Valley Fever is a disease of concern in the Basin. Infection is caused by inhalation of *Coccidioides immitis* airborne spores, formed when dry, dusty soil or dirt is disturbed by natural processes, such as wind or earthquakes, or by human-induced ground-disturbing activities, such as construction, farming, or other activities

(VCAPCD 2003). From 2000 to 2019, the number of cases of Valley Fever reported annually in California increased from less than 1,000 cases to over 9,000, with 42.6 cases per 100,000 people per year reported in Ventura County in 2019 (California Department of Public Health [CDPH] 2021).

Air Quality Management

Because the Basin currently exceeds the ozone NAAQS and CAAQS and the PM_{10} CAAQS, the VCAPCD is required to implement strategies to reduce pollutant levels to achieve attainment of the NAAQS and CAAQS. The VCAPCD's 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) is an update of the previous 2007 AQMP. The 2016 AQMP, adopted on February 14, 2017, incorporates new scientific data and notable regulatory actions that have occurred since adoption of the 2007 AQMP, including the approval of the new federal eight-hour ozone standard of 0.070 parts per million that was finalized in 2015. The 2016 AQMP builds upon the approaches taken in the 2007 AQMP and includes attainment and reasonable further progress demonstrations of the new federal eight-hour ozone standard (VCAPCD 2017). The statutory deadline for Ventura County to attain the eight-hour ozone NAAQS was July 20, 2021. The 2016 AQMP determines that, with implementation of the proposed control strategies, Ventura County can expect to reach attainment of the eight-hour ozone NAAQS and CAAQS by July 20, 2020; however, the determination of whether attainment has been achieved will not be made until collection and evaluation of monitoring data from the 2020 ozone season has been completed (VCAPCD 2017).

Air Emission Thresholds

The analysis presented in this section is based upon guidance found in the *Ventura County Air Quality Assessment Guidelines* (Guidelines), adopted by the VCAPCD in 2003. The VCAPCD's Guidelines recommend specific air emission criteria and threshold levels for determining whether a project may have a significant adverse impact on air quality within Ventura County. The project would have a significant impact if operational emissions exceed 25 pounds per day of ROC or 25 pounds per day of NO_X. The 25 pounds per day thresholds for ROC and NO_X are not intended to be applied to construction emissions because such emissions are temporary (VCPACD 2003). Nevertheless, the VCAPCD's Guidelines state that construction-related emissions should be mitigated if estimates of ROC or NO_X emissions from heavy-duty construction equipment exceed 25 pounds per day for either ROC or NO_X.

The VCAPCD has not established quantitative thresholds for particulate matter. However, the VCAPCD indicates a project that may generate fugitive dust emissions in such quantities as to cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons, or which may endanger the comfort, repose, health, or safety of any such person, or which may cause or have a natural tendency to cause injury or damage to business or property, would have a significant air quality impact. This threshold applies to the generation of fugitive dust during construction grading and excavation activities. The VCAPCD Guidelines recommend application of fugitive dust mitigation measures for all dust-generating activities. Such measures include minimizing the project disturbance area, watering the site prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities, covering all truck loads, and limiting on-site vehicle speeds to 15 miles per hour or less.

The VCAPCD has not established quantitative thresholds for carbon monoxide for either construction or operation. However, the VCAPCD states a carbon monoxide hotspot screening analysis should be conducted for any project with indirect carbon monoxide emissions greater than the applicable ozone project significance thresholds (i.e., 25 pounds per day) that may significantly impact roadway intersections currently operating at, or that are expected to operate at, Level of

Service E or F. A carbon monoxide hotspot screening analysis should also be conducted for any project-impacted roadway intersection at which a carbon monoxide hotspot might occur (VCACPD 2003). If project emissions do not meet these criteria, then the project would have a less than significant impact related to carbon monoxide hotspots. However, if project emissions exceed these criteria and the screening analysis demonstrates there may be a carbon monoxide hotspot, the VCAPCD recommends use of the CALINE4 model to determine whether the project would create or contribute to an existing carbon monoxide hotspot.

The VCAPCD recommends the use of the following significance threshold for toxic air contaminant (TAC) emissions (VCAPCD 2003):

- Lifetime probability of contracting cancer is greater than 10 in one million
- Ground-level concentrations of non-carcinogenic toxic air pollutants would result in a Hazard Index of greater than 1

The VCAPCD has not established a significance threshold for impacts related to Valley Fever. However, the VCAPCD recommends consideration of the following factors that may indicate a project's potential to result in impacts related to Valley Fever (VCAPCD 2003):

- Disturbance of the topsoil of undeveloped land (to a depth of about 12 inches)
- Dry, alkaline, sandy soils
- Virgin, undisturbed, non-urban areas
- Windy areas
- Archaeological resources probable or known to exist in the area (e.g., Native American midden sites)
- Special events (fairs, concerts) and motorized activities (motocross track, All-Terrain Vehicle activities) on unvegetated soil (non-grass)
- Non-native population (i.e., out-of-area construction workers)

Applicable VCAPCD Rules and Regulations

The VCAPCD implements rules and regulations for emissions that may be generated by various uses and activities. The rules and regulations detail pollution-reduction measures that must be implemented during project activities in Ventura County. Relevant rules and regulations to the project include:

- **Rule 50 (Opacity).** This rule sets opacity standards on the discharge from sources of air contaminants. This rule would apply during project activities.
- **Rule 51 (Nuisance).** This rule prohibits any person from discharging air contaminants or any other material from a source that would cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or the public or which endangers the comfort, health, safety, or repose to any considerable number of persons or the public.
- **Rule 55 (Fugitive Dust).** This rule requires fugitive dust generators, including construction and demolition projects, to implement control measures limiting the amount of dust from vehicle track-out, earth moving, bulk material handling, and truck hauling activities.
- **Rule 55.1 (Paved Roads and Public Unpaved Roads).** This rule requires fugitive dust generators to begin the removal of visible roadway accumulation within 72 hours of any written notification from the VCAPCD. The use of blowers is expressly prohibited under any circumstances. This rule also requires controls to limit the amount of dust from any construction activity or any earthmoving activity on a public unpaved road.

- **Rule 55.2 (Street Sweeping Equipment).** This rule requires the use of PM_{10} efficient street sweepers for routine street sweeping and for removing vehicle track-out pursuant to VCAPCD Rule 55.

Methodology

Air pollutant emissions from project activities were estimated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), version 2020.4.0. CalEEMod uses project-specific information to model criteria air pollutant emissions. The analysis reflects the proposed project activities as described under *Description of Project*.

Emissions modeled for project activities include emissions generated by heavy equipment used on-site (i.e., the backhoe) and emissions generated by vehicle trips associated with project activities, such as worker and vegetation disposal trips. CalEEMod estimates emissions by multiplying the amount of time equipment is in operation by emission factors. Project activities were analyzed using the conservative assumptions that the total area of the channel (as estimated via aerial imagery) would be disturbed and the backhoe would be used to clear the vegetation from the channel for eight hours a day for up to 40 days per year. In addition, it was assumed that one vegetation disposal trip would occur per day of vegetation clearing activities. Emissions from other mechanized hand tools used during project activities were not estimated because these emissions would be *de minimis*. This analysis assumes the project would comply with all applicable regulatory standards. In particular, the project would comply with VCAPCD Rules 50, 51, 55, 55.1, 55.2.

a. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

According to the VCAPCD Guidelines (2003), a project may be inconsistent with the 2016 AQMP if it would cause the existing population to exceed forecasts contained in the most recently adopted AQMP. The 2016 AQMP relies on the Southern California Association of Governments' 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy forecasts of regional population growth in its emissions projections for managing Ventura County's air quality.

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed, and no new employment opportunities would be provided. Consequently, it would not contribute directly or indirectly to population growth and would not cause exceedances of the growth forecasts employed in the 2016 AQMP. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

The Basin is designated nonattainment for the NAAQS for ozone and the CAAQS for ozone and PM_{10}. Project activities would generate temporary air pollutant emissions associated with fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) and exhaust emissions from heavy construction equipment and construction vehicles. Table 2 summarizes estimated maximum daily emissions of pollutants during project activities. As shown therein, daily ROC and NO_X emissions generated during project activities would not exceed 25 pounds per day, which is the VCPACD's recommended level for applying mitigation for temporary construction-type activities, such as the proposed project activities. Therefore, project activities would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria

pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. Impacts would be less than significant.

Table 2 Criteria Air Pollutant Emissions Associated with Project Activities

	ROC	NO_X	CO	SO_2	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Maximum Emissions (lbs/day)	<1	2	2	<1	<1	<1

lbs/day = pounds per day; ROC = reactive organic compounds, NO_X = nitrogen oxides, CO = carbon monoxide, SO_2 = sulfur dioxide, PM_{10} = particulate matter measuring 10 microns or less in diameter, $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter measuring 2.5 microns or less in diameter; CalEEMod = California Emissions Estimator Model; VCAPCD = Ventura County Air Pollution Control District

Notes: All emissions modeling was completed using CalEEMod. Emissions presented are the highest modeled daily emissions.

Source: Appendix A

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Certain population groups, such as children, the elderly, and people with health problems, are particularly sensitive to air pollution. Therefore, the majority of sensitive receptor locations are schools, hospitals, and residences (VCAPCD 2003). Sensitive receptors near the project site include residences located immediately adjacent to the channel along the majority of its length. In addition, Parkview Elementary School is located approximately 700 feet to the west; Richard Bard Elementary School is located approximately 800 feet to the east; Hueneme Elementary School is located approximately 840 feet to the west; and Hueneme High School is located approximately 1,000 feet to the east.

Fugitive Dust

The VCAPCD requires implementation of the fugitive dust control measures described in Rules 55, 55.1, and 55.2 as part of all project-related dust-generating operations and activities (VCAPCD 2003). These measures address both PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ emissions from project activities. The project would be required to implement these fugitive dust control measures. Furthermore, the majority of sediment disturbed by project activities would be moist from prior inundation and would not generate fugitive dust emissions. Therefore, project activities would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of fugitive dust, and impacts would be less than significant.

Carbon Monoxide Hotspots

Traffic-congested roadways and intersections have the potential to generate elevated localized carbon monoxide levels (i.e., carbon monoxide hotspots). In general, carbon monoxide hotspots occur in areas with poor circulation or areas with heavy traffic. Existing carbon monoxide levels in Ventura County have been historically low enough that VCAPCD monitoring stations throughout the county ceased monitoring ambient carbon monoxide concentrations in March and July 2004 (VCAPCD 2017). Project activities would cause a minor increase in vehicle traffic a few times a year as a result of worker vehicle trips, delivery of heavy equipment (i.e., the backhoe) and mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools, and disposal of vegetation waste. Based on the low background level of carbon monoxide in the project site vicinity, ever-improving vehicle emissions standards for new cars in accordance with state and federal regulations, and the project's minimal carbon monoxide emissions associated with mobile sources, the project would not create new CO hotspots or contribute substantially to existing CO hotspots. Therefore, the project would not expose

sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of carbon monoxide, and impacts would be less than significant.

Toxic Air Contaminants

TACs are a diverse group of air pollutants that may cause or contribute to an increase in deaths or serious illness, or that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. TACs generally consist of four types: organic chemicals, such as benzene, dioxins, toluene, and perchloroethylene; inorganic chemicals such as chlorine and arsenic; fibers such as asbestos; and metals such as mercury, cadmium, chromium, and nickel. The primary TAC emitted by project activities would be diesel particulate matter generated by use of diesel-fueled equipment and tools, such as the backhoe. At most, the proposed backhoe and several diesel-powered mechanized tools such as mowers and weed cutters would be in operation at any given time. Furthermore, TAC emissions would be localized to the area immediately surrounding the on-site activity and restricted to the duration of equipment use, which would be temporary and infrequent in nature and continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Therefore, individual sensitive receptors would be exposed to TAC emissions generated by project activities for a very limited time period. According to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, health risk assessments, which determine the exposure of sensitive receptors to toxic emissions, should be based on a 30-year or 70-year exposure period; however, such assessments should be limited to the period/duration of activities associated with the project. Thus, the duration of project activities represents a small fraction of the total exposure period used for 30-year health risk calculations. As a result, the project would not exposure sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations, and impacts would be less than significant.

San Joaquin Valley Fever

Project ground-disturbing activities would have the potential to release *Coccidioides immitis* spores. However, the population of Ventura County has been and will continue to be exposed to Valley Fever from agricultural and construction activities occurring throughout the region. In addition, substantial increases in the number of reported cases of Valley Fever tend to occur only after major ground-disturbing events such as the 1994 Northridge earthquake (VPAPCD 2003). Implementation of project activities would not result in a comparable amount of ground disturbance. Furthermore, the standard control measures required by VCAPCD Rules 55, 55.1, and 55.2 would reduce fugitive dust generation, and the majority of sediment disturbed by project activities would be moist from prior inundation, both of which would further minimize the risk of spore mobilization and associated infection. Therefore, per VCAPCD guidance, project activities would not result in a substantial increase in entrained fungal spores that cause Valley Fever above existing background levels, and impacts related to Valley Fever would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

d. Would the project result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Project activities would generate temporary odors associated with diesel exhaust emitted by operation of diesel-powered equipment including the backhoe and mechanized hand tools. However, these odors would be localized to the area immediately surrounding the on-site activity and restricted to the duration of equipment use, which would be temporary and infrequent in nature and continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Furthermore, the project does not involve land uses listed by VCAPCD as facilities and operations that may generate significant odors, such as sanitary landfills, asphalt batch plants, food processing facilities, and feed lots (VCAPCD 2003). Consequently, this impact would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

4 Biological Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. 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 California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. 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?	☐	☐	■	☐
d. 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?	☐	☐	■	☐
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	■
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■

Regulatory authority over biological resources is shared by federal, State, and local authorities under a variety of statutes and guidelines. Primary authority for general biological resources lies

within the land use control and planning authority of local jurisdictions (in this instance, the City of Port Hueneme). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is a trustee agency for biological resources throughout the State under CEQA and also has direct jurisdiction under the California Fish and Game Code (CFGC). Under the California and federal Endangered Species Acts (CESA/ESA), the CDFW and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) also have direct regulatory authority over species formally listed as threatened or endangered and species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

The following analysis is based primarily on the Biological Resources Assessment prepared for the project by Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon), which is included as Appendix B. As part of the Biological Resources Assessment, Rincon conducted a field reconnaissance survey of the project site and the disturbance footprint of the off-site improvements in August 2021.

a. 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 the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Based on a query of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Inventory of Rare Endangered Vascular Plants of California, there are 30 special status plant species and 18 special status wildlife species documented within a five-mile radius of the project site (CDFW 2021a and CNPS 2021). All 48 species were evaluated for potential to occur within the project site and a 50-foot buffer based on the results from the field survey, documented occurrences, and specific habitat requirements (see Attachment C of Appendix B).

Special Status Plant Species

No regulated plant species were observed during the field reconnaissance survey. Given the largely developed and landscaped nature of the project site and immediate vicinity and the dominance of non-native plant species in the tree, shrub, and herbaceous layers, regulated plant species habitat requirements are almost entirely lacking within the project site and immediate vicinity. Therefore, no regulated plant species are expected to occur within the project site.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Of the 18 special status wildlife species documented by the CNDDB within a five-mile radius of the project site, only one species, western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), a CDFW Species of Special Concern, has the potential to occur at the project site and was observed during the field reconnaissance survey. Two individuals were observed basking on the banks of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel between Walter B. Moranda Park and Surfside Drive. The remaining 17 special status species identified in the literature review have either no potential or low potential to occur and therefore would not be impacted by the proposed project. Direct and indirect impacts to western pond turtle could result from project activities including equipment strikes, crushing of nests, crushing/removal of refugia, general habitat disturbance or removal, disrupting foraging or breeding activities leading to increased stress, and reduced fecundity.

If turtles are present within the project site during vegetation removal activities, direct impacts to individuals may occur from incidental crushing of individuals by vehicle traffic from personnel driving to and from the project site daily and while accessing the project site as well as during vegetation removal activities. In accordance with BMP 2, the seasonal timing of project activities, would facilitate avoidance of direct impacts to western pond turtle nesting and breeding behavior.

In addition, the WEAT and pre-activity surveys conducted pursuant to BMPs 03 and 04 would be completed prior to the start of project activities, which ensure all personnel associated with the project are informed of correct procedures to follow during work activities to ensure potential impacts to special status species are avoided and minimized and would identify any special status species that must be avoided or protected with minimization measures. Specifically, workers would be made aware of the area between Walter B. Moranda Park and Surfside Drive where two western pond turtles were observed during the field survey and would be versed in their recognition and what to do in the event of encounters.

Work activities would be limited to the channel, except when accessing the project footprint, and no upland refugia for special status reptile species would be impacted. Ground vibration from moving heavy equipment may impact reptiles near the channel; however, ground vibrations would be minimal and would only occur at potentially significant levels when heavy equipment is moving to and from the channel. Otherwise, equipment would be relatively stationary during vegetation removal activities and would only make small movements at a time. Ground vibration at the banks of the channel where western pond turtle may be present would be less than significant.

If individuals occur in the project footprint when work is scheduled to occur, as identified by the pre-activity surveys conducted pursuant to BMP 4, a qualified biologist would determine the most feasible action. Appropriate avoidance buffers would be established pursuant to BMP 6, and if western pond turtle individuals cannot be avoided, relocation pursuant BMP 7 would be implemented with safe handling procedures to avoid or minimize mortality to the extent possible during relocation. In addition, implementation of BMP 8 would include retention of a qualified biologist to monitor all vegetation removal activities and ensure compliance with any applicable permits. Through the implementation of BMPs, potential impacts to western pond turtle would be less than significant.

Cattails exhibit invasive behavior under certain conditions because they grow rapidly, crowd out other native plant species, and can choke out aquatic habitat, decreasing the biodiversity of an area (Angoh et al. 2021). The project seeks to gain control over these native, yet invasive, macrophytes to restore habitat heterogeneity and benefit native aquatic species, such as the western pond turtle, as outlined below.

Western pond turtles require both aquatic and terrestrial features as components of their habitat. The project would remove vegetation overgrowth from within the channel and would have minimal to no impact on the surrounding terrestrial environment. Western pond turtles are generalists whose habitat consists of a wide variety of aquatic features, including lakes, streams, slow moving rivers, and artificial channels, and a variety of substrate types, from bedrock to sand and mud (Reese & Welsh 1998). Aquatic vegetation, while a potential food source, is not a limiting component of the species habitat (Hays et al. 1999; Reese & Welsh 1998). Western pond turtles prefer sites with ample basking opportunities (i.e., logs, stumps, rock piles, floating vegetation) and refugia to escape predation (e.g., logs, rocks) (Hays et al. 1999). The increasing overgrowth of cattails and bulrush vegetation presents a potential threat to the species by adversely altering the habitat. The overgrown cattails and bulrush provide considerable shading and limit open space for basking. Preferred basking sites for western pond turtle occurs on surfaces and structures with immediate aquatic escape routes, which the dense cattail and bulrush vegetation throughout the channel currently impedes. The dense cattail and bulrush area does not constitute viable foraging habitat, and the vegetation density precludes individuals from moving through it. The removal, or at minimum, thinning of dense cattail and bulrush vegetation throughout the channel would provide more accessible foraging and basking space for western pond turtle, more room for species

movement and dispersal, improved aquatic flow and water quality, increased potential for plant biodiversity, and improved ability for other native vegetation (i.e., food sources for the western pond turtle) to establish in the project area (Angoh et al. 2021).

Western pond turtles move onto land for nesting, overwintering, dispersal, and aestivation. Nesting typically occurs within 330 feet of aquatic habitat in areas with compact well-drained soil, good solar exposure, and sparse vegetation (Hays et al. 1999). Dense vegetation growth may discourage nesting. Although aquatic vegetation is important for juvenile turtles because it provides protective nursery sites, the type and density of vegetation overgrowth currently dominating the channel negatively impacts species movement and predation avoidance overall. The preferred movement pattern for western pond turtle is in-water; however, because of the current vegetation overgrowth, turtles likely have to exit the water more frequently to navigate around the dense vegetation patches, which exposes individuals to high risk of predation (Reese & Welsh 1998). Therefore, because of the anticipated improvements to the species' foraging, basking, movement, dispersal, and predation avoidance following the completion of project activities, the project would result in post-vegetation removal benefits to western pond turtle.

Nesting Birds

Migratory or other common nesting birds, while not necessarily designated as special status species, may also nest in cattail marsh vegetation and ornamental trees, on power line poles, or on the ground surface in or near the project site. These birds are protected by the CFGC and MBTA, and while impacts to nesting bird species are not necessarily significant under CEQA, impacts to nests are prohibited by law. During the field survey, only common species were observed, such as mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), and Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*).

The project has the potential to directly impact nesting birds through vegetation removal and moving equipment and/or indirectly impact nesting birds through noise, dust, and other human disturbances that may cause a nest to fail during project activities. Pursuant to BMP 2, project activities would not typically occur during the bird nesting season (February 1 to September 15) or when migratory bird species would be expected to be present. In addition, impacts from project activities would be minimal because the disturbance footprint would be limited to cattail marsh vegetation within the channel, except when accessing or moving equipment. Furthermore, prior to removing vegetation or starting any other work activities, BMP 3 and BMP 4 would be implemented, which include a WEAT and pre-activity surveys to document any nests, active or inactive, in or adjacent to the project site. If nests are detected, the provisions of BMP 5 related to the establishment of avoidance buffers around active and inactive nests and the removal of inactive nests when avoidance is not practicable, would be implemented.

The introduction and establishment of non-native species would be avoided or minimized through implementation of BMP 9, which includes procedures for invasive species management. In addition, cattail vegetation to be removed does not contain mature riparian vegetation. Furthermore, implementation of BMP 1, which includes general site maintenance measures, siting restrictions for temporary sanitary facilities, and waste management and materials pollution control measures, would further minimize impacts to riparian vegetation. Through the implementation of BMPs, potential impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant.

Summary

With implementation of BMPs, the project would not 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. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Plant communities are considered sensitive biological resources if they have limited distributions, have high wildlife value, include sensitive species, or are particularly susceptible to disturbance. CDFW maintains a list of plant communities identified as sensitive (CDFW 2021b) based on the communities defined in *A Manual of California Vegetation, Second Edition* (Sawyer et al. 2009). Communities present within the project site and immediate vicinity include developed/landscaped land, open water, and cattail marshes [*Typha latifolia* Herbaceous Alliance]. The cattail marsh herbaceous alliance is typically found in semi-permanently flooded freshwater or brackish marsh habitats between 0 to 1,149 feet (0 to 350 meters) in elevation. Soils are typically clayey or silty. Narrowleaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*) or common cattail (*Typha latifolia*) contributes to greater than 50 percent relative cover in the herbaceous layer; one or more cattail species may be present. The cattail marsh *Typha latifolia* Herbaceous Alliance is not considered a sensitive plant community (~~CNPS~~ CDFW 2021). Narrowleaf cattails and common cattails (cattails) occur throughout the project site and surrounding area. North of East Port Hueneme Road, cattails dominate the streambed creating large contiguous blocks with little to no other vegetation interspersed. South of East Port Hueneme Road, cattails occur in patches, but do not create large contiguous blocks. Additionally, cattail patches within this section of Bubbling Springs do not occur further south than approximately Moranda Park.

In addition, only one sensitive plant community, Southern Coastal Salt Marsh, is documented by the CNDDB within a five-mile radius of the project site, and neither this sensitive plant community nor any others were observed within the project site or a 50-foot buffer during the field reconnaissance survey. Suitable riparian habitat is present within the project site; however, the 30 special status plant species identified in the literature review, none of which are expected to occur within the project site, were not observed during the field reconnaissance survey. Furthermore, the project site lacks suitable habitat for listed special status plant species and is not located within any federally designated critical habitat for any listed plant species.

The project would include the removal of approximately 6.68 acres (4,773.7 linear feet) of cattail marsh vegetation from within the channel. However, impacts to surrounding riparian vegetation adjacent to the project site would be avoided through project design and through implementation of BMP 1, which includes general site maintenance measures, siting restrictions for temporary sanitary facilities, and waste management and materials pollution control measures.

The Coastal Act sets high standards for the protection of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA), including various types of wetlands, riparian areas, and other natural resources in the Coastal Zone. The Local Coastal Program (LCP) for the City of Port Hueneme, effectively certified as an LCP in 1984 by the California Coastal Commission (2019), must conform to the policies of the California Coastal Act. The Port Hueneme LCP identifies the dunes located at the eastern end of

Hueneme Beach Park as ESHA due to their ability to provide breeding and nesting opportunities to threatened and endangered species. Only a portion of the project site is located within the California Coastal Zone, and project activities would not take place within this identified ESHA (California Coastal Commission 2020). Furthermore, the project aims to protect ESHAs within and adjacent to the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Implementation of the project seeks to prevent disruption to these areas by reducing the amount of overgrown vegetation to prevent potential impacts from future flood events, in accordance with Coastal Act Section 30240, that could significantly degrade those areas. The proposed project would continue to support ESHAs and recreation areas and there are no identified impacts.

Therefore, the project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project 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?

Bubbling Springs is a natural, unlined stormwater channel, ranging approximately 30 to 60 feet in width, that originates at Bard Road and flows generally south until reaching the J Street Pump Station. The top of bank of Bubbling Springs was mapped using a sub-meter GPS during the field reconnaissance survey, and the results of this mapping effort are shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5. North of Port Hueneme Road, the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is intermittent, although standing water was observed at the time of the field survey (United States Geological Survey, National Hydrography Dataset 2021). South of Port Hueneme Road, the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is perennial (United States Geological Survey, National Hydrography Dataset 2021). Portions of the channel are culverted, including the segments under Pleasant Valley Road, between East Clara Street and Joyce Drive, under Port Hueneme Road, and under Surfside Drive.

Project activities would involve the removal of dense cattails and bulrush plants from specific areas throughout the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel that are currently impeding water flow throughout the channel. The project site encompasses a total of 9.11 acres (7,784 linear feet) of CDFW jurisdictional waters (see Figure 4 and Figure 5). Although work would occur at times when the channel is dry or experiencing no flow, project activities may result in temporary elevated levels in turbidity affecting water quality during vegetation removal if minor residual quantities of water are present in the channel. Vegetation removal in the channel would be conducted using the clean surface sweep method, which would involve using the backhoe to scoop vegetation to the point at which it touches the bed of the channel, thereby allowing the maintenance crew to dislodge some of the vegetation roots without scooping sediment. Although the use of the clean surface sweep method during the occasional use of mechanized equipment would temporarily disturb topsoil, this method would minimize impacts to water quality.

Indirect impacts to jurisdictional waters and wetlands would also be avoided through implementation of BMP 1, which includes general site maintenance measures, siting restrictions for temporary sanitary facilities, and waste management and materials pollution control measures, as well as BMP 2, which limits work to periods during which the channel is dry or during periods of no flow. Therefore, direct and indirect impacts to jurisdictional waters would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Figure 4 Bubbling Springs Potential Jurisdictional Area

Figure 5 Bubbling Springs Potential Jurisdictional Area

d. Would the project 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?

Wildlife corridors are generally defined as connections between habitat patches that allow for physical and genetic exchange between otherwise isolated animal populations. Such linkages may serve a local purpose, such as between foraging and denning areas, or they may be regional in nature, allowing movement across the landscape. Some habitat linkages may serve as migration corridors, wherein animals periodically move away from an area and then subsequently return. Examples of barriers or impediments to movement include housing and other urban development, roads, fencing, unsuitable habitat, or open areas with little vegetative cover. Regional and local wildlife movements are expected to be concentrated near topographic features that allow convenient passage, including roads, drainages, and ridgelines.

The project site is located within a developed urban area and is surrounded by recreational, residential, institutional, and commercial development as well as open space. Common mammals, such as striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), may utilize the edges of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel for local movement when it is flooded (e.g., for drinking); however, given the urban nature of the project site vicinity and broader region, it is unlikely that wildlife utilizes the immediate area for regional movement. Furthermore, the project site is not within a mapped California Essential Habitat Connectivity area or a County of Ventura Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor (CDFW 2021c; County of Ventura 2019).

The project does not include the permanent installation of fences or other structures that would impede wildlife movement. The project may temporarily discourage wildlife movement within the project site while project activities are being conducted (e.g., moving wildlife may avoid active machinery). In addition, the removal of overgrown cattails and bulrush plants from the channel would benefit wildlife movement by providing greater access to the channel for use as a movement corridor. Furthermore, upon completion of project activities, the project site would become inundated with new flows during the following wet season, and aquatic species could move freely within and through the project site. Lastly, implementation of BMPs 01 and 02 would avoid and minimize impacts to wildlife movement because work would be conducted when species migration is typically not occurring, further avoiding direct impacts to wildlife movement. Overall, the proposed project would not significantly hinder wildlife movement in the region, considering no new development or permanent installations are proposed. Therefore, the project would not 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. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

e. Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Coastal Act Section 30231

Coastal Act Section 30231 states the biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of wastewater discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial

interference with surface waterflow, encouraging wastewater reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

Drainage systems, such as the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, that discharge close to sea level are expected to be affected by climate change and experience more frequent flooding. Vegetation clearing from the channel would not alter natural shoreline processes. Instead, the project seeks to restore naturally occurring flows to minimize risk to existing structures from future flood events. Therefore, the project would not conflict with the policies of Coastal Act Section 30231, and no impact would occur.

Port Hueneme Local Coastal Program

As discussed under checklist item (b), only a portion of the project site is located within the California Coastal Zone, and project activities would not take place within the identified ESHA near the project site, which consist of dunes at the eastern end of Hueneme Beach Park (California Coastal Commission 2020). Therefore, project activities are consistent with the Port Hueneme LCP, and no impact would occur.

Port Hueneme Municipal Code

The project site is located in a public park maintained by the City pursuant to PHMC Article VI, Chapter 2. While the City does not have an established ordinance to protect specific species of trees (e.g., California native trees), PHMC Section 4011 prohibits digging, removing, destroying, injuring, mutilating, or cutting trees, plants, shrubs, blooms, and flowers (or any portion thereof) or removing wood, turf, grass, soil, rock, sand, or gravel from any public facility, waterway, or body of water. However, pursuant to PHMC Section 4005, exceptions to the provisions of PHMC Section 4011 include City employees maintaining a public facility, which would include the proposed project. Furthermore, PHMC Section 6043 states the City Manager or his/her designee may remove or adjust trees in public areas or parkways under certain circumstances, including when they determine that tree removal or adjustment is justified to otherwise protect public health, safety, or welfare, which is the purpose of the proposed project. The term “adjustment” is not defined by the PHMC but may include activities such as trimming or relocation. Therefore, project activities would be consistent with the PHMC, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

f. Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

The project site is not subject to any Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

5 Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	■	☐

This section provides an analysis of the project's impacts on cultural resources, including historical and archaeological resources, as well as human remains. CEQA requires a lead agency determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21084.1). A historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR); a resource included in a local register of historical resources; or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript a lead agency determines to be historically significant (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[a][1-3]).

A resource shall be considered historically significant if it:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, if it can be demonstrated that a project would cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC Section 21083.2[a-b]).

PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information;

2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

As part of the literature review for evaluating the project's potential to impact cultural resources, Rincon reviewed a cultural resources records search previously conducted for the City's Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project at the California Historical Resources Information System South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) located at California State University, Fullerton. The SCCIC records search used in the literature review for this analysis was performed to identify previously conducted cultural resources studies as well as previously recorded cultural resources within the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project site and a 0.5-mile radius surrounding it. The previously conducted records search area covered the northern 1.2 miles of the approximately 1.75-mile-long project site (from Bard Street to East Scott Street) and is adequate to establish a cultural context for the project site. The records search included a review of available records at the SCCIC, as well as the National Register of Historic Places, CRHR, the Office of Historic Preservation Historic Properties Directory, the California Inventory of Historic Resources, the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility list, and historical maps. The SCCIC records search identified 27 cultural resources studies conducted within the vicinity of the northern 1.2 miles of the current project site, five of which evaluated portions of this segment of the project site. The SCCIC search identified ten previously recorded historic-period cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the northern 1.2 miles of the current project site, none of which occur within its limits.

Additionally, Rincon conducted a pedestrian field survey of the entire project site in November 2021. During the survey effort, the presence of private properties limited the ability to survey along the western side of the channel, and a paved bike path paralleled the eastern side of the channel. Areas of exposed ground were inspected for prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), and features that indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, foundations). Ground disturbances, such as burrows, were also visually inspected. Overall ground visibility was limited by manicured grass, leaf litter, and pavement and therefore was poor (approximately five percent). Exposed soil was a light brown very fine-grained silty sand. The field survey was negative for surficial evidence of cultural resources.

a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Rincon completed a review of historical topographic maps and aerial imagery to ascertain the development history of the project site. Historical topographic maps from 1904 to 1974 depict limited development along the project site between Pleasant Valley and Hueneme Roads from 1904 to 1956 and development along all sides of the project site in 1974 (USGS 2021; NETR Online 2021). Aerial imagery confirms the presence of limited development along the project site between Pleasant Valley and Hueneme roads in 1947 and residential and commercial development surrounding the project site in all directions since at least 1967 (NETR Online 2021). Aerial imagery from 1967 to present-day depict the project site as being surrounded by further development, and small improvements to the project site occurring in forms of street overcrossings (NETR Online 2021).

The project proposes to remove herbaceous vegetation, including cattails and bulrush, within the unlined stormwater channel. No tree, shrub, or other woody vegetation would be removed, and no excavation of channel material is proposed. There are no identified historical resources within the project site. In addition, the aerial imagery and historical topographic map review did not identify any potential historical resources within the project site. Therefore, no historical resources are present that may be impacted by the project. Therefore, no impact to historical resources would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

As previously mentioned, no archaeological resources have been previously recorded within the northern 1.2 miles of the current project site, and the pedestrian field survey of the entire 1.75-mile long project site was negative for archaeological resources. In addition, the project consists of vegetation removal and would not result in the excavation of channel material. Furthermore, pursuant to BMP 10, the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Greenbook 2021 edition) Section 6-6.2 would be implemented by the City for the proposed project such that if something of archaeological interest or human artifacts are found, work would cease and would not resume until authorized by the project engineer. Therefore, no impacts to archaeological resources would occur.

NO IMPACT

c. *Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?*

The cultural resources records search did not identify cemeteries or archaeological resources containing human remains within the northern 1.2 miles of the project site. In addition, the pedestrian field survey of the entire 1.75-mile-long project site was negative for archaeological resources. However, human burials outside of formal cemeteries often occur in prehistoric archaeological contexts.

In addition to being potential archaeological resources, human burials have specific provisions for treatment in PRC Section 5097. Additionally, California Health and Safety Code Sections 7050.5, 7051, and 7054 contain specific provisions for the protection of human burial remains. Existing regulations address the illegality of interfering with human burial remains and protect them from disturbance, vandalism, or destruction. PRC Section 5097.98 also addresses the disposition of Native American burials, protects such remains, and establishes the Native American Heritage Commission as the entity to resolve any related disputes.

In the unlikely event human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials. Given

required compliance with PRC Section 5097.98 and California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, project impacts to human remains would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

6 Energy

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☐	■

As a state, California is one of the lowest per capita energy users in the United States, ranked 50th in the nation, due to its energy efficiency programs and mild climate (United States Energy Information Administration 2021). Electricity and natural gas are primarily consumed by the built environment for lighting, appliances, heating and cooling systems, fireplaces, and other uses such as industrial processes in addition to being consumed by alternative fuel vehicles. Energy resources consumed by project activities would be limited to petroleum fuels. Petroleum fuels are primarily consumed by on-road and off-road equipment in addition to some industrial processes, with California being one of the top petroleum-producing states in the nation (California Energy Commission [CEC] 2021a). Gasoline, which is used by light-duty cars, pickup trucks, and sport utility vehicles, is the most used transportation fuel in California with 12.6 billion gallons sold in 2020 (CEC 2021b). Diesel, which is used primarily by heavy duty-trucks, delivery vehicles, buses, trains, ships, boats and barges, farm equipment, and heavy-duty construction and military vehicles, is the second most used fuel in California with 1.7 billion gallons sold in 2021 (CEC 2021b). Energy consumption is directly related to environmental quality in that the consumption of nonrenewable energy resources releases criteria air pollutant and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into the atmosphere. The environmental impacts of air pollutant and GHG emissions associated with the project's energy consumption are discussed in detail in Section 3, *Air Quality*, and Section 8, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, respectively.

a. Would the project result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

Energy use during project activities would primarily be in the form of fuel consumption to operate heavy equipment (i.e., a backhoe), mechanized hand tools, and vehicles driven by workers and vendors. Energy use would be temporary in nature, and equipment used would be typical of park maintenance and landscaping projects in the region. In addition, contractors and vendors would be required to comply with the provisions of California Code of Regulations Title 13 Sections 2449 and 2485, which prohibit diesel-fueled commercial motor vehicles and off-road diesel vehicles from idling for more than five minutes and would minimize unnecessary fuel consumption. Heavy equipment would be subject to the U.S. EPA Construction Equipment Fuel Efficiency Standard,

which would also minimize inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary fuel consumption. These practices would result in efficient use of energy necessary to complete project activities. Furthermore, in the interest of cost-efficiency, contractors and vendors also would not utilize fuel in a manner that is wasteful or unnecessary. As such, the project would not result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

The energy-related goals and policies in the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan, such as COS 6, PSF 8, and CAP 1, are focused on energy conservation in buildings and the provision of utility infrastructure (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). None of these goals and policies would apply to project activities because no buildings or utility infrastructure is proposed. Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct state or local plans for renewable energy and energy efficiency, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

7 Geology and Soils

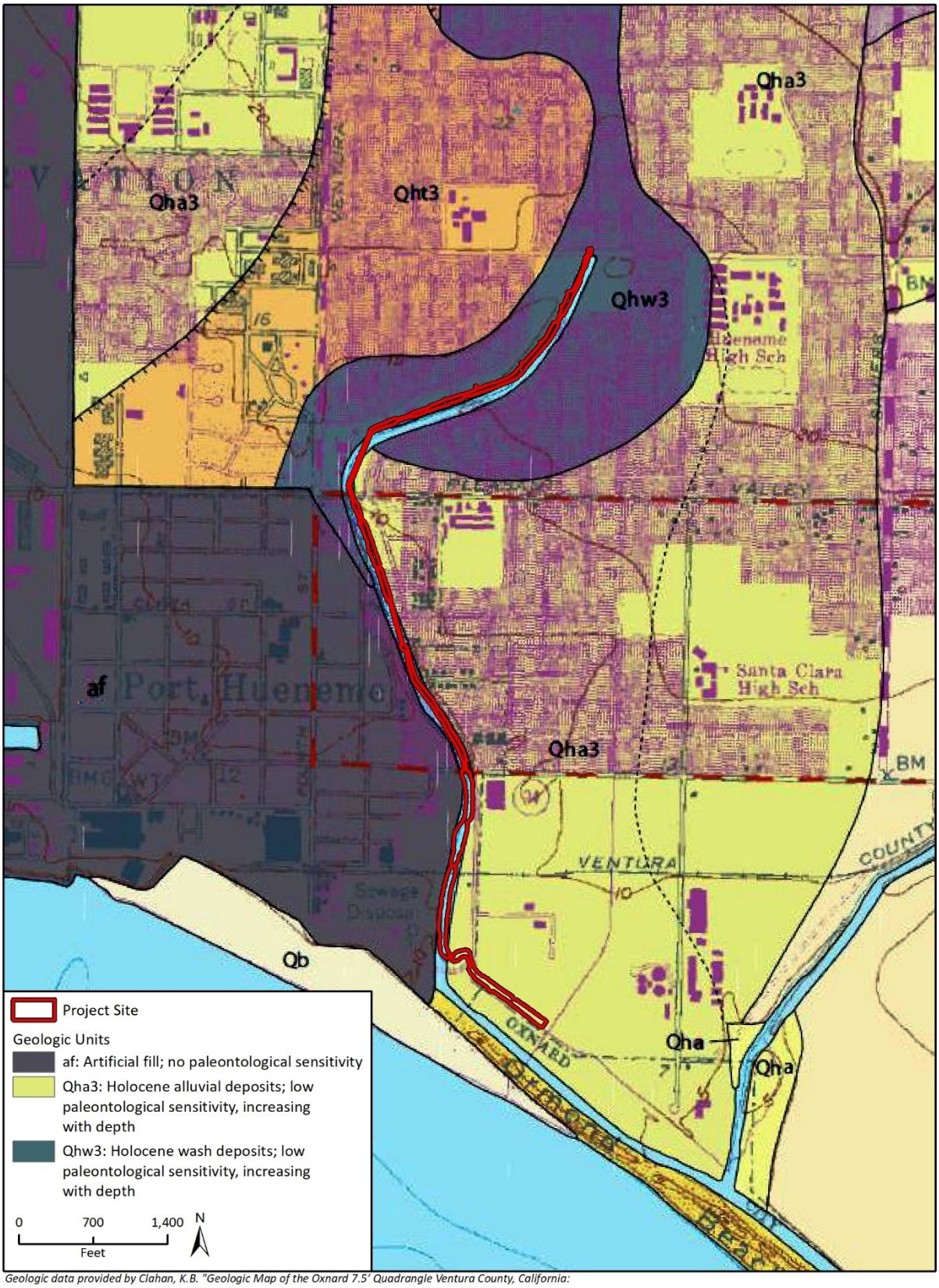
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	☐	☐	☐	■
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	■
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	■
4. Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	■
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	■
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	■

The project area is within the Transverse Ranges geomorphic province, one of the eleven geomorphic provinces of California (California Geological Survey [CGS] 2002). The Transverse Ranges province consists of a series of east-west trending mountain ranges and valleys and extends over 300 miles from Point Arguello (Santa Barbara County) in the west to the Eagle Mountains (Riverside County) in the east. Within the Transverse Ranges, the project area lies within the Oxnard Plain, a coastal alluvial plain that is bordered by the Topa Topa Mountains and Santa Susana Mountains to the north, Santa Monica Mountains to the east, and Pacific Ocean to the south and west.

Four geologic units are mapped immediately adjacent to the project site: artificial fill (af), active coastal eolian (sand dune) deposits (Qe), Holocene wash deposits (Qhw_3), and Holocene alluvial deposits (Qha_3) (Clahan 2003; see Figure 6). The paleontological sensitivities of each of the four geologic units underlying or immediately adjacent to the project site were evaluated by consulting online locality databases and the primary literature. Fossil collections records from the Paleobiology Database (PBDB) and University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) online database were reviewed, which contain known fossil localities in similar geologic units in Ventura County (PBDB 2021; UCMP 2021). The potential for impacts to scientifically significant paleontological resources is based on the potential for ground disturbance to directly impact paleontologically sensitive geologic units. The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) has developed a system for assessing paleontological sensitivity and describes sedimentary rock units as having high, low, undetermined, or no potential for containing scientifically significant nonrenewable paleontological resources (SVP 2010). This system is based on rock units within which vertebrate or significant invertebrate fossils have been determined by previous studies to be present or likely to be present. Based on the SVP guidelines, Based on the available information contained within existing scientific literature and the UCMP database along with the SVP guidelines, the following paleontological sensitivities were assigned to each of the geologic units within the project site:

- **Artificial Fill (af)**: Artificial fill is found in the southwestern part of the project site (Figure 6). Artificial fill consists of material that humans have moved or sediment deposited to change the landscape. These sediments are heavily disturbed and lack any stratigraphic context. Therefore, artificial fill has **no paleontological sensitivity.**
- **Active coastal eolian (sand dune) deposits (Qe)**: Qe is found at the southern extreme of the project site bordering Ormond Beach (Figure 6). These are active areas of sedimentation where sand and silt are deposited by wind action (Clahan 2003). Given that Qe is an active zone of sedimentation, fossil resources will not be found within it. Therefore, Qe is has **no paleontological sensitivity.**
- **Holocene wash deposits (Qhw_3)**: Qhw_3 is found in the northern part of the project site (Figure 6). Qhw_3 consists of unconsolidated silt, sand, and gravel and represents deposition within a stream channel (Clahan 2003). Sediments of Holocene age are typically too young (i.e., less than 5,000 years old) to preserve paleontological resources (SVP 2010). However, Holocene sediments may grade into Pleistocene sediments in the subsurface, which are old enough to preserve paleontological resources. Qhw_3 has a **low paleontological sensitivity that increases with depth.**
- **Holocene alluvial deposits (Qha_3)**—Qha_3 is found in the southeastern part of the project area (Figure 6). Qha_3 consists of unconsolidated, poorly sorted clayey sand with some gravel (Clahan 2003). Sediments of Holocene age are typically too young (i.e., less than 5,000 years old) to preserve paleontological resources (SVP 2010). However, Holocene sediments may grade into Pleistocene sediments in the subsurface, which are old enough to preserve paleontological

Figure 6 Geologic Units and Paleontological Sensitivity of the Project Area



Geologic data provided by Clahan, K.B. "Geologic Map of the Oxnard 7.5' Quadrangle Ventura County, California: A Digital Database. California Geological Survey, Preliminary Geologic Maps, scale 1:24,000," 2003.

resources and have done so within Ventura County (PBDB 2021; UCMP 2021). Qha_3 has a **low paleontological sensitivity that increases with depth.**

a.1. Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?

a.2. Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?

a.3. Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

a.4. Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure (including liquefaction), and landslides. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. Furthermore, in accordance with BMP 1, erosion control measures such as fiber rolls would be implemented during project activities. Therefore, the project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil, and impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to result in unstable geologic units or soils or result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse due to unstable geologic units or soils. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

d. Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to create substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property due to expansive soils. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

e. Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems would be installed. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

f. Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. No excavation of channel sediments is proposed. Holocene sediments underlying portions of the project site, such as Qhw_3 and Qha_3, may grade into Pleistocene sediments, which could contain subsurface paleontological resources, at certain depths; however, ground disturbance associated with project activities would not reach these depths. Therefore, the project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	■	☐

Overview of Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases

Climate change is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans along with other substantial changes in climate (such as wind patterns, precipitation, and storms) over an extended period of time. Climate change is the result of numerous, cumulative sources of GHG emissions contributing to the "greenhouse effect," a natural occurrence which takes place in Earth's atmosphere and helps regulate the temperature of the planet. The majority of radiation from the sun hits Earth's surface and warms it. The surface, in turn, radiates heat back towards the atmosphere in the form of infrared radiation. Gases and clouds in the atmosphere trap and prevent some of this heat from escaping into space and re-radiate it in all directions.

GHG emissions occur both naturally and as a result of human activities, such as fossil fuel burning, decomposition of landfill wastes, raising livestock, deforestation, and some agricultural practices. GHGs produced by human activities include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. Different types of GHGs have varying global warming potentials (GWP). The GWP of a GHG is the potential of a gas or aerosol to trap heat in the atmosphere over a specified timescale (generally, 100 years). Because GHGs absorb different amounts of heat, a common reference gas (CO_2) is used to relate the amount of heat absorbed to the amount of the gas emitted, referred to as "carbon dioxide equivalent" (CO_2e), which is the amount of GHG emitted multiplied by its GWP. Carbon dioxide has a 100-year GWP of one. By contrast, methane has a GWP of 30, meaning its global warming effect is 30 times greater than CO_2 on a molecule per molecule basis (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC] 2021).[2]

In its Sixth Assessment Report (2021), the United Nations IPCC expressed that the rise and continued growth of atmospheric CO_2 concentrations is unequivocally due to human activities. Human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean, and land, which has led the climate to warm

[2] The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (2021) *Sixth Assessment Report* determined that methane has a GWP of 30. However, the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan published by the California Air Resources Board uses a GWP of 25 for methane, consistent with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (2007) *Fourth Assessment Report*. Therefore, this analysis utilizes a GWP of 25.

at an unprecedented rate in the last 2,000 years. It is estimated that a total of 2,390 gigatonnes of anthropogenic CO_2 was emitted between the period of 1850 and 2019. It is likely that anthropogenic activities have increased the global surface temperature by approximately 1.07 degrees Celsius between the years 2010 through 2019 (IPCC 2021). Furthermore, since the late 1700s, estimated concentrations of CO_2, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere have increased by over 43 percent, 156 percent, and 17 percent, respectively, primarily due to human activity (U.S. EPA 2021b). Emissions resulting from human activities are thereby contributing to an average increase in Earth's temperature. Potential climate change impacts in California may include loss of snowpack, sea level rise, more extreme heat days per year, more high ozone days, more large forest fires, and more drought years (State of California 2018).

Regulatory Framework

In response to climate change, California implemented Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the "California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006." AB 32 required the reduction of statewide GHG emissions to 1990 emissions levels (essentially a 15 percent reduction below 2005 emission levels) by 2020 and the adoption of rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective GHG emissions reductions. On September 8, 2016, the Governor signed Senate Bill 32 into law, extending AB 32 by requiring the State to further reduce GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (the other provisions of AB 32 remain unchanged). On December 14, 2017, CARB adopted the 2017 Scoping Plan, which provides a framework for achieving the 2030 target. The 2017 Scoping Plan relies on the continuation and expansion of existing policies and regulations, such as the Cap-and-Trade Program and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, and implementation of recently adopted policies and legislation, such as Senate Bill 1383 (aimed at reducing short-lived climate pollutants including methane, hydrofluorocarbon gases, and anthropogenic black carbon) and Senate Bill 100. The 2017 Scoping Plan also puts an increased emphasis on innovation, adoption of existing technology, and strategic investment to support its strategies. As with the 2013 Scoping Plan Update, the 2017 Scoping Plan does not provide project-level thresholds for land use development. Instead, it recommends local governments adopt policies and locally appropriate quantitative thresholds consistent with a statewide per capita goal of six metric tons (MT) of CO_2e by 2030 and two MT of CO_2e by 2050 (CARB 2017).

Methodology

GHG emissions associated with project activities were estimated using CalEEMod, version 2020.4.0, with the assumptions described in Section 3, *Air Quality*.

Significance Thresholds

Most individual projects do not generate sufficient GHG emissions to influence climate change directly. Physical changes caused by a project can contribute incrementally to significant cumulative effects, even if individual changes resulting from a project are limited. The issue of climate change typically involves an analysis of whether a project's contribution towards an impact would be cumulatively considerable. "Cumulatively considerable" means the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future projects (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064[h][1]).

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4 recommends lead agencies quantify GHG emissions of projects and consider several other factors that may be used in the determination of the significance of GHG emissions from a project, including the extent to which the project may increase or reduce GHG

emissions; whether a project exceeds an applicable significance threshold; and the extent to which the project complies with regulations or requirements adopted to implement a plan for the reduction or mitigation of GHG emissions.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4 does not establish a threshold of significance. Lead agencies have the discretion to establish significance thresholds for their respective jurisdictions, and in establishing those thresholds, a lead agency may appropriately look to thresholds developed by other public agencies, or suggested by other experts, as long as any threshold chosen is supported by substantial evidence (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7[c]).

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(b), projects can tier from a qualified GHG reduction plan, which allows for project-level evaluation of GHG emissions through the comparison of the project's consistency with the GHG reduction policies included in a qualified GHG reduction plan. The City of Port Hueneme has adopted a qualified GHG reduction plan, which is included as the Climate Action Plan (CAP) Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). For the purposes of this analysis, the significance of the project's GHG emissions is determined by consistency with the CAP Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan, which is consistent with the 2017 Scoping Plan and emission reduction targets per Senate Bill 32. GHG emissions associated with the proposed project would be less than significant if the project is consistent with GHG emissions reduction goals and policies contained in the CAP Element. The project's GHG emissions were also quantified for informational purposes.

a. *Would the project generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?*

b. *Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

Project activities would generate temporary GHG emissions associated with the use of heavy equipment and vehicles. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5, the significance of project emissions is determined by evaluating project consistency with the GHG emission reduction goals and policies of the CAP Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan, which meets the definition of a qualified GHG reduction plan under CEQA. Table 3 summarizes the project's consistency with the CAP Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan. As shown therein, the project would be potentially consistent with the applicable goals and policies of the CAP Element. Therefore, the project would not generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment and would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Moreover, the project would further CAP Adaptation Goal 7-2 to "focus flood protection planning and stormwater improvement projects on neighborhoods and populations that are most at risk from inland flooding" because the purpose of the proposed project is to restore and maintain flow conveyance capacity in the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, providing the surrounding area with protection from inland flood-related hazards, including inundation, during large storm events. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Table 3 Project Consistency with the CAP Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan

Goal and Relevant Policies	Consistency
Goal 1: Reduced GHG emissions from energy use in buildings.	**Not Applicable** The project does not include the construction or modification of buildings.
Goal 2: Reduced GHG emissions from transportation.	**Not Applicable** Policies and actions under this goal focus on increasing the availability of electric vehicle charging stations and other alternative fueling stations, promoting shared transit, and encouraging active transportation. Project activities involve vegetation removal and trimming at an existing park facility; therefore, this goal and its related policies and actions are not applicable.
Goal 3: Reduced GHG emissions from solid waste. ▪ **Policy CAP 3-1**: Implement and enforce Senate Bill 1383 organics and recycling requirements to reduce landfilled organics waste emissions 50 percent by 2022 and 75 percent by 2025 compared to 2014 levels. This includes provision of green waste bins for residential and commercial uses.	**Consistent** The minor quantities of waste generated by project activities would be limited to vegetation removed from the channel. In accordance with BMP 11, this waste that would be disposed of by a local vendor at a green waste processing facility, such as California Wood Recycling – Agromin or Del Norte Recycling and Transfer Station.
Goal 4: Reduced GHG emissions from water use.	**Not Applicable** Project activities would not affect the amount of water usage in Port Hueneme.
Goal 5: Increased carbon sequestration from the City's urban forest.	**Not Applicable** Project activities would not affect the urban forest in Port Hueneme.
Goal 6: Reduced GHG emissions from landscaping equipment. ▪ **Policy CAP 6-1**: Promote the transition from gas-powered landscaping equipment, such as leaf blowers, to electric-powered equipment throughout the City.[1]	**Consistent** In accordance with BMP 11, project activities would utilize electric-powered equipment to the extent practicable and commercially available.

[1] This goal and its related policy are "supportive," meaning that the CAP Element does not rely on quantitative emission reductions from this goal and policy to achieve its stated GHG reduction target.

Source: City of Port Hueneme 2021a

Emissions Quantification

GHG emissions associated with project activities were quantified for informational purposes. The proposed project would generate annual GHG emissions of approximately 8.2 MT of CO_2e per year, assuming operation of the backhoe to clear the vegetation from the channel for eight hours a day for up to four weeks per year and one vegetation disposal trip per day of vegetation clearing activities.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	■	☐
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	■	☐
e. For a project located in an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	■
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

b. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Project activities would temporarily increase the transport, use, and storage of hazardous materials in the project area due to the presence of heavy-duty vehicles and mechanized hand tools. Such hazardous materials would include diesel fuel, gasoline, motor oil, and other similar materials. Such materials would be properly handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Reasonably foreseeable conditions that could lead to a release of hazardous materials during project activities would consist primarily of accidents during maintenance or refueling activities associated with the backhoe and mechanized hand tools and/or the accidental upset of equipment, such as the overturning of a backhoe on a sloped embankment or accidental submergence of mechanized tools into the stream. All maintenance personnel would possess the necessary training and/or certifications to operate any equipment used during project activities, thereby minimizing the risk of accidental release of hazardous materials due to equipment upset. Furthermore, implementation of the waste management and materials pollution control measures included in BMP 1 would involve maintaining vehicles and equipment in good working condition, equipping fueling trucks and areas with spill kits and/or other spill protection devices, cleaning up any spills immediately, maintaining the project site free of trash, conducting maintenance activities at least 50 feet away from drainage courses, and protecting maintenance areas from stormwater run-on and run-off. In addition, implementation of BMP 2 would limit work to periods during which the channel is dry or when water levels are low and exhibiting no flow conditions. These measures would further reduce the potential for the project to result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment due to reasonably foreseeable upset or accident conditions. Therefore, with the implementation of BMPs 01 and 02, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environmental due to the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school?

As detailed in Table 4, five schools are located within 0.25 mile of the project site. Each of these schools is separated from the project site by intervening residential, commercial, institutional, and/or recreational development and/or roadways. As discussed under checklist items (a) and (b), project activities would intermittently increase the transport and use of hazardous materials, including diesel fuel, gasoline, motor oil, and other similar materials, in the project area due to the use of vehicles and equipment. The presence of these materials would be temporary and infrequent in nature and continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. In addition, implementation of the waste management and materials pollution control measures included in BMP 1 would involve maintaining vehicles and equipment in good working condition, equipping fueling trucks and fueling areas with spill kits and/or other spill protection devices, and cleaning up any spills immediately, which would minimize the potential for any hazardous materials spills to affect nearby schools. Therefore, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts

related to hazardous emissions or the handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school. Impacts would be less than significant.

Table 4 Schools Located Within 0.25 Mile of Project Site

School Name	Distance From Project Site
Parkview Elementary School	700 feet
Richard Bard Elementary School	800 feet
Hueneme Elementary School	840 feet
Hueneme High School	1,000 feet
Green Junior High	1,260 feet

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

d. Would the project be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

A database search of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database, the State Water Resource Control Boards GeoTracker database, and other Department of Toxic Substances Control records was conducted on September 10, 2021. According to the records review, there are no active hazardous material sites within the project site; however, there are several listed sites within a 0.25-mile radius, including:

- A closed leaking underground storage tank (LUST) listing at the Unocal #4044 (Former Tosco 76 SS) site located at the northeast corner of the intersection of North Ventura Road and East Pleasant Valley Road adjacent to the project site
- A closed Cleanup Program Site listing at Port City Plaza/Former Don's Dry Cleaning at the northeast corner of the intersection of North Ventura Road and East Pleasant Valley Road located adjacent to the project site
- Five closed LUST listings at the City of Port Hueneme Public Works Service Yard/Hueneme Elementary School District Bus Yard and Maintenance Shop at 700 Hueneme Road approximately 70 feet east of the project site
- An inactive Military Evaluation site titled "PORT HUE S/COAST DEF" located approximately 370 feet south of the project site
- An active Cleanup Program Site listing at Pac Foundries at 705 Industrial Avenue approximately 520 feet east of the project site
- A closed LUST listing at Olson Port Hueneme, LLC at 306 Pleasant Valley Road approximately 665 feet west of the project site
- A closed LUST listing at the Port Hueneme City Hall at 250 Ventura Road approximately 675 feet west of the project site
- A closed LUST listing at B&C Welding at 800 Industrial Avenue approximately 755 feet east of the project site
- A closed Cleanup Program Site listing at John Laing Homes at 757 Industrial Avenue approximately 765 feet east of the project site

- A closed LUST listing associated with the City of Port Hueneme at 212 Pleasant Valley Road approximately 1,085 feet west of the project site

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. None of the above listed sites would be disturbed. In addition, even if contamination associated with these sites were to have migrated to the project site, the majority of sediment disturbed by project activities would be moist from prior inundation and would not generate fugitive dust emissions that could mobilize hazardous materials into the air. Therefore, the project would not be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

The nearest airport is the Oxnard Airport located approximately 2.6 miles to the north of the project site. The project site is located outside the study area identified for the Oxnard Airport in the Ventura County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Ventura County Airport Land Use Commission 2000). The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Given the distance of the project site from this airport and the nature of project activities, the project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

f. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services maintains and updates the Ventura County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Although a 2021 update is in progress, the current version of the plan is the 2016 EOP, as amended in 2018. The EOP identifies multiple methods and policies for emergency response in Ventura County and delegates local emergency operational command where appropriate. The 2016 EOP does not identify emergency vehicle service routes or emergency evacuation routes. However, Figure PSF-6 in the Public Safety and Facilities Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan identifies tsunami evacuation routes. In the project site vicinity, these routes include East Port Hueneme Road, East Pleasant Valley Road, Bard Road, and North Ventura Road (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). Project activities would be conducted entirely within the project site and would not interfere with the use of these roadways for emergency response or emergency evacuation. Therefore, the project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

g. Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?

As detailed further in Section 20, *Wildfire*, the project site is not located in or near Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Port Hueneme is a built-up urban area with little to no wildfire risk, and the closest Very High or High Fire Hazard Severity Zone is approximately seven miles away (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 2007). Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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10 Hydrology and Water Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
(i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	■
(ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	■
(iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	☐	☐	☐	■
(iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☐	■
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. The project does not include the discharge of any materials to the channel and would not be subject to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

The project includes implementation of BMP 2, which requires no work to occur if flowing water is present in the channel and stabilization of non-active areas after the cessation of soil-disturbing activities or one day prior to the onset of precipitation. This restriction on the timing of project activities and the procedure to stabilize non-active areas would serve to minimize the possibility of increased turbidity in the channel waters due to the disturbance of sediments during the removal of vegetation. In addition, if work is scheduled to be conducted when there is flowing water present in the channel, work would be rescheduled until ideal conditions (i.e., no flow and low water levels) are present. Furthermore, the project includes implementation of the general site maintenance, erosion control, and waste management and materials pollution control measures outlined under BMP 1 in *Description of Project* to minimize the potential for sediment, trash, sewage, and hazardous materials to enter the channel during project activities. Adherence to these BMPs would minimize the potential for project impacts to surface and groundwater quality. Therefore, the project would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality, and impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Would the project substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

The project site is located in the Oxnard Plain Subbasin of the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin. Groundwater management in the basin is overseen by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency. Groundwater depletion is an issue of concern throughout the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency's jurisdiction, but levels in the Hueneme Aquifer Management Area, which underlies the project site, have been increasing (Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency 2021).

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No groundwater supplies would be required for the project, and no impervious surfaces would be installed. Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge in a way that would impede the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency's Groundwater Sustainability Plans. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

c.(i) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

c.(ii) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

c.(iii) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner that would create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

c.(iv) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would impede or redirect flood flows?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. The proposed project would not alter the course of the channel or add impervious surfaces to the project site or immediate vicinity. Currently, the channel is overgrown with cattails and bulrush plants, and the flow through the channel during flooding events is substantially less than its design capacity. The proposed project would restore the drainage pattern of the project site and surroundings to its original design, which would improve drainage in the project site vicinity in a manner that would both reduce the potential for on- and off-site flooding and remove existing obstacles that currently impede and redirect flood flows away from the channel. In addition, by improving the flood control capacity of the channel, the project would reduce the volume of stormwater runoff that would otherwise be directed toward the existing stormwater drainage system. Furthermore, implementation of the proposed project would reduce the risks of flood-related erosion, siltation, and polluted runoff by reducing the risk of localized floodwaters escaping from the channel and flooding the surrounding residential, commercial, institutional, and recreational development. Therefore, the project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site; substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or off site; create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or impede or redirect flood flows. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, would the project risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

The Bubbling Springs Natural Channel is a flood and stormwater control channel. The channel is not within a 100-year flood hazard zone designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency but is within the designated 500-year flood hazard zone, as is nearly all of Port Hueneme (Federal Emergency Management Agency 2021). The southernmost portion of the project site south of Surfside Drive is located in a tsunami inundation zone (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). The project site is not located in a seiche zone.

Under existing conditions, a heavy precipitation event or tsunami would potentially risk release of pollutants from nearby residential, commercial, and institutional development should the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel overflow and release floodwaters onto nearby properties. The proposed project would restore the flood capacity of the channel to its design capacity, which would improve the ability of the channel to direct flood flows away from nearby development and reduce the potential for the release of pollutants during inundation events. Therefore, the project would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

e. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

As discussed under checklist item (b), the project would not require the use of groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge; therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Groundwater Sustainability Plans.

Port Hueneme lies within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Bubbling Springs Natural Channel discharges into the Pacific Ocean and is listed under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as "Impaired" for trash and *Escherichia coli* (E. coli). There are currently no Total Daily Maximum Loads (i.e., the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter a waterbody each day) established for either contaminant. As discussed under checklist item (a), project activities would only be conducted when there is no flowing water present in the channel in accordance with BMP 2. Furthermore, by improving the flood control capacity of the channel, the project would reduce the occurrence of localized flooding, which would serve to reduce the possibility of trash or fecal matter entering the channel from adjacent residential, commercial, institutional, and recreational development. In addition, implementation of the general site maintenance, waste management, and materials pollution control measures included in BMP 1, as outlined under *Description of Project*, would prevent potential trash and debris associated with project activities from entering the channel. By restoring a floodwater conveyance channel to its design capacity, the project would further the goals of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan by reducing the potential for trash and fecal matter contamination of the channel. Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

11 Land Use and Planning

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project physically divide an established community?

The proposed project would involve vegetation removal and trimming within the existing Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. The project would not include construction of new buildings or infrastructure and would not physically divide existing land uses within the surrounding community. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

The proposed project involves vegetation trimming and removal within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, which is located in an urbanized area. The project site has land use designations of Parks and Open Space and Medium Density Residential and is zoned P-R (Park Reserve) and R-2 (Limited Multi-Family) (City of Port Hueneme 1998 and 2021a). Goal COS 2 of the City's Conservation and Open Space Element is "Preservation of remaining open space areas and maintain recreational facilities" (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). In addition, pursuant to PHMC Sections 10421 and 10521, public parks are a permitted use in the R-2 and P-R zones. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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12 Mineral Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

b. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

According to the Final EIR for the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan, soil types found in Port Hueneme do not contain significant mineral resources, and there are no known mineral resources or mineral resource extraction sites in Port Hueneme (City of Port Hueneme 2021b). Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state or the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. No impact to mineral resources would occur.

NO IMPACT

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13 Noise

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■

Overview of Noise and Vibration

Sound is a vibratory disturbance created by a moving or vibrating source, which is capable of being detected by the hearing organs. Noise is defined as sound that is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or undesired and may therefore be classified as a more specific group of sounds. The effects of noise on people can include general annoyance, interference with speech communication, sleep disturbance, and, in the extreme, hearing impairment (Caltrans 2013). Noise levels are commonly measured in decibels (dB) using the A-weighted sound pressure level (dBA). The A-weighting scale is an adjustment to the actual sound pressure levels so that they are consistent with the human hearing response. Decibels are measured on a logarithmic scale that quantifies sound intensity in a manner similar to the Richter scale used to measure earthquake magnitudes. A doubling of the energy of a noise source, such as doubling of traffic volume, would increase the noise level by 3 dB; dividing the energy in half would result in a 3 dB decrease (Caltrans 2013).

The impact of noise is not a function of loudness alone. The time of day when noise occurs and the duration of the noise are also important factors of a project's noise impact. Most noise that lasts for more than a few seconds is variable in its intensity. Consequently, a variety of noise descriptors have been developed. The noise descriptor used for this analysis is the equivalent noise level (L_{eq}). L_{eq} is one of the most frequently-used noise metrics; it considers both duration and sound power level. The L_{eq} is defined as the single steady-state A-weighted sound level equal to the average sound energy over a time period. When no time period is specified, a one-hour period is assumed.

Normal conversational levels are in the 60- to 65-dBA L_{eq} range; ambient noise levels greater than 65 dBA L_{eq} can interrupt conversations (Federal Transit Administration [FTA] 2018).

Groundborne vibration of concern in environmental analysis consists of the oscillatory waves that move from a source through the ground to adjacent buildings or structures and vibration energy may propagate through the buildings or structures. Vibration may be felt, may manifest as an audible low-frequency rumbling noise (referred to as groundborne noise), and may cause windows, items on shelves, and pictures on walls to rattle. Although groundborne vibration is sometimes noticeable in outdoor environments, it is almost never annoying to people who are outdoors. The primary concern from vibration is that it can be intrusive and annoying to building occupants at vibration-sensitive land uses and may cause structural damage.

Project Noise Setting

Noise exposure goals for various types of land uses reflect the varying noise sensitivities associated with those uses. The 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan Noise Element identifies noise-sensitive receivers as residential land uses, parks, and schools (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). Sensitive receivers near the project site include residences and the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor located immediately adjacent to the channel along its entire length. In addition, Bubbling Springs Park is located adjacent to a portion of the project site between Bard Road and East Pleasant Valley Road; Walter B. Moranda Park is located adjacent to a portion of the project site between Port Hueneme Road and Surfside Drive; Parkview Elementary School is located approximately 700 feet to the west of the project site; Richard Bard Elementary School is located approximately 800 feet to the east of the project site; Hueneme Elementary School is located approximately 840 feet to the west of the project site; and Hueneme High School is located approximately 1,000 feet to the east of the project site.

Noise levels along the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel vary based on the nature and intensity of surrounding development and the average daily traffic volumes on nearby roadways. According to the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan Noise Element, ambient noise levels at Bubbling Springs Park are approximately 63 dBA L_{eq}; ambient noise levels at Richard Bard Elementary School along East Pleasant Valley Road are approximately 72 dBA L_{eq}; and ambient noise levels at Surfside Drive/South Ventura Road near the beachfront are approximately 58 dBA L_{eq} (City of Port Hueneme 2021a). Due to the proximity of these noise measurements to the project site, these noise levels are representative of ambient noise levels along the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel.

Regulatory Setting

Port Hueneme General Plan

The 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan outlines an overarching goal to protect the public from excessive noise and vibration from both stationary and mobile sources. Of the associated policies, Policy N 1-6 would be applicable to the proposed project. This policy states, “Minimize exposure of sensitive receivers to construction noise and vibration through methods such as restricting construction to daytime hours, use of sound barriers and/or other methods to dampen noise from construction equipment, and public notification prior to construction activities.”

Port Hueneme Municipal Code

Article III, Chapter 5 of the PHMC contains the City’s Noise Control Ordinance, including provisions aimed at limiting excessive noise from specific sources. However, PHMC Section 3444(c) exempts

noise generated by activities conducted on public playgrounds, parks, schoolyards, and other public facilities, including but not limited to grounds maintenance such as the proposed project activities, from compliance with the City's Noise Control Ordinance.

a. Would the project result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel through use of a backhoe and mechanized hand tools, which would generate temporary noise in the project site vicinity and expose surrounding sensitive receivers to increased noise levels. Noise-generating activities would primarily be associated with the use of a backhoe; noise levels associated with the use of mechanized hand tools would not be as loud as those generated by the backhoe. As such, construction noise was estimated using the reference noise level and equipment use factor for a backhoe from the Federal Highway Administration's Roadway Construction Noise Model (2006). Noise impacts from the backhoe are assessed from the center of the equipment activity area (e.g., project site) over the time period of a construction day in accordance with FTA guidance.

Pursuant to PHMC Section 3444(c), grounds maintenance activities at parks, such as the proposed project, are exempt from compliance with the provisions of the City's Noise Control Ordinance contained in PHMC Article III, Chapter 5. However, for purposes of analyzing impacts from this project, the FTA *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual* (FTA 2018) criteria were used. The FTA provides reasonable criteria for assessing construction noise impacts based on the potential for adverse community reaction. For residential uses, the daytime noise threshold is 80 dBA L_{eq} for an 8-hour period (FTA 2018).

The closest sensitive receivers to project construction would be residences approximately 20 feet south of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. However, project activities would be continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Assuming that approximately 230 feet of the channel are cleared of vegetation each day, equipment would operate at an average distance of approximately 50 feet from each of the nearest sensitive receivers. Therefore, project noise levels would be approximately 74 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest sensitive receivers, which not exceed the daytime construction noise threshold of 80 dBA L_{eq} (see Appendix C for noise modeling results). Construction noise levels at other nearby sensitive receivers would be less than the noise levels at the nearest sensitive receivers due to distance attenuation. Therefore, the project would not generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Project activities would not require the use of construction equipment that would generate substantial vibration, such as dozers, pile drivers, or vibrato rollers. Therefore, the project would not result in the generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The nearest airport is the Oxnard Airport located approximately 2.6 miles to the north of the project site. The project site is located outside the study area identified for the Oxnard Airport in the Ventura County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Ventura County Airport Land Use Commission 2000). The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Therefore, the project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

14 Population and Housing

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed, and no new employment opportunities would be provided. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No existing people or housing would be displaced. Therefore, the project would not have the potential necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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15 Public Services

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
	1 Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
	2 Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
	3 Schools?	☐	☐	☐	■
	4 Parks?	☐	☐	☐	■
	5 Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	■

a.1. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?

a.2. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered police protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?

a.3. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered schools, or the need for new or physically altered schools, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?

a.4. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks, or the need for new or physically altered parks, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?

a.5. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of other new or physically altered public facilities, or the need for other new or physically altered public facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. As discussed in Section 14, *Population and Housing*, the project would not induce population growth, either directly or indirectly, that would have the potential to increase demand for public services. Furthermore, project activities would be temporary and infrequent in nature and continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. As such, project activities would not substantially interfere with the public's use of the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor such that new or physically altered parks would be necessary. Therefore, the project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection services, police protection services, schools, parks, or other public facilities. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

16 Recreation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. As discussed in Section 14, *Population and Housing*, the project would not induce population growth, either directly or indirectly, that would have the potential to increase demand for parks or other recreational facilities. Some park users may choose to visit other nearby parks, such as Bubbling Springs Park, Walter B. Moranda Park, or Hueneme Beach Park, instead of the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor while project activities are being conducted due to the presence of heavy equipment and elevated noise levels. However, project activities would result in minimal interference with existing use of the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor given that project activities would be temporary and infrequent in nature and continuously moving along the length of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. As a result, the minimal, temporary, and infrequent redirection of park visitors to other nearby park facilities would not increase their usage such that substantial physical deterioration would occur. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. The proposed project would not include new recreational facilities and would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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17 Transportation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

Trips associated with project activities would be limited to worker trips to and from the project site, delivery trips for heavy equipment and hand tools, and trips to dispose of dried vegetative matter. This minimal volume of vehicle trips would not have the potential to interfere with the existing circulation system. The Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor includes two miles of pedestrian pathways and a Class I bike path that runs parallel to the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. Small segments of the bike path may be closed for several hours or a day at a time while project activities occur at any given area along the channel. If practicable, a narrow path through the work zone outside of the areas where equipment and work crews are active would be provided for cyclists. Project-related closures of bicycle facilities would be short-term, temporary, and limited and would be similar in nature to the routine temporary closures that occur weekly when City landscape crews maintain trees and landscaping and pick up trash and fallen branches around the bike path. Therefore, the project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b) identifies criteria for evaluating transportation impacts. Specifically, the guidelines state vehicle miles traveled (VMT) exceeding an applicable threshold of significance may indicate a significant impact. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b)(3), a lead agency may include a qualitative analysis of project-related traffic.

According to the Circulation Element of the 2045 Port Hueneme General Plan, the City utilizes the thresholds and methodologies contained in the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research's *Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA* (2018) to evaluate a project's VMT impacts. This guidance document states, "Projects that generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per day generally may be assumed to cause a less-than-significant VMT impact." Trips associated with project activities would be limited to worker trips to and from the project site, delivery trips for heavy equipment and hand tools, and trips to dispose of dried vegetative matter. This minimal volume of trips would not exceed 110 trips per day. Furthermore, existing City staff would conduct project activities, which would result in low VMT per trip because City staff are already present in the local area due to their existing job responsibilities. Therefore, no impacts associated with VMT per CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b) would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment)?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No alterations would be made to the surrounding roadway network as a part of the project. Vehicles associated with project activities would primarily consist of light- and medium-duty trucks, which are common on local roadways in Port Hueneme. Therefore, the project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible use, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

d. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No alterations would be made to the surrounding roadway network as a part of the project. Furthermore, project activities would not block public roadways or driveways because activities would be concentrated along the channel within the Bubbling Springs Recreational Corridor. Heavy trucks and worker vehicles on local roadways could potentially interfere with emergency access if their presence were to slow or obstruct the movement of emergency vehicle through the project site vicinity. However, vehicle traffic associated with project activities would be minimal, and there are multiple access points to the project site including existing parking lots and local roads. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

18 Tribal Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in a Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, or cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)?	☐	☐	■	☐
b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1? In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	■	☐

As of July 1, 2015, California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) was enacted and expands CEQA by defining a new resource category, "tribal cultural resources." AB 52 establishes that "a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC Section 21084.2). It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3).

PRC Section 21074 (a)(1)(A-B) defines tribal cultural resources as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe" and are:

1. Listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k), or

2. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in PRC Section 5024.1(c). In applying these criteria, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes regarding those resources. The consultation process must be completed before a CEQA document can be certified. Under AB 52, lead agencies are required to "begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project." Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects proposed within the jurisdiction of the lead agency.

a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)?

b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1?

No Native American tribes have requested formal consultation with the City under AB 52; therefore, no tribes were notified of the proposed project (Gutierrez 2021). In addition, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File previously conducted for the City's Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project, located along the northern portion of the project site, was negative. The SLF search is conducted by United States Geological Survey quadrangle map, each of which covers an approximately 50- to 70-square mile area; therefore, the Sacred Lands File search previously conducted for the City's Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project covered the entirety of the project site.

No cultural resources listed on or eligible for listing on the CRHR or a local register were identified within the project site. However, there is always potential to encounter archaeological and tribal cultural resources which could potentially be considered eligible for listing in the CRHR or a local register or be considered tribal cultural resources under CEQA. However, pursuant to BMP 10, the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Greenbook 2021 edition) Section 6-6.2 would be implemented by the City for the proposed project such that if something of archaeological interest or human artifacts are found, work would cease and would not resume until authorized by the project engineer. Given implementation of BMP 10, project impacts to tribal cultural resources would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

19 Utilities and Service Systems

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☐	■
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Ground disturbance would be limited to surficial vehicle travel by a backhoe over the ground surface and movement of the top few feet of soils at select locations near the channel by the backhoe and other mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools during vegetation removal. The relocation or construction of water,

wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities would not be required. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Small quantities of water may be used during project activities for dust control; however, the project would not result in new long-term water demand. Therefore, there would be sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years, and no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

c. Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. Small quantities of wastewater would be generated during project activities that would be contained in temporary sanitary facilities and disposed of by a local vendor. The project would not result in a long-term source of new wastewater generation. Therefore, no impact related to wastewater treatment would occur.

NO IMPACT

d. Would the project generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

e. Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

The project would involve vegetation trimming and removal activities within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel. No buildings or infrastructure would be constructed. The minor quantities of waste generated by project activities would be limited to vegetation removed from within the channel that would be dried in the linear park adjacent to the work area, then disposed of by a local vendor at a local green waste processing facility, such as California Wood Recycling – Agromin or Del Norte Recycling and Transfer Station, or landfill. As such, the project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. In addition, waste would be disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations. Therefore, no impacts related to solid waste would occur.

NO IMPACT

20 Wildfire

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	■
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	■

a. *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

b. *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project, due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?*

c. *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?*

d. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

The project site is located in an urbanized area of Port Hueneme. This area is designated as a Local Responsibility Area (LRA) and is not in or near a State Responsibility Area. There are no Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) within Port Hueneme, and the nearest VHFHSZ is approximately seven miles away from the project site (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 2007). Therefore, no impacts related to wildfire would occur.

NO IMPACT

21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Does the project:				
a. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	■
b. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	■	☐
c. Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	■	☐

a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

As discussed in Section 4, *Biological Resources*, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts to biological resources and therefore would not substantially reduce the habitat of fish and wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. In addition, as discussed in Section 5, *Cultural Resources*, the project would not eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory because none are known to be present within the project site or immediate vicinity. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

As described in the discussion of environmental checklist Sections 1 through 20, with respect to all environmental issues, the proposed project would not result in significant and unmitigable impacts to the environment. All anticipated impacts associated with project activities would be less than significant. This is largely due to the fact that project activities would be temporary, infrequent, and low-intensity and would not significantly alter the environmental baseline condition.

Cumulative impacts could occur if the construction of other projects occurs at the same time as the proposed project and in the same geographic scope, such that the effects of similar impacts of multiple projects combine to create greater levels of impact than would occur at the project-level. For example, if the construction of other projects in the area occurs at the same time as project activities, combined air quality and noise impacts may be greater than at the project-level.

The City of Port Hueneme is currently in the planning stage for the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project, which would consist of upgrades and improvements to both the northern and southern portions of Bubbling Springs Park. The project site traverses through the entirety of Bubbling Springs Park where this renewal project would be implemented. The exact implementation timing of the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project is not known; therefore, it is possible that implementation of this project and the proposed project may overlap. No other probable future projects within 0.5 mile of the project site are known at this time.

Project impacts are primarily temporary, localized effects that would occur during project activities. Therefore, the potential for the project to contribute to cumulative impacts would be limited to the infrequent periods of project activities and the following issue areas:

- **Air Quality**. As discussed in the Section 3, *Air Quality*, the VCAPCD has not established quantitative thresholds for air pollutant emissions during construction-related activities, such as the proposed project activities. However, the project would be required to comply with the VCAPCD Rules 55, 55.1, and 55.2 as well as California regulations limiting idling of heavy-duty equipment, which are intended to address cumulative construction-related emissions of ROC, NO_X, particulate matter, and diesel particulate matter in Port Hueneme. In addition, project activities would be continuously moving along the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel; therefore, the length of time during which project activities would expose the same sensitive receptors to localized air pollutant emissions as the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project in the vicinity of the project site would be temporary and short-term. Therefore, the project's contribution to cumulative air quality impacts would not be cumulatively considerable.
- **Biological Resources**. If the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project and the proposed project are both constructed during the bird nesting season, these two projects could both result in impacts to nesting birds within the vicinity of Bubbling Springs Park. However, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 in the Final Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project requires implementation of pre-construction nesting bird surveys and avoidance measures if construction of this project commences during the bird nesting season. Similarly, the proposed project would implement nesting bird surveys and avoidance measures if construction commences during the bird nesting season pursuant to BMP 5. In addition, compliance with local regulatory standards, such as the PHMC, and project BMPs would

minimize the potential for these two projects to result in cumulative impacts to wetlands, wildlife movement, and biological resources protected by local policies and ordinances. Furthermore, the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project was found to have no impacts to candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS; no impact to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities, and no impacts related to adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan and therefore would not combine with the proposed project to result in cumulative impacts to these resources.

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** GHG emissions and climate change are, by definition, cumulative impacts. As discussed in Section 8, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, the adverse environmental impacts of cumulative GHG emissions, including sea level rise, increased average temperatures, more drought years, and more large forest fires, are already occurring. As a result, cumulative impacts related to GHG emissions are significant. Thus, the issue of climate change involves an analysis of whether a project's contribution towards an impact is cumulatively considerable. As discussed in Section 8, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, project impacts would be less than significant with implementation of BMP 11 and would therefore not be cumulatively considerable.
- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials.** Similar to the proposed project, the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project would be required to comply with regulations applicable to the use, disposal, and transportation of hazardous materials, and compliance with applicable regulations would reduce potential cumulative impacts to less-than-significant levels. With respect to the use and accidental release of hazardous materials in the environment at construction sites and the inadvertent mobilization of existing hazardous contaminants from construction activities, effects are generally limited to site-specific conditions. Therefore, there would be no cumulative impact related to accidental release of hazardous materials.
- **Noise.** Overlapping construction activities associated with the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal Project in conjunction with proposed project activities could result in cumulative noise impacts related to a temporary increase in ambient noise levels at the same noise-sensitive receivers located along the eastern boundary of Bubbling Springs Park. Based on information provided by the City for the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal project, construction of this project would potentially require the simultaneous operation of a backhoe, dump truck, and a front-end loader, which would generate a noise level of 75 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest noise sensitive residential use to the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal project site. As stated in Section 13, *Noise*, the proposed project's activities would generate a noise level of approximately 74 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest sensitive receivers, which include the Bubbling Springs Park Renewal project's nearest noise-sensitive residential uses. Therefore, the combined noise level of these two projects would be approximately 78 dBA L_{eq}, which would not exceed the daytime construction noise threshold of 80 dBA L_{eq}. Therefore, no cumulative noise impact would occur.

Given the above discussion, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

In general, impacts to human beings are associated with air quality, hazards and hazardous materials, and noise. As detailed in Section 3, *Air Quality*, and Section 13, *Noise,* the project would not result in substantial adverse effects related to air quality and noise, either directly or indirectly. As discussed in Section 9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, compliance with applicable rules and regulations and implementation of BMPs would reduce potential impacts on human beings related to hazards and hazardous materials to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, impacts to human beings would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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Appendix A

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Modeling

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal

South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

1.0 Project Characteristics

1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	10.70	Acre	10.70	466,092.00	0

1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	**Wind Speed (m/s)**	2.9	**Precipitation Freq (Days)**	37
Climate Zone	8			**Operational Year**	2022
Utility Company	Southern California Edison				
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	390.98	**CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.033	**N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.004

1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

Project Characteristics - Assumed first round of vegetation clearing would start September 2022 per BMP for schedule limitations

Land Use - Estimated channel size - channel is approximately 1.77 miles long and an average width of 50 feet.

Construction Phase - Estimated 40 days a year of vegetation clearing.

Off-road Equipment - One backhoe, 8 hours/day

Trips and VMT - Estimated 2 workers per day, 1 equipment delivery per day, and one vegetation disposal trip per day

Operational Off-Road Equipment - Conservatively assumed quarterly maintenance of canal using backhoe

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	30.00	40.00
tblOffRoadEquipment	OffRoadEquipmentUnitAmount	2.00	1.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperDaysPerYear	260.00	5.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperOffRoadEquipmentNumber	0.00	1.00

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	0.00	42.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	0.00	2.00
tblTripsAndVMT	WorkerTripNumber	3.00	4.00

2.0 Emissions Summary

2.1 Overall Construction (Maximum Daily Emission)

Unmitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	lb/day										lb/day					
2022	0.1865	1.9877	2.4202	4.4500e-003	0.0647	0.0931	0.1578	0.0176	0.0857	0.1034	0.0000	445.3901	445.3901	0.1041	0.0189	453.6310
Maximum	**0.1865**	**1.9877**	**2.4202**	**4.4500e-003**	**0.0647**	**0.0931**	**0.1578**	**0.0176**	**0.0857**	**0.1034**	**0.0000**	**445.3901**	**445.3901**	**0.1041**	**0.0189**	**453.6310**

Mitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	lb/day										lb/day					
2022	0.1865	1.9877	2.4202	4.4500e-003	0.0647	0.0931	0.1578	0.0176	0.0857	0.1034	0.0000	445.3901	445.3901	0.1041	0.0189	453.6310
Maximum	**0.1865**	**1.9877**	**2.4202**	**4.4500e-003**	**0.0647**	**0.0931**	**0.1578**	**0.0176**	**0.0857**	**0.1034**	**0.0000**	**445.3901**	**445.3901**	**0.1041**	**0.0189**	**453.6310**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

2.2 Overall Operational

Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Area	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.4187**	**1.6757**	**2.2390**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2413**	**301.2413**	**0.0974**	**0.0000**	**303.6771**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

2.2 Overall Operational

Mitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Area	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.4187**	**1.6757**	**2.2390**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2413**	**301.2413**	**0.0974**	**0.0000**	**303.6771**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

3.0 Construction Detail

Construction Phase

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
1	Grading	Grading	9/15/2022	11/9/2022	5	40	

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Acres of Paving: 10.7

Residential Indoor: 0; Residential Outdoor: 0; Non-Residential Indoor: 0; Non-Residential Outdoor: 0; Striped Parking Area: 0 (Architectural Coating – sqft)

OffRoad Equipment

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Grading	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	97	0.37

Trips and VMT

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Grading	1	4.00	2.00	42.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction

3.2 Grading - 2022

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829		301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**		**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Hauling	4.2300e-003	0.1873	0.0412	6.5000e-004	0.0183	1.5800e-003	0.0199	5.0200e-003	1.5100e-003	6.5300e-003		71.7645	71.7645	4.0600e-003	0.0114	75.2706
Vendor	4.0700e-003	0.1151	0.0349	4.1000e-004	0.0135	1.2000e-003	0.0147	3.8900e-003	1.1500e-003	5.0500e-003		44.3497	44.3497	1.5800e-003	6.5800e-003	46.3513
Worker	0.0135	9.6600e-003	0.1062	2.8000e-004	0.0329	1.8000e-004	0.0330	8.7200e-003	1.6000e-004	8.8800e-003		28.0369	28.0369	1.0000e-003	9.1000e-004	28.3344
Total	**0.0218**	**0.3121**	**0.1823**	**1.3400e-003**	**0.0647**	**2.9600e-003**	**0.0677**	**0.0176**	**2.8200e-003**	**0.0205**		**144.1511**	**144.1511**	**6.6400e-003**	**0.0189**	**149.9563**

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Hauling	4.2300e-003	0.1873	0.0412	6.5000e-004	0.0183	1.5800e-003	0.0199	5.0200e-003	1.5100e-003	6.5300e-003		71.7645	71.7645	4.0600e-003	0.0114	75.2706
Vendor	4.0700e-003	0.1151	0.0349	4.1000e-004	0.0135	1.2000e-003	0.0147	3.8900e-003	1.1500e-003	5.0500e-003		44.3497	44.3497	1.5800e-003	6.5800e-003	46.3513
Worker	0.0135	9.6600e-003	0.1062	2.8000e-004	0.0329	1.8000e-004	0.0330	8.7200e-003	1.6000e-004	8.8800e-003		28.0369	28.0369	1.0000e-003	9.1000e-004	28.3344
Total	**0.0218**	**0.3121**	**0.1823**	**1.3400e-003**	**0.0647**	**2.9600e-003**	**0.0677**	**0.0176**	**2.8200e-003**	**0.0205**		**144.1511**	**144.1511**	**6.6400e-003**	**0.0189**	**149.9563**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

4.2 Trip Summary Information

	Average Daily Trip Rate			Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00		

4.3 Trip Type Information

	Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpose %		
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	9.50	7.30	7.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0

4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	MH
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.508155	0.055699	0.191465	0.146431	0.032423	0.008117	0.010815	0.006039	0.000858	0.000449	0.031169	0.001581	0.006799

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
NaturalGas Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas

Unmitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	lb/day										lb/day					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas

Mitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	lb/day										lb/day					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

6.0 Area Detail

6.1 Mitigation Measures Area

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Mitigated	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Unmitigated	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Unmitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	lb/day										lb/day					
Architectural Coating	0.0888					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	0.1651					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-004	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Total	**0.2540**	**1.0000e-005**	**1.0900e-003**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**2.3400e-003**	**2.3400e-003**	**1.0000e-005**		**2.5000e-003**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	lb/day										lb/day					
Architectural Coating	0.0888					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	0.1651					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-004	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Total	**0.2540**	**1.0000e-005**	**1.0900e-003**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**2.3400e-003**	**2.3400e-003**	**1.0000e-005**		**2.5000e-003**

7.0 Water Detail

7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

8.0 Waste Detail

8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

9.0 Operational Offroad

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Days/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	5	97	0.37	Diesel

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Winter

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

UnMitigated/Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Equipment Type	lb/day										lb/day					
Tractors/Loaders/ Backhoes	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**		**0.0901**	**0.0901**		**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

10.0 Stationary Equipment

Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Hours/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type

Boilers

Equipment Type	Number	Heat Input/Day	Heat Input/Year	Boiler Rating	Fuel Type

User Defined Equipment

Equipment Type	Number

11.0 Vegetation

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal

South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

1.0 Project Characteristics

1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	10.70	Acre	10.70	466,092.00	0

1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	**Wind Speed (m/s)**	2.9	**Precipitation Freq (Days)**	37
Climate Zone	8			**Operational Year**	2022
Utility Company	Southern California Edison				
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	390.98	**CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.033	**N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.004

1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

Project Characteristics - Assumed first round of vegetation clearing would start September 2022 per BMP for schedule limitations

Land Use - Estimated channel size - channel is approximately 1.77 miles long and an average width of 50 feet.

Construction Phase - Estimated 40 days a year of vegetation clearing.

Off-road Equipment - One backhoe, 8 hours/day

Trips and VMT - Estimated 2 workers per day, 1 equipment delivery per day, and one vegetation disposal trip per day

Operational Off-Road Equipment - Conservatively assumed quarterly maintenance of canal using backhoe

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	30.00	40.00
tblOffRoadEquipment	OffRoadEquipmentUnitAmount	2.00	1.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperDaysPerYear	260.00	5.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperOffRoadEquipmentNumber	0.00	1.00

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	0.00	42.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	0.00	2.00
tblTripsAndVMT	WorkerTripNumber	3.00	4.00

2.0 Emissions Summary

2.1 Overall Construction (Maximum Daily Emission)

Unmitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	lb/day										lb/day					
2022	0.1856	1.9770	2.4195	4.4600e-003	0.0647	0.0931	0.1578	0.0176	0.0857	0.1034	0.0000	446.4293	446.4293	0.1040	0.0188	454.6395
Maximum	**0.1856**	**1.9770**	**2.4195**	**4.4600e-003**	**0.0647**	**0.0931**	**0.1578**	**0.0176**	**0.0857**	**0.1034**	**0.0000**	**446.4293**	**446.4293**	**0.1040**	**0.0188**	**454.6395**

Mitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	lb/day										lb/day					
2022	0.1856	1.9770	2.4195	4.4600e-003	0.0647	0.0931	0.1578	0.0176	0.0857	0.1034	0.0000	446.4293	446.4293	0.1040	0.0188	454.6395
Maximum	**0.1856**	**1.9770**	**2.4195**	**4.4600e-003**	**0.0647**	**0.0931**	**0.1578**	**0.0176**	**0.0857**	**0.1034**	**0.0000**	**446.4293**	**446.4293**	**0.1040**	**0.0188**	**454.6395**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

2.2 Overall Operational

Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Area	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.4187**	**1.6757**	**2.2390**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2413**	**301.2413**	**0.0974**	**0.0000**	**303.6771**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

2.2 Overall Operational

Mitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Area	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.4187**	**1.6757**	**2.2390**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2413**	**301.2413**	**0.0974**	**0.0000**	**303.6771**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

3.0 Construction Detail

Construction Phase

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
1	Grading	Grading	9/15/2022	11/9/2022	5	40	

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Acres of Paving: 10.7

Residential Indoor: 0; Residential Outdoor: 0; Non-Residential Indoor: 0; Non-Residential Outdoor: 0; Striped Parking Area: 0 (Architectural Coating – sqft)

OffRoad Equipment

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Grading	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	97	0.37

Trips and VMT

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Grading	1	4.00	2.00	42.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction

3.2 Grading - 2022

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829		301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**		**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Hauling	4.3400e-003	0.1815	0.0405	6.5000e-004	0.0183	1.5800e-003	0.0199	5.0200e-003	1.5100e-003	6.5300e-003		71.7405	71.7405	4.0700e-003	0.0114	75.2455
Vendor	4.0900e-003	0.1115	0.0339	4.1000e-004	0.0135	1.2000e-003	0.0147	3.8900e-003	1.1500e-003	5.0400e-003		44.3318	44.3318	1.5900e-003	6.5800e-003	46.3310
Worker	0.0124	8.3700e-003	0.1071	2.9000e-004	0.0329	1.8000e-004	0.0330	8.7200e-003	1.6000e-004	8.8800e-003		29.1181	29.1181	9.2000e-004	8.3000e-004	29.3884
Total	**0.0208**	**0.3013**	**0.1815**	**1.3500e-003**	**0.0647**	**2.9600e-003**	**0.0677**	**0.0176**	**2.8200e-003**	**0.0205**		**145.1904**	**145.1904**	**6.5800e-003**	**0.0188**	**150.9649**

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**	**0.0000**	**0.0901**	**0.0901**	**0.0000**	**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Hauling	4.3400e-003	0.1815	0.0405	6.5000e-004	0.0183	1.5800e-003	0.0199	5.0200e-003	1.5100e-003	6.5300e-003		71.7405	71.7405	4.0700e-003	0.0114	75.2455
Vendor	4.0900e-003	0.1115	0.0339	4.1000e-004	0.0135	1.2000e-003	0.0147	3.8900e-003	1.1500e-003	5.0400e-003		44.3318	44.3318	1.5900e-003	6.5800e-003	46.3310
Worker	0.0124	8.3700e-003	0.1071	2.9000e-004	0.0329	1.8000e-004	0.0330	8.7200e-003	1.6000e-004	8.8800e-003		29.1181	29.1181	9.2000e-004	8.3000e-004	29.3884
Total	**0.0208**	**0.3013**	**0.1815**	**1.3500e-003**	**0.0647**	**2.9600e-003**	**0.0677**	**0.0176**	**2.8200e-003**	**0.0205**		**145.1904**	**145.1904**	**6.5800e-003**	**0.0188**	**150.9649**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

4.2 Trip Summary Information

	Average Daily Trip Rate			Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00		

4.3 Trip Type Information

	Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpose %		
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	9.50	7.30	7.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0

4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	MH
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.508155	0.055699	0.191465	0.146431	0.032423	0.008117	0.010815	0.006039	0.000858	0.000449	0.031169	0.001581	0.006799

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
NaturalGas Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas

Unmitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	lb/day										lb/day					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas

Mitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	lb/day										lb/day					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

6.0 Area Detail

6.1 Mitigation Measures Area

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	lb/day										lb/day					
Mitigated	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Unmitigated	0.2540	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Unmitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	lb/day										lb/day					
Architectural Coating	0.0888					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	0.1651					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-004	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Total	**0.2540**	**1.0000e-005**	**1.0900e-003**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**2.3400e-003**	**2.3400e-003**	**1.0000e-005**		**2.5000e-003**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	lb/day										lb/day					
Architectural Coating	0.0888					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	0.1651					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-004	1.0000e-005	1.0900e-003	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		2.3400e-003	2.3400e-003	1.0000e-005		2.5000e-003
Total	**0.2540**	**1.0000e-005**	**1.0900e-003**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**2.3400e-003**	**2.3400e-003**	**1.0000e-005**		**2.5000e-003**

7.0 Water Detail

7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

8.0 Waste Detail

8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

9.0 Operational Offroad

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Days/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	5	97	0.37	Diesel

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Summer

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

UnMitigated/Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Equipment Type	lb/day										lb/day					
Tractors/Loaders/ Backhoes	0.1647	1.6756	2.2379	3.1100e-003		0.0901	0.0901		0.0829	0.0829	0.0000	301.2390	301.2390	0.0974		303.6746
Total	**0.1647**	**1.6756**	**2.2379**	**3.1100e-003**		**0.0901**	**0.0901**		**0.0829**	**0.0829**	**0.0000**	**301.2390**	**301.2390**	**0.0974**		**303.6746**

10.0 Stationary Equipment

Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Hours/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type

Boilers

Equipment Type	Number	Heat Input/Day	Heat Input/Year	Boiler Rating	Fuel Type

User Defined Equipment

Equipment Type	Number

11.0 Vegetation

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal

South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

1.0 Project Characteristics

1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	10.70	Acre	10.70	466,092.00	0

1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	**Wind Speed (m/s)**	2.9	**Precipitation Freq (Days)**	37
Climate Zone	8			**Operational Year**	2022
Utility Company	Southern California Edison				
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	390.98	**CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.033	**N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)**	0.004

1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

Project Characteristics - Assumed first round of vegetation clearing would start September 2022 per BMP for schedule limitations

Land Use - Estimated channel size - channel is approximately 1.77 miles long and an average width of 50 feet.

Construction Phase - Estimated 40 days a year of vegetation clearing.

Off-road Equipment - One backhoe, 8 hours/day

Trips and VMT - Estimated 2 workers per day, 1 equipment delivery per day, and one vegetation disposal trip per day

Operational Off-Road Equipment - Conservatively assumed quarterly maintenance of canal using backhoe

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	30.00	40.00
tblOffRoadEquipment	OffRoadEquipmentUnitAmount	2.00	1.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperDaysPerYear	260.00	5.00
tblOperationalOffRoadEquipment	OperOffRoadEquipmentNumber	0.00	1.00

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	0.00	42.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	0.00	2.00
tblTripsAndVMT	WorkerTripNumber	3.00	4.00

2.0 Emissions Summary

2.1 Overall Construction

Unmitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	tons/yr										MT/yr					
2022	3.7100e-003	0.0398	0.0484	9.0000e-005	1.2700e-003	1.8600e-003	3.1300e-003	3.5000e-004	1.7100e-003	2.0600e-003	0.0000	8.0834	8.0834	1.8900e-003	3.4000e-004	8.2328
Maximum	**3.7100e-003**	**0.0398**	**0.0484**	**9.0000e-005**	**1.2700e-003**	**1.8600e-003**	**3.1300e-003**	**3.5000e-004**	**1.7100e-003**	**2.0600e-003**	**0.0000**	**8.0834**	**8.0834**	**1.8900e-003**	**3.4000e-004**	**8.2328**

Mitigated Construction

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year	tons/yr										MT/yr					
2022	3.7100e-003	0.0398	0.0484	9.0000e-005	1.2700e-003	1.8600e-003	3.1300e-003	3.5000e-004	1.7100e-003	2.0600e-003	0.0000	8.0834	8.0834	1.8900e-003	3.4000e-004	8.2328
Maximum	**3.7100e-003**	**0.0398**	**0.0484**	**9.0000e-005**	**1.2700e-003**	**1.8600e-003**	**3.1300e-003**	**3.5000e-004**	**1.7100e-003**	**2.0600e-003**	**0.0000**	**8.0834**	**8.0834**	**1.8900e-003**	**3.4000e-004**	**8.2328**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Quarter	Start Date	End Date	Maximum Unmitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)	Maximum Mitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)
1	**9-15-2022**	**9-30-2022**	0.0124	0.0124
		Highest	0.0124	0.0124

2.2 Overall Operational

Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Area	0.0463	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	4.1000e-004	4.1900e-003	5.5900e-003	1.0000e-005		2.3000e-004	2.3000e-004		2.1000e-004	2.1000e-004	0.0000	0.6832	0.6832	2.2000e-004	0.0000	0.6887
Waste						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Water						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	**0.0468**	**4.1900e-003**	**5.6900e-003**	**1.0000e-005**	**0.0000**	**2.3000e-004**	**2.3000e-004**	**0.0000**	**2.1000e-004**	**2.1000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6834**	**0.6834**	**2.2000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6889**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

2.2 Overall Operational

Mitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Area	0.0463	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Offroad	4.1000e-004	4.1900e-003	5.5900e-003	1.0000e-005		2.3000e-004	2.3000e-004		2.1000e-004	2.1000e-004	0.0000	0.6832	0.6832	2.2000e-004	0.0000	0.6887
Waste						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Water						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	**0.0468**	**4.1900e-003**	**5.6900e-003**	**1.0000e-005**	**0.0000**	**2.3000e-004**	**2.3000e-004**	**0.0000**	**2.1000e-004**	**2.1000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6834**	**0.6834**	**2.2000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6889**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

3.0 Construction Detail

Construction Phase

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
1	Grading	Grading	9/15/2022	11/9/2022	5	40	

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Acres of Paving: 10.7

Residential Indoor: 0; Residential Outdoor: 0; Non-Residential Indoor: 0; Non-Residential Outdoor: 0; Striped Parking Area: 0 (Architectural Coating – sqft)

OffRoad Equipment

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Grading	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	97	0.37

Trips and VMT

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Grading	1	4.00	2.00	42.00	10.80	7.30	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Unmitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	3.2900e-003	0.0335	0.0448	6.0000e-005		1.8000e-003	1.8000e-003		1.6600e-003	1.6600e-003	0.0000	5.4656	5.4656	1.7700e-003	0.0000	5.5098
Total	**3.2900e-003**	**0.0335**	**0.0448**	**6.0000e-005**	**0.0000**	**1.8000e-003**	**1.8000e-003**	**0.0000**	**1.6600e-003**	**1.6600e-003**	**0.0000**	**5.4656**	**5.4656**	**1.7700e-003**	**0.0000**	**5.5098**

Unmitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	9.0000e-005	3.7700e-003	8.2000e-004	1.0000e-005	3.6000e-004	3.0000e-005	3.9000e-004	1.0000e-004	3.0000e-005	1.3000e-004	0.0000	1.3018	1.3018	7.0000e-005	2.1000e-004	1.3654
Vendor	8.0000e-005	2.3100e-003	6.9000e-004	1.0000e-005	2.7000e-004	2.0000e-005	2.9000e-004	8.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.8045	0.8045	3.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.8408
Worker	2.5000e-004	1.9000e-004	2.1000e-003	1.0000e-005	6.4000e-004	0.0000	6.5000e-004	1.7000e-004	0.0000	1.7000e-004	0.0000	0.5115	0.5115	2.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.5168
Total	**4.2000e-004**	**6.2700e-003**	**3.6100e-003**	**3.0000e-005**	**1.2700e-003**	**5.0000e-005**	**1.3300e-003**	**3.5000e-004**	**5.0000e-005**	**4.0000e-004**	**0.0000**	**2.6178**	**2.6178**	**1.2000e-004**	**3.5000e-004**	**2.7230**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

3.2 Grading - 2022

Mitigated Construction On-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Fugitive Dust					0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	3.2900e-003	0.0335	0.0448	6.0000e-005		1.8000e-003	1.8000e-003		1.6600e-003	1.6600e-003	0.0000	5.4656	5.4656	1.7700e-003	0.0000	5.5098
Total	**3.2900e-003**	**0.0335**	**0.0448**	**6.0000e-005**	**0.0000**	**1.8000e-003**	**1.8000e-003**	**0.0000**	**1.6600e-003**	**1.6600e-003**	**0.0000**	**5.4656**	**5.4656**	**1.7700e-003**	**0.0000**	**5.5098**

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Hauling	9.0000e-005	3.7700e-003	8.2000e-004	1.0000e-005	3.6000e-004	3.0000e-005	3.9000e-004	1.0000e-004	3.0000e-005	1.3000e-004	0.0000	1.3018	1.3018	7.0000e-005	2.1000e-004	1.3654
Vendor	8.0000e-005	2.3100e-003	6.9000e-004	1.0000e-005	2.7000e-004	2.0000e-005	2.9000e-004	8.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	1.0000e-004	0.0000	0.8045	0.8045	3.0000e-005	1.2000e-004	0.8408
Worker	2.5000e-004	1.9000e-004	2.1000e-003	1.0000e-005	6.4000e-004	0.0000	6.5000e-004	1.7000e-004	0.0000	1.7000e-004	0.0000	0.5115	0.5115	2.0000e-005	2.0000e-005	0.5168
Total	**4.2000e-004**	**6.2700e-003**	**3.6100e-003**	**3.0000e-005**	**1.2700e-003**	**5.0000e-005**	**1.3300e-003**	**3.5000e-004**	**5.0000e-005**	**4.0000e-004**	**0.0000**	**2.6178**	**2.6178**	**1.2000e-004**	**3.5000e-004**	**2.7230**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

4.2 Trip Summary Information

	Average Daily Trip Rate			Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00		

4.3 Trip Type Information

	Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpose %		
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	9.50	7.30	7.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0

4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	MH
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0.508155	0.055699	0.191465	0.146431	0.032423	0.008117	0.010815	0.006039	0.000858	0.000449	0.031169	0.001581	0.006799

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Electricity Mitigated						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Electricity Unmitigated						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas

Unmitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Mitigated

	NaturalGas Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

5.3 Energy by Land Use - Electricity

Unmitigated

	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Mitigated

	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

6.0 Area Detail

6.1 Mitigation Measures Area

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Mitigated	0.0463	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004
Unmitigated	0.0463	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Unmitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Architectural Coating	0.0162					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Consumer Products	0.0301					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004
Total	**0.0463**	**0.0000**	**1.0000e-004**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**1.9000e-004**	**1.9000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**2.0000e-004**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

6.2 Area by SubCategory

Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Architectural Coating	0.0162					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Consumer Products	0.0301					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	1.0000e-005	0.0000	1.0000e-004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.9000e-004	1.9000e-004	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000e-004
Total	**0.0463**	**0.0000**	**1.0000e-004**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**1.9000e-004**	**1.9000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**2.0000e-004**

7.0 Water Detail

7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category	MT/yr			
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

7.2 Water by Land Use

Unmitigated

	Indoor/Outdoor Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0 / 0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

7.2 Water by Land Use

Mitigated

	Indoor/Outdoor Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0 / 0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

8.0 Waste Detail

8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

Category/Year

	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
	MT/yr			
Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

8.2 Waste by Land Use

Unmitigated

	Waste Disposed	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	tons	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

Mitigated

	Waste Disposed	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	tons	MT/yr			
Other Non-Asphalt Surfaces	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**	**0.0000**

9.0 Operational Offroad

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Days/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	8.00	5	97	0.37	Diesel

Bubbling Springs Vegetation Removal - South Central Coast Air Basin, Annual

EMFAC Off-Model Adjustment Factors for Gasoline Light Duty Vehicle to Account for the SAFE Vehicle Rule Applied

UnMitigated/Mitigated

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Equipment Type	tons/yr										MT/yr					
Tractors/Loaders/ Backhoes	4.1000e-004	4.1900e-003	5.5900e-003	1.0000e-005		2.3000e-004	2.3000e-004		2.1000e-004	2.1000e-004	0.0000	0.6832	0.6832	2.2000e-004	0.0000	0.6887
Total	**4.1000e-004**	**4.1900e-003**	**5.5900e-003**	**1.0000e-005**		**2.3000e-004**	**2.3000e-004**		**2.1000e-004**	**2.1000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6832**	**0.6832**	**2.2000e-004**	**0.0000**	**0.6887**

10.0 Stationary Equipment

Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Hours/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type

Boilers

Equipment Type	Number	Heat Input/Day	Heat Input/Year	Boiler Rating	Fuel Type

User Defined Equipment

Equipment Type	Number

11.0 Vegetation

Appendix B

Biological Resources Assessment

Bubbling Springs Natural Channel Vegetation Removal Project

Biological Resources Assessment

prepared for

City of Port Hueneme
Public Works Department
250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, California 93041
Contact: Charles Cable, Principal Engineer
Via email: ccable@cityofporthueneme.org

prepared by

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003

December 2021

RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers
rinconconsultants.com

Bubbling Springs Natural Channel Vegetation Removal Project

Biological Resources Assessment

prepared for

City of Port Hueneme
Public Works Department
250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, California 93041
Contact: Charles Cable, Principal Engineer
Via email: ccable@cityofporthueneme.org

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180 North Ashwood Avenue
Ventura, California 93003

December 2021

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Table of Contents

Figures

Appendices

1 Introduction

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) is pleased to submit this Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) report to the City of Port Hueneme (City) for the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel Vegetation Removal Project (project) located within the Bubbling Springs Recreational Greenbelt and extends to the existing J Street Drain Pump Station, also known as the Hueneme Drain Pump Station, which discharges into the Ormond Beach Lagoon. The purpose of this BRA report is to document the existing conditions of the site and to evaluate the potential for impacts to sensitive biological resources, facilitating the City's environmental review of the project. The purpose of the project is to restore and maintain flow conveyance capacity in the channel by removing vegetation from the channel, thereby providing the surrounding area with protection from flood-related hazards including inundation during large storm events. The completion of this project should promote public health and safeguard residential and commercial infrastructure within the City.

1.1 Project Location

The project site consists of Bubbling Springs Natural Channel (Bubbling Springs), also known as the Hueneme Drain, which spans for approximately 1.75 miles through the City within the Bubbling Springs Recreation Greenbelt between Bard Road and the J Street Pump Station in the City of Port Hueneme (Figure 1). The Bubbling Springs Channel commences northeast of Port Hueneme Little League and southeast of Living Hope Church on the south side of Bard Road. A portion of the project's southern boundary falls within the coastal zone, consisting of 10.2 acres (Figure 7). The center point of the project for Bubbling Springs lies approximately at 34.149452° latitude and -119.192054° longitude, within USGS quadrangle Oxnard 3411922. The project site occurs within 23 parcels, which are identified as Assessor's Parcel Numbers:

231-005-121	231-005-122	233-001-004
207-029-019	207-028-072	207-028-069
207-025-003	207-025-009	207-020-214
207-020-219	207-020-217	207-018-314
207-018-309	207-018-307	207-018-305
207-018-303	207-018-301	207-018-139
207-014-154	207-014-329	207-001-009
207-001-001	207-008-101	

Figure 1 Regional Location Map

Basemap provided by Esri and its licensors © 2021.

Project Location

N

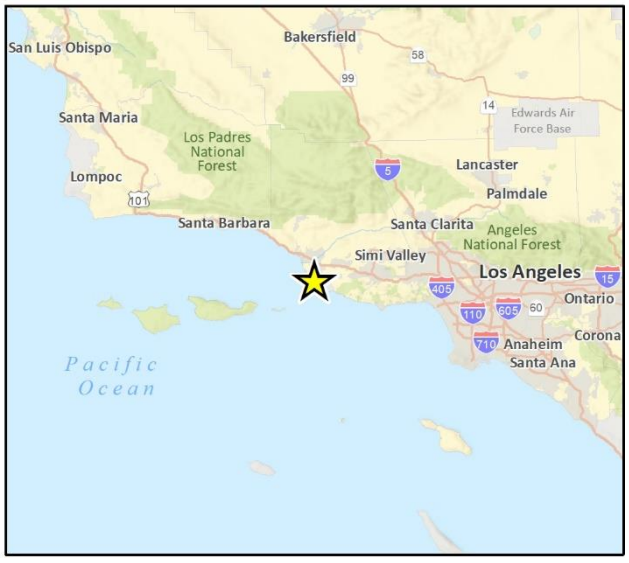


Fig 1 Regional Location

1.2 Project Description

The project is proposed by the City to improve the drainage capacity of the channel to reduce the risk of flooding by removing vegetation that is growing within the channel and preventing flows, which could result in damage or the loss of public and private property. Vegetation to be removed from the channel's bed and banks consists of cattails (*Typha angustifolia* and *T. latifolia*) and bulrush (*Schoenoplectus californicus*) that have grown to heights of 10 feet and with densities spanning the full width of the natural channel which impede natural water flows and wildlife movement.

Background

On June 13, 1978, the Ventura County Flood Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) and the City entered into a cooperative agreement to improve and maintain the Bubbling Springs Recreation Greenbelt. Under the Cooperative Agreement the City is responsible for routine maintenance including, but not limited to, hydraulic integrity, irrigation, fertilizing, pruning, inspect control, weed control, removal and replacing dead plants, and repairing or replacing irrigation facilities, walkways and lighting facilities, and removal of silt from the channel.

Under the 1978 agreement, the responsibility of the Watershed Protection District is exclusively the maintenance of a reinforced concrete box culvert between Joyce Drive and Clara Street. Maintenance of the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel between Pleasant Valley Road and Bard Road is not the responsibility of the Watershed Protection District.

Project Details

Bubbling Springs is an intermittent (north of Port Hueneme Road) and perennial (south of Port Hueneme Road) riverine system with a predominantly sediment streambed, providing substrate for common herbaceous wetland vegetation, notably cattails and bulrush. Cattails and bulrush occur in dense patches throughout the length of Bubbling Springs and increase the potential for flooding damage during rain events, for example by accumulating at and slowing water flow through culverts. Flood damage is of concern because a majority of Bubbling Springs is adjacent to residential and commercial development (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Vegetation removal will be conducted with mechanized and hand equipment. Mechanized equipment to be used includes a backhoe or excavator operated from banks utilizing a clean scoop method to remove vegetation from the roots while minimizing disturbance and potential for regrowth. The number of workdays needed each year for vegetation removal activities is approximately 40 days. Accessibility and the economics of equipment rental and materials disposal require more time to perform the work. If portions of the project site are inaccessible to a backhoe or excavator, hand-held mechanized and non-mechanized tools would be used including pruning saws, marine grade power weed cutters, pressure washer cutting nozzles that use filtered channel water to cut vegetation at the waterline, machete knifes, pruning shears, hand rakes, power hedge trimmers, and chain saws. Removed vegetation will be placed in a linear park adjacent to the natural channel to dry and then disposed of at a local vendor. Maintenance efforts involving mechanized vegetation removal may occur quarterly or semi-annually depending on growth patterns of the cattails and bulrush plants.

The City would perform daily regular maintenance anywhere in the channel pertaining to removal of trash (litter) and removal of debris (fallen branches, leaves, dead plants). This work would only be done by hand and hand tools and may be performed any time of the year, as needed. No additional

excavation of channel materials or use of herbicides is anticipated. No tree, shrub, or other woody vegetation removal is anticipated.

Figure 2 Project Site, North

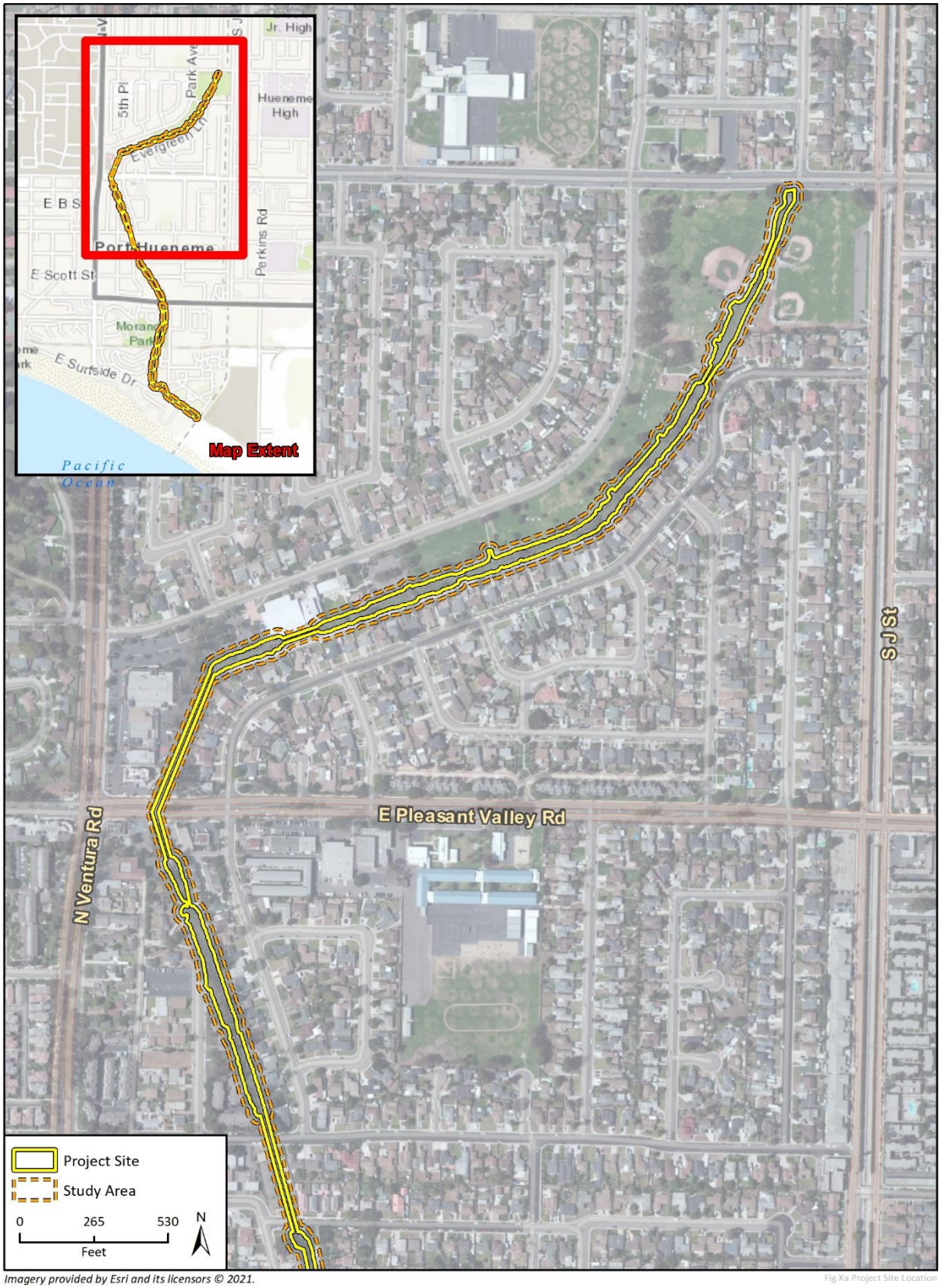
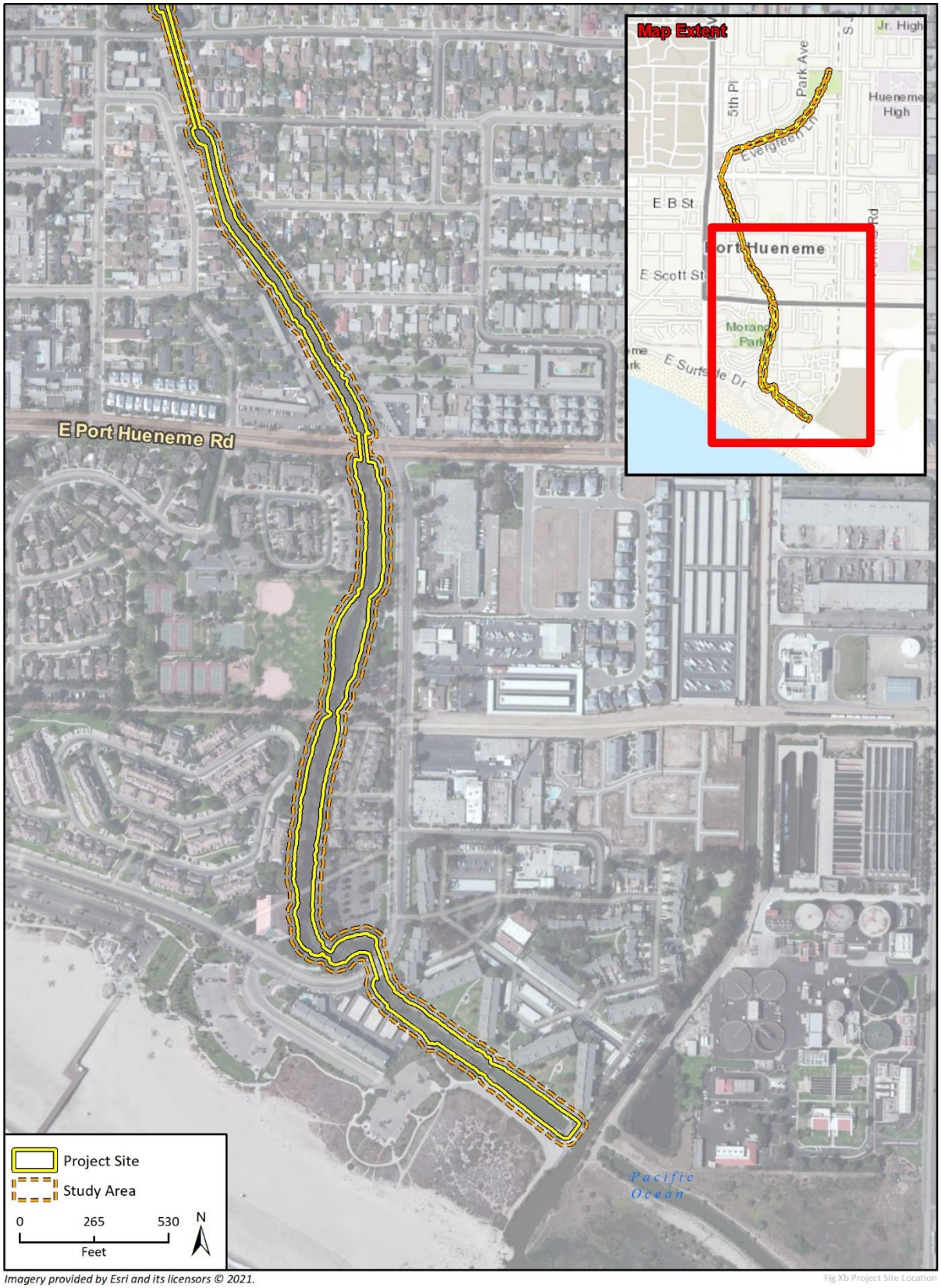


Figure 3 Project Site, South



2 Methodology

2.1 Regulatory Overview

Regulated or sensitive resources studied and analyzed herein include special status plant and animal species, nesting birds and raptors, sensitive plant communities, jurisdictional waters and wetlands, wildlife movement corridors, and locally protected resources, such as protected trees. Regulatory authority over biological resources is shared by Federal, State, and local authorities (see also Appendix D). The analysis of potential impacts to biological resources was guided by the following statutes:

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- California Endangered Species Act (CESA)
- Federal Clean Water Act (CWA)
- California Fish and Game Code (CFGC)
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)
- The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- California Coastal Act
- Port Hueneme Municipal Code

2.2 Guidelines for Determining CEQA Significance

This BRA evaluates potential direct and indirect impacts to biological resources within the study area resulting from project-related activities. The following criteria, as defined by CEQA Appendix G of CEQA, were used to evaluate potential impacts. Based on these criteria, the proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

a) *Have substantial adverse effects, 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 California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

b) *Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service.*

c) *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.*

d) *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.*

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

2.3 Definition of Special Status Species

For the purposes of this report, special status species include:

- Species listed as threatened or endangered under ESA; species that are under review may be included if there is a reasonable expectation of listing within the life of the project
- Species listed as candidate, rare, threatened, or endangered under CESA or the Native Plant Protection Act
- Species designated as Fully Protected, Species of Special Concern, or Watch List by the CDFW or California Fish and Game Code
- Species designated as locally important by the Local Agency (i.e., Ventura County) and/or otherwise protected through ordinance or local policy.

2.4 Literature Review

A literature review was conducted to establish the environmental and regulatory setting of the proposed project. Specific literature reviewed for the subject analysis is provided in Section 8, References.

To establish a list of special status species and sensitive natural habitats documented within the project vicinity the following federal, state, and local resources were queried: USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (USFWS 2021b), Critical Habitat Portal (USFWS 2021a), CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (CDFW 2021) occurrences within a 5-mile radius of the project footprint, Special Animals List (CDFW 2021a), Locally Important Animal List (Ventura County 2014), Online Inventory of Rare Endangered Vascular Plants of California, California Native Plant Society (CNPS 2021) occurrences within the *Oxnard* 7.5-minute quadrangle and the surrounding eight quadrangles, Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens List (CDFW 2021c), Locally Important Plant List (Ventura County 2018), and California Sensitive Natural Communities List (CDFW 2020). Observations are reported within a five-mile radius surrounding the project footprint. The results of these queries were used to determine whether any special status species or sensitive habitat are known to occur on or adjacent to the project footprint and are presented in Appendix C.

The local and regional influence of the project footprint to wildlife movement was determined by reviewing the following resources: Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) (CDFW 2021b) and Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Map (Ventura County 2019).

The following resources were also reviewed for evaluating the presence of additional sensitive biological resources on the project footprint. The USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Wetlands Mapper (USFWS 2021b) was used to determine wetland resources in the study area, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA 2019) was queried to determine soil map units in the study area. In addition to the literature reviewed, aerial and site photographs of the study area were used in this assessment.

2.5 Field Reconnaissance Survey

A field survey was conducted by Rincon senior biologist and botanist, Robin Murray, and biologist, Daniel Lenz, on August 4, 2021, to document site conditions and to evaluate the potential for presence of sensitive biological resources including sensitive plant and animal species, sensitive plant communities, potentially jurisdictional waters and wetlands, and habitat for federally and state protected species. The study area included the project site plus a 50-foot buffer (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

During the survey, an inventory of plant and animal species observed was compiled (Appendix B). Plant species nomenclature and taxonomy follows *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition* (Baldwin et al. 2012). All species encountered were noted and identified to the lowest practical taxonomic level. Vegetation and land cover within the study area was characterized and mapped. The vegetation classification used for this analysis is based on Sawyer et al. (2009) but modified as needed to accurately describe the existing vegetation communities on-site.

The habitat requirements for each regionally occurring special-status species identified from the database query were assessed and compared to the type and quality of the habitat observed within the project site during the field survey, such as, but not limited to, vegetation, soils, elevation, existing land uses, and geographic range. The field survey was conducted to make an initial determination regarding the presence or absence of sensitive biological resources including sensitive natural communities, plants, and wildlife. Focused surveys to confirm the presence or absence of special-status species were not performed and are not included within this analysis. The findings and opinions conveyed in this report are based exclusively on the methodology described above.

3 Existing Conditions

3.1 Physical Characteristics

The study area is located on the Oxnard Plain along Bubbling Springs. Regional land uses near the study area primarily include residential and commercial development, recreational parks, and Naval CBC Port Hueneme. The study area and surrounding land use are relatively flat with little topographic variation and elevation is ranges from approximately five to 30 feet above mean sea level. Climate in the City of Oxnard, approximately three miles north of the study, is characterized by mild summers and mild winters. Temperatures range between average highs of 74 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) and average lows of 45°F, with an annual average precipitation of 15.64 inches (U.S. Climate Data 2021).

Multiple man-made drainage ways to direct runoff from private residences and parking lots were observed depositing into Bubbling Springs. No empirical water quality tests were conducted during the field survey, however, where standing water occurred it was generally black in color and opaque.

3.1.1 Watershed and Drainages

Bubbling Springs is a riverine system ranging in approximately 30 to 60 feet in width that originates at Bard Road and flows generally south until reaching the J Street Pump Station. North of Port Hueneme Road Bubbling Springs is intermittent, although standing water was observed at the time of the field survey (USGS NHD 2021). South of Port Hueneme Road Bubbling Springs is perennial (USGS NHD 2021). Portions of Bubbling springs are culverted including under Pleasant Valley Road, between East Clara Street and Joyce Drive, under Port Hueneme Road, and under Surfside Drive.

The study area occurs within the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 12 McGrath Lake-Frontal Pacific Ocean sub-watershed. The project is not within any designated FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area. Localized flooding may occur due to dense plant growth in the channel on the downstream side of street crossing/box culvert.

3.1.2 Soils

The survey area contains six soil map units: Hueneme loamy sand, loamy substratum; Hueneme sandy loam; Camarillo loam; fill land; Camarillo sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, MLRA 19; and coastal beaches (USDA NRCS 2019).

Hueneme Loamy Sand, Loamy Substratum

Hueneme loamy sand, loamy substratum is poorly drained stratified alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The frequency of flooding is rare. The soil map unit is included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2021).

Hueneme Sandy Loam

Hueneme sandy loam are poorly drained stratified alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The frequency of flooding is rare. The soil map unit is included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2021).

Camarillo Loam

Camarillo loam are poorly drained alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The frequency of flooding is rare. The soil map unit is included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2021).

Fill Land

Fill lands are poorly drained. The frequency of flooding is rare. The soil map unit is not included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2019).

Camarillo Sandy Loam, 0 to 2 Percent Slopes, MLRA 19

Camarillo sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) 19 are poorly drained alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. The frequency of flooding is rare. The soil map unit is included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2021).

Coastal Beaches

Coastal beaches are poorly drained, frequently flooded and derived from beach sand. The soil map unit is included on the National Hydric Soils List (USDA, NRCS 2019).

3.2 Vegetation and Other Land Cover

One vegetation community occurs within the study area: cattail marsh. Land cover not vegetated by cattail marsh is either open water or developed/landscaped, the cattail vegetation community is mixed with bulrush throughout the channel, the two are denoted as cattail marsh (Figure 4 and Figure 5). A total of 80 plant species were observed within the study area during the field survey (Appendix B).

3.2.1 Cattail Marshes (*Typha angustifolia* and *Typha latifolia* Herbaceous Alliance)

The cattail marsh herbaceous alliance is typically found in semi-permanently flooded freshwater or brackish marsh habitats between 0 to 1,149 feet (0 to 350 meters) in elevation. Soils are typically clayey or silty. Narrowleaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*) or common cattail (*Typha latifolia*) contributes to greater than 50 percent relative cover in the herbaceous layer; one or more cattail species may be present. The vegetation community is not considered sensitive (CDFW 2021).

Narrowleaf cattails and common cattails (cattails) occur throughout the study area. North of East Port Hueneme Road cattails dominate the streambed creating large contiguous blocks with little to no other vegetation occurring. South of East Port Hueneme Road cattails occur in patches, but do not create large contiguous blocks. Additionally, cattail patches within this section of Bubbling Springs do not occur further south than approximately Moranda Park (adjacent and west of Bubbling Springs).

3.2.2 Open Water

Open water predominantly occurs south of East Port Hueneme Road. Open water appeared widest and deepest near the J Street Station Pump where it is impounded. Upstream of the J Street Pump open water with Bubbling Springs gradually becomes narrower and shallower. Open water quality appeared low; water in these areas was generally black to dark gray in color and was opaque.

Figure 4 Vegetation Communities and Other Land Cover

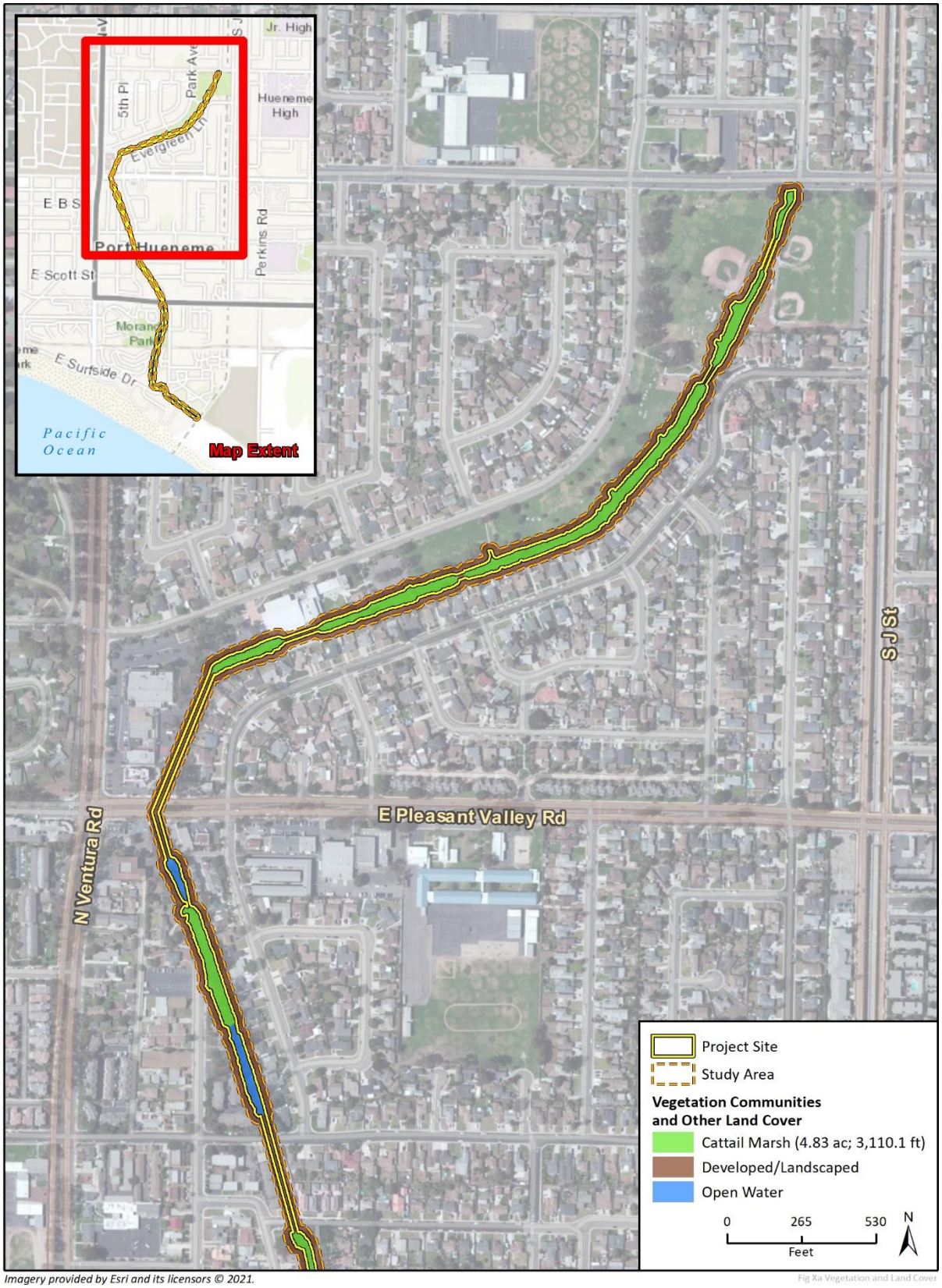
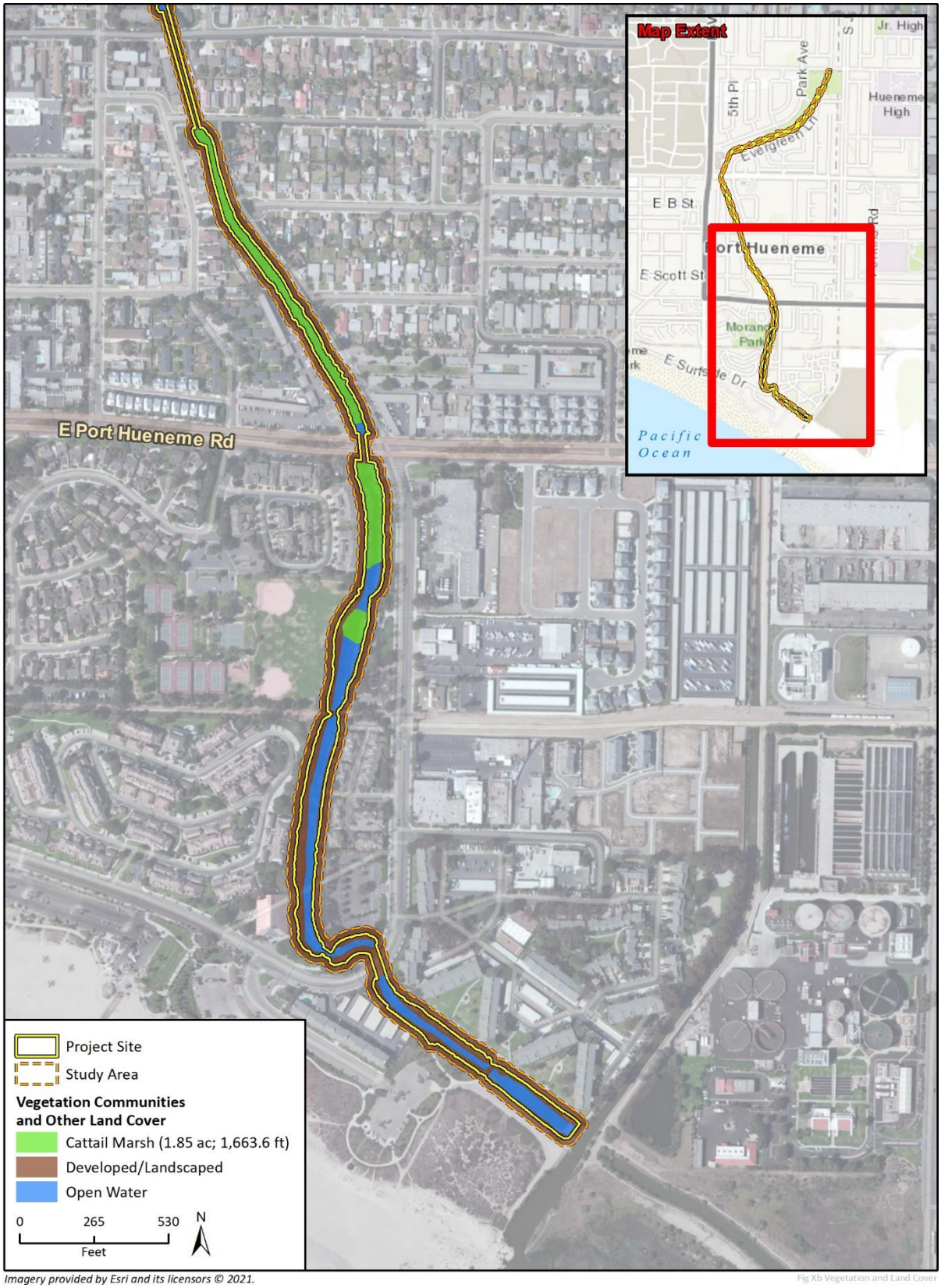


Figure 5 Vegetation Communities and Other Land Cover



3.2.3 Developed/Landscaped

The vast majority of the study area is either developed or landscaped. Essentially all trees within the study area are planted and non-native such as blue gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*), red gum eucalyptus (*E. camaldulensis*), silver dollar gum (*E. polyanthemos*), jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*), Brazilian pepper tree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*). A small number of native trees such as western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) and arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) were observed. The shrub and herbaceous layers within this land cover are dominated by a high diversity of non-native plant species such as iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*), Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), umbrella plant (*Cyperus involucratus*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*), and smilo grass (*Stipa miliacea*). For a complete list of plant species observed within the study area see Appendix B.

A large proportion of the study area also includes residential and commercial development. Much of these areas have structures surrounded by paved surfaces such as roads, parking lots, and sidewalks and contain little to no vegetation.

3.3 General Wildlife

The project site and surrounding area provide habitat for wildlife species that commonly occur in urban areas such as mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*). The non-native, invasive red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) was observed within the northern portion of Bubbling Springs near the Ray D. Prueter Library during the field survey.

Western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), a CDFW Species of Special Concern, was observed on the banks of Bubbling Springs south of Moranda Park and north of Surfside Drive. Western pond turtle is discussed in greater detail in Section 4. For a complete list of observed wildlife see Appendix B.

4 Sensitive Biological Resources

4.1 Special Status Species

Local, state, and federal agencies regulate special status species and other sensitive biological resources and require an assessment of their presence or potential presence to be conducted on-site prior to the approval of proposed development on a property. This section discusses sensitive biological resources observed on the project site and evaluates the potential for the project site to support additional sensitive biological resources. Assessments for the potential occurrence of special status species are based upon known ranges, habitat preferences for the species, species occurrence records from the CNDDB, species occurrence records from other sites in the vicinity of the survey area, previous reports for the project site, and the results of surveys of the project site. The potential for each special status species to occur in the study area was evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **No Potential/Not Expected:** Habitat on and adjacent to the site is unsuitable for the species requirements (foraging, breeding, cover, substrate, elevation, hydrology, plant community, site history, disturbance regime), and species would have been identifiable on-site if present (e.g., oak trees). Protocol surveys (if conducted) did not detect species.
- **Low Potential.** Few of the habitat components (foraging, breeding, cover, substrate, elevation, hydrology, plant community, site history, disturbance regime) meeting the species requirements are present on or adjacent to the site. The species is not likely to be found on the site. Protocol surveys (if conducted) did not detect species.
- **Moderate Potential**. Some of the habitat components (foraging, breeding, cover, substrate, elevation, hydrology, plant community, site history, disturbance regime) meeting the species requirements are present on or adjacent to the site. The species has a moderate probability of being found on the site.
- **High Potential.** Habitat components (foraging, breeding, cover, substrate, elevation, hydrology, plant community, site history, disturbance regime) meeting the species requirements are present throughout the project site and adjacent to the project site. Multiple species observation records (e.g., CNDDB) occur within the vicinity of the project site. The species has a high probability of being found on the site.
- **Present.** Species was observed on the site or has been recorded (e.g., CNDDB, other reports) on the site recently (within the last 5 years).

4.1.1 Special Status Plant Species

A total of 30 special status plant species were identified in the literature review, all of which have either no potential or low potential to occur (Appendix C). No special status plant species were observed during the August 4, 2021, field survey. Special status plant species typically have very specific habitat requirements, including specific vegetation communities, elevation levels, soils/geology, and topography. Given the largely developed and landscaped nature of the study area and the dominance of non-native plant species in the tree, shrub, and herbaceous layers, special status plant species specific habitat requirements are almost entirely lacking within the study area.

4.1.2 Special Status Wildlife Species

A total of 18 special status wildlife species were identified in the literature review (Appendix C), of which only western pond turtle was observed during the field survey. Two individuals were observed basking on the banks of Bubbling Springs between Moranda Park and Surfside Drive. Bubbling Springs is perennial in this section, the surrounding vegetation is dominated by non-native grass in the herbaceous layer and non-native trees in the tree layer (Appendix A – Photograph 4). No other special status wildlife species were observed during the field survey. The remaining special status species identified in the literature review have either no potential or low potential to occur.

4.2 Sensitive Plant Communities and Critical Habitats

According to the CDFW Natural Communities, plant communities with ranks of S1-S3 are considered Sensitive Natural Communities to be addressed in the CEQA environmental review processes. No sensitive natural communities were observed within the study area during the August 4, 2021, field survey. Suitable riparian habitat is present; however, the 30 special status plant species identified in the literature review were not observed during the field reconnaissance survey and all of which have no or low potential to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat for listed special status plant species and is not located within any federally designated critical habitat for any listed plant species.

4.3 Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

Bubbling Springs is a natural, unlined stormwater channel, ranging approximately 30 to 60 feet in width, that originates at Bard Road and flows generally south until reaching the J Street Pump Station. The top of bank of Bubbling Springs was mapped using a sub-meter GPS on the August 4, 2021, field survey (Figure 6 and Figure 7). North of Port Hueneme Road Bubbling Springs is intermittent, although standing water was observed at the time of the field survey (USGS NHD 2021). South of Port Hueneme Road Bubbling Springs is perennial (USGS NHD 2021). Portions of Bubbling springs are culverted including under Pleasant Valley Road, between East Clara Street and Joyce Drive, under Port Hueneme Road, and under Surfside Drive.

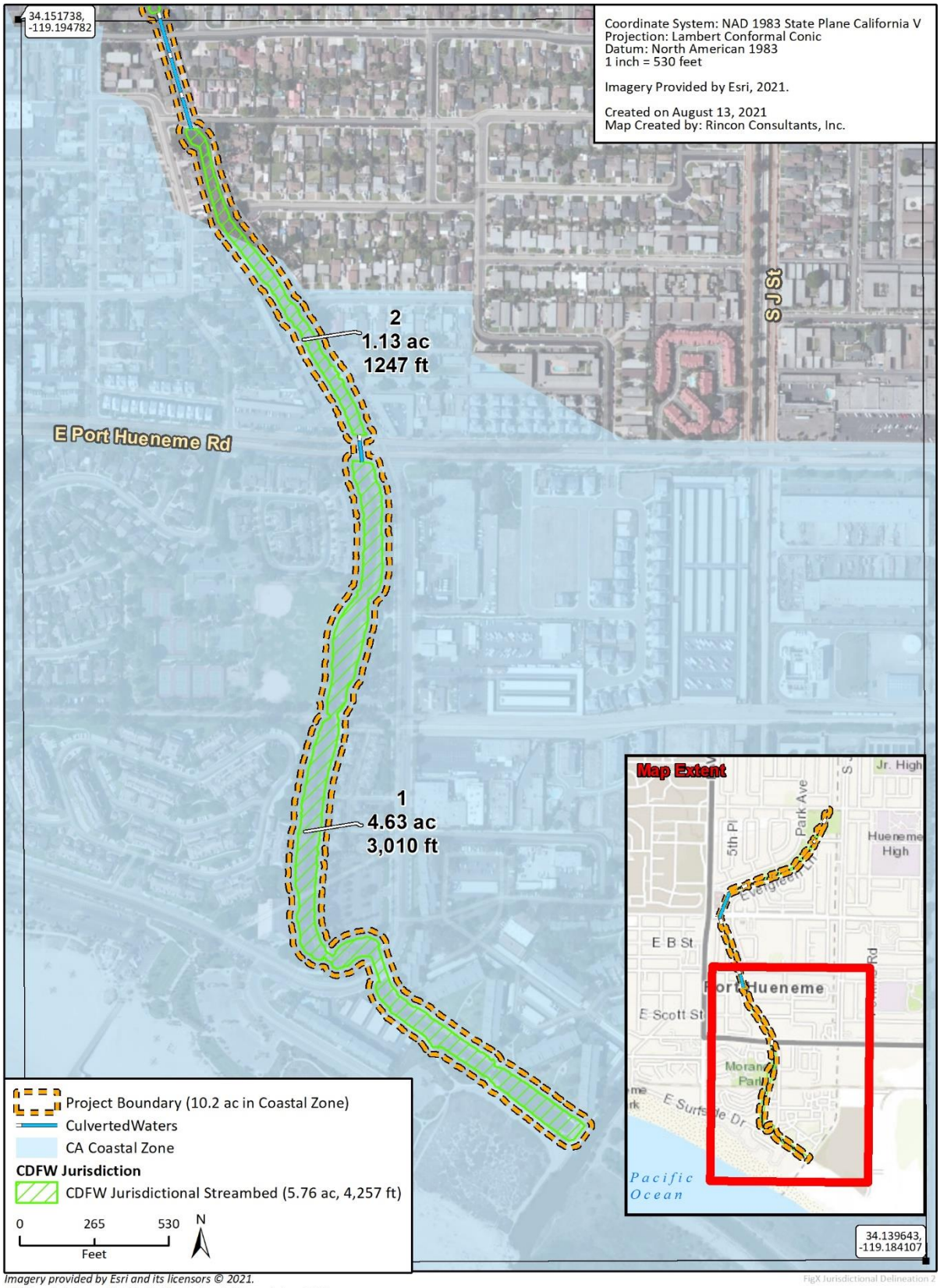
4.4 Wildlife Movement

Wildlife corridors are generally defined as connections between habitat patches that allow for physical and genetic exchange between otherwise isolated animal populations. Such linkages may serve a local purpose, such as between foraging and denning areas, or they may be regional in nature, allowing movement across the landscape. Some habitat linkages may serve as migration corridors, wherein animals periodically move away from an area and then subsequently return. Examples of barriers or impediments to movement include housing and other urban development, roads, fencing, unsuitable habitat, or open areas with little vegetative cover. Regional and local wildlife movements are expected to be concentrated near topographic features that allow convenient passage, including roads, drainages, and ridgelines.

The study area is located within a developed urban area and is surrounded by urbanized uses in each direction including roads, commercial and residential uses. Common mammals, such as striped skunk and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), may utilize the edges of Bubbling Springs for local movement as it is flooded; however, given the urban nature of the regional vicinity, it is unlikely that wildlife

Figure 6 Bubbling Springs Potential Jurisdictional Area

Figure 7 Bubbling Springs Potential Jurisdictional Area



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Additional data provided by California Coastal Commission, 2021.

utilizes the immediate area for regional movement. Furthermore, CDFW does not include any mapped California Essential Habitat Connectivity areas within the study area (CDFW 2021).

4.5 Resources Protected By Local Policies and Ordinances

Protected Trees

The project is located in a public area, defined as parks, playgrounds, open space, and areas around public buildings or other areas maintained by the City in Article VI Chapter 2.6040 of the Municipal Code. While the City does not have an established ordinance to protect specific species of trees (e.g., California native trees), the City's Municipal Code Article IV Chapter 1.4011 prohibits impacts to trees, plants, shrubs, blooms, and flowers or removal of wood, turf, grass, soil, rock, sand, or gravel from any public facility, waterway, or body of water. Exceptions to the provisions in this Article include City employees maintaining a public facility or when a permit has been granted by the City's Director of Public Works or City Council. Furthermore, Article VI Chapter 2.6043 states that tree removals or adjustments are determined by the Public Works Director for trees in public areas; adjustments are not defined by the City but may include activities such as trimming or relocation.

Port Hueneme Local Coastal Program

The Coastal Act sets high standards for the protection of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA), including various types of wetlands, riparian areas, and other natural resources in the Coastal Zone. The Local Coastal Program (LCP) for the City of Port Hueneme, effectively certified as an LCP in 1984 by the California Coastal Commission (CCC 2019), must conform to the policies of the California Coastal Act. The existing LCP calls out the dunes located at the eastern end of Hueneme Beach Park as ESHA due to their ability to provide breeding and nesting opportunities to threatened and endangered species.

Coastal Act Section 30231

Coastal Act Section 30231 states the biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of waste water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial interference with surface waterflow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

4.6 Habitat Conservation Plans

The project site is not subject to any Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, no impact should occur.

5 Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

The project only involves removal of vegetation using non-invasive techniques, including minor heavy equipment use and hand tools. The project would potentially result in impacts to resources protected by federal and state regulations. Temporary impacts to jurisdictional water features include degradation of water quality in the immediate work area and downstream. Permanent impacts include the one-time removal of streambed vegetation (cattails and bulrush) that has grown in the past two to three years and currently provides nesting, sheltering, and foraging habitat for wildlife species. Full avoidance of these impacts would be infeasible given removal of vegetation from Bubbling Springs is the primary activity of the project. Project related impacts to the Bubbling Springs channel and emergent native/non-native vegetation would require a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFW prior to initiating work. Based on the project description and nature of impacts, no permits are required from USACE or Water Board.

Recommendations are provided in Section 6 (Avoidance and Minimization Measures) to help avoid or minimize temporary and permanent impacts to the extent practicable. If implemented, recommended avoidance and minimization measures should reduce impacts to sensitive biological resources resulting from implementation of the project to less than significant levels under CEQA.

5.1 Special Status Species

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

a) *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 California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

Based on a query of the CNDDB and CNPS, there are 30 special status plant species and 18 special status wildlife species documented within a 5-mile radius of the project footprint. All 48 species were evaluated for potential to occur within the study area based on the results from the field survey, documented occurrences, and specific habitat requirements (Attachment C).

No regulated plant species were observed during the August 4, 2021, field survey. Given the largely developed and landscaped nature of the study area and the dominance of non-native plant species in the tree, shrub, and herbaceous layers, regulated plant species habitat requirements are almost entirely lacking within the study area. Therefore, no regulated plant species are expected to occur in the project footprint.

Of the 18 special status wildlife species with potential to occur in the project footprint, one species, western pond turtle, was observed during the August 4, 2021, field survey. Two individuals were observed basking on the banks of Bubbling Springs between Moranda Park and Surfside Drive. Migratory or other common nesting birds, while not necessarily designated as special status species, may also nest in cattail marsh vegetation. Migratory and other common nesting birds are protected by the CFGC and MBTA, and while impacts to nesting bird species are not necessarily significant under CEQA, impacts to nests are prohibited by law.

Western Pond Turtle

Direct and indirect impacts to western pond turtle could result from project activities including equipment strikes, crushing of nests, crushing/removal of refugia, general habitat disturbance or removal, disrupting foraging or breeding activities leading to increased stress and reduced fecundity.

If turtles are present in the project site during vegetation removal activities, direct impacts to individuals may occur from incidental crushing of individuals by vehicle traffic from personnel driving to and from the project site daily and while accessing the project footprint, and during vegetation removal activities. Seasonal timing of project activities, according to AMM-2 – Schedule/Timing of Work, should facilitate avoidance of direct impact to western pond turtle nesting and breeding behavior. Pre-activity surveys (AMM-3 – Worker Environmental Awareness Training and AMM-4 – Pre-activity Surveys) should be completed prior to the start of project activities. Workers should be aware of the area between Moranda Park and Surfside Drive, where two western pond turtles were observed during the field survey and should be versed in their recognition and what to do in the event of encounters.

Work activities should be limited to the channel, except when accessing the project footprint, and no upland refugia for special status reptile species should be impacted. Ground vibration from moving heavy equipment may impact reptiles near the project footprint; however, ground vibrations should be minimal and should only occur at potentially significant levels when heavy equipment is moving to and from the project footprint. Otherwise, equipment should be relatively stationary during vegetation removal activities and should only make small movements at a time. Ground vibration at the banks of the channel where western pond turtle may be present should be less than significant.

If individuals occur in the project footprint when work is scheduled to occur, a qualified biologist should determine the most feasible action. AMM-6 – Special Status Species Avoidance Buffers should be implemented to determine appropriate buffers. AMM-7 – Species Capture and Relocation should be implemented for safe handling procedures to avoid or minimize mortality to the extent possible during relocation. AMM-8 – Biological Monitoring should be implemented to monitor all vegetation removal activities and ensure compliance with any applicable permits. Through the implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, potential impacts to western pond turtle would be reduced to less than significant.

Nesting Birds

Common bird species may nest in cattails, ornamental trees, on power line poles, or on the ground in or near the project site. During the field survey, only common species were observed, such as mallard, great egret (*Ardea alba*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), and Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*).

The project has the potential to directly (through vegetation removal and moving equipment) or indirectly (project noise, dust, and other human disturbances that may cause a nest to fail) impact nesting birds. project activities are not proposed to occur during the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 15) or when migratory bird species should be expected to be present (AMM-2 – Schedule/Timing of Work). Impacts from project activities should be minimal because the disturbance footprint is limited to cattail marsh vegetation within the channel, except when accessing or moving equipment. Prior to removing vegetation, or starting any other work activities, AMM-3 – Worker Environmental Awareness Training and AMM-4 – Pre-activity Surveys should be

implemented to ensure no bird nesting activity is occurring, and to document any nests, active or inactive, in or adjacent to the project site. If nests are detected, AMM-5– Nesting Birds should be implemented.

The introduction and establishment of non-native species should be avoided or minimized through implementation of AMM-9– Invasive Species Management. Removal of cattail vegetation does not contain mature riparian vegetation. Due to the heavily disturbed and developed nature of the site implementation of AMM-1– Best Management Practices should further ensure no impacts to riparian vegetation occur. Through the implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, potential impacts to nesting birds would be reduced to less than significant.

The recommended measures described above avoid and minimize the potential for adverse impacts to nesting birds, including raptors, to a less than significant level. The project should not have any substantial adverse effect on any candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS.

5.2 Sensitive Plant Communities

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

b) Have a substantial adverse impact on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Plant communities are considered sensitive biological resources if they have limited distributions, have high wildlife value, include sensitive species, or are particularly susceptible to disturbance. CDFW maintains a list of plant communities identified as sensitive (CDFW 2021c), based on the communities defined in *A Manual of California Vegetation, Second Edition* (Sawyer et al. 2009). Southern Coastal Salt Marsh is a sensitive plant community that the CNDDB documents within a 5-mile radius of the project site. Based on the field survey on August 4, 2021, this community is not present in the project site, (Figure 4 and Figure 5).

Communities present within the study area includes developed/landscaped land, open water, and cattail marshes [*Typha latifolia* Herbaceous Alliance]. Cattail marsh *Typha latifolia* alliance is not considered sensitive (CNPS 2021). The project intends to remove 6.68 acres (4,773.7 linear feet) of cattail marsh vegetation from within the channel. Impacts to surrounding riparian vegetation adjacent to the project site should be avoided through project design and through AMM-1– Best Management Practices. The project would not have a significant impact on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS.

5.3 Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

c) 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.

The project involves the removal of dense cattail vegetation from specific areas throughout Bubbling Springs that are currently impeding water flow throughout the channel (Figure 4 and

Figure 5). The project site encompasses a total of 9.11 acres (7,784 linear feet) of CDFW jurisdictional waters (Figure 6 and Figure 7). Although work would occur at times when the channel is dry or experiencing no flow, project activities may result in temporary elevated levels in turbidity affecting water quality during vegetation removal. By utilizing the clean surface sweep method, during the occasional use of mechanized equipment, impacts may temporarily disturb topsoil; this method should minimize impacts to water quality. Most of the northern portion of the Bubbling Springs was dry during the reconnaissance survey; areas of standing water are more prevalent as the channel continues south.

Indirect impacts to jurisdictional waters and wetlands should be avoided through AMM-1– Best Management Practices, thereby reducing the potential for impacts to jurisdictional waters and wetlands to be less than significant.

5.4 Wildlife Movement

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites.

project implementation should not impact wildlife movement because Bubbling Spring channel is surrounded by urbanized uses in each direction including roads, commercial uses, and residential uses. Common mammals may utilize adjacent areas for local movement; however, the project does not include the permanent installation of any fences or other structures that should impede wildlife movement. The project may result in a temporary discouragement of wildlife movement within the study areas, while project activities are being conducted (i.e., moving wildlife may avoid active machinery). Bubbling Springs is a potential corridor for such wildlife movement, given the urban nature of the regional vicinity, it is unlikely that wildlife utilizes the immediate area for regional movement. The removal of overgrown cattail marsh vegetation from Bubbling Springs should benefit movement for wildlife species to farther reaches in the channel. Upon completion of project activities, during the following wet season, the study area should become inundated with new flows and aquatic species could move freely within and through the study area. The CDFW does not include any mapped California Essential Habitat Connectivity areas within the project site (CDFW 2021).

Implementation of AMM-1– Best Management Practices should help avoid and minimize impacts to wildlife movement. Work should be conducted when species migration is typically not occurring, further avoiding direct impacts to wildlife movement (AMM-2– Schedule/Timing of Work). Overall, the proposed project is not expected to significantly hinder wildlife movement in the region, considering no new development or permanent installations are proposed. The project would have a less than significant impact to wildlife movement.

5.5 Local Policies and Ordinances

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance

Due to the unavoidable need to restore water flow through Bubbling Springs, permanent and temporary impacts to Riparian/Riverine areas are expected to occur. In addition, there is potential for temporary impacts to water quality during vegetation removal activities.

Coastal Action Section 30231

Drainage systems, such as the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel, that discharge close to sea level are expected to be affected by climate change and experience more frequent flooding. Vegetation clearing from the channel would not alter natural shoreline processes. Instead, the project seeks to restore naturally occurring flows to minimize risk to existing structures from future flood events. Therefore, the project would not conflict with the policies of Coastal Act Section 30231, and no impact would occur.

Port Hueneme Local Coastal Program

Only a portion of the project site is located within the California Coastal Zone and will not take place within the ESHA identified near the project site, which consists of dunes at the eastern end of Hueneme Beach Park (CCC 2019). Therefore, the City's project activities are consistent with the Port Hueneme LCP, and no impact would occur.

Port Hueneme Municipal Code

The project is located in a public area maintained by the City in Article VI Chapter 2.6040 of the Municipal Code. While the City does not have an established ordinance to protect specific species of trees (e.g., California native trees), the City's Municipal Code Article IV Chapter 1.4011 prohibits impacts to trees, plants, shrubs, blooms, and flowers or removal of wood, turf, grass, soil, rock, sand, or gravel from any public facility, waterway, or body of water. Exceptions to the provisions in this Article include City employees maintaining a public facility or when a permit has been granted by the City's Director of Public Works or City Council. Furthermore, Article VI Chapter 2.6043 states that tree removals or adjustments are determined by the Public Works Director for trees in public areas; adjustments are not defined by the City but may include activities such as trimming or relocation. Therefore, project activities would be consistent with the Municipal Code, and no impact would occur.

5.6 Habitat Conservation Plans

The proposed project would have a significant effect on biological resources if it would:

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

The project site is not subject to any Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

6 Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Potential impacts to sensitive biological resources would be avoided and minimized through implementation of the following recommended Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs). The measures are designed to reduce potential impacts to sensitive natural resources to a less than significant degree through one of the following:

- Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, or by establishing avoidance buffers.
- Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments, including through permanent protection of such resources in the form of conservation easements.

AMM-1 – Best Management Practices

Best management practices (BMPs) are measures are implemented as part of the project and are designed to avoid and minimize effects of vegetation removal activities on sensitive natural resources. These measures are generally considered standard practice for industry-specific and for general development projects and are intended to provide a framework for good work practice aimed at environmental sensitivity. Best management practices often include standard and general recommended avoidance or minimization measures outlined by an organization or agency, for example, the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) or the CDFW. General site maintenance BMPs should be implemented during the vegetation removal activities, and should include the following:

General

- Work boundaries should be clearly marked, using stakes or other high visibility marking (e.g., flagging), prior to project activities involving ground or vegetation removal activities. No work should occur outside of a marked work area unless first approved by City Environmental Services staff.
- At the end of project activities all temporary flagging, fencing, barriers, and associated materials (including BMPs) should be removed.
- Project activities should be conducted in a manner that prevents the introduction, transfer, and spread of invasive species, including plants, animals, and microbes; remove all visible soil/mud, plant materials, and animal remnants from all vehicles, tools, boots, and equipment.
- Clean up trash and other project debris daily; use fully covered trash receptacles with secure lids to contain all trash. Receptacles should be removed from the site and emptied at least weekly.
- Staging/storage and refueling/maintenance of equipment and materials should be outside of habitat areas or 100 feet from the bank where practicable. All staged equipment would have drip pans or similar containment placed underneath when not in use.
- No substances that could be hazardous to aquatic life should be allowed to contaminate the soil and/or enter or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel.

- No native vegetation with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of more than 4 inches should be removed or damaged without approval.

Erosion Control

- Chemical dust suppression agents should not be used within 100 feet of wetlands or water bodies.
- Locate fiber rolls on level contours spaced as follows:
- Slope inclination of 4:1 (Horizontal:Vertical) or flatter: Fiber rolls should be placed at a maximum interval of 20 feet.
- Slope inclination between 4:1 and 2:1 (Horizontal:Vertical): Fiber Rolls should be placed at a maximum interval of 15 feet (a closer spacing is more effective).
- Slope inclination 2:1 (Horizontal:Vertical) or greater: Fiber Rolls should be placed at a maximum interval of 10 feet (a closer spacing is more effective).

Sanitary/Septic Waste Management

- Temporary sanitary facilities should be located away from Bubbling Springs Natural Channel and from traffic circulation. If site conditions allow place portable facilities a minimum of 50 feet from drainage conveyances and traffic areas. When subjected to high winds or risk of high winds, temporary sanitary facilities should be secured to prevent overturning.

Waste Management and Materials Pollution Control

- All vehicles and equipment should be maintained in good working condition, free from leaks, and operating within normal parameters.
- Any vehicle or equipment fluid spills should be cleaned up immediately to ensure the study area is maintained clean and free of spills and contamination.
- The area where heavy equipment should operate is limited to the minimum footprint necessary and should be contained within straw waddles or similar material to prevent runoff from the study area. If access to areas outside of the delineated footprint is required, it must be approved by a responsible City administrator.
- The project site should be maintained free of trash. All trash should be deposited in closed-lid receptacles and should be removed from the site weekly.
- If maintenance must occur on-site, use designated areas, located away from drainage courses. Dedicated maintenance areas should be protected from stormwater run-on and run-off and should be located at least 50 feet from downstream drainage facilities and watercourses.
- All fueling trucks and fueling areas are required to have spill kits and/or use other spill protection devices.
- No pets or firearms should be permitted on the project site.

AMM-2 – Schedule/Timing of Work

No work should occur if flowing water in the drainage channel is present within the project site. Work should be conducted periodically in a dry drainage channel, ideally between September 15 and December 31 or whenever the majority of the channel is dry. Vegetation removal should not be conducted between during nesting bird season between February 1 through August 15 to avoid

nesting birds that may be present during vegetation removal activities. If work must occur during nesting season implementation of AMM-5– Nesting Birds is recommended.

Additional scheduling/timing of work conditions include the following:

- Project activities may continue through December 31 if no rain events measuring a tenth of an inch or greater are reported by the National Weather Service Oxnard. If a rain event of a tenth of an inch or greater is forecasted within 72 hours, all project activities must stop, and all equipment must be removed from the bed, bank, and channel.
- Non-active areas should be stabilized as soon as practical after the cessation of soil disturbing activities or one day prior to the onset of precipitation.
- The time of day for work activities should be limited to daylight hours.

AMM-3 – Worker Environmental Awareness Training

To ensure all AMMs are followed, it is essential that personnel understand the scope of project activities, the general biology of special status species with potential to occur in the project site (e.g. western pond turtle), and the individual responsibilities of project personnel. The most effective approach to addressing personnel awareness is through a worker environmental awareness training (WEAT) program.

To ensure all personnel associated with the project are fully familiar with the project activities, the special status species with potential to occur in the study area, and the AMMs, all personnel should attend a WEAT before conducting work on the project. The WEAT should provide details pertaining to project activities and correct procedures to follow during work activities to ensure potential impacts to special status species are avoided and minimized. Other information provided in the WEAT should include identification of special status species with potential to occur in the study area, correct notification procedures, action to take in the event these species are encountered, and definitions of take.

The WEAT program should involve several components to ensure all project personnel are properly trained:

- Before initiation of project activities, the contracted qualified biologist(s) hired, should be provided the WEAT material and should be thoroughly trained on the information and in how to teach the information.
- Before the start of any project activities, the qualified biologist should provide the WEAT to project personnel working on the site. Project personnel would attend the WEAT at a training facility designated by the City.
- After the initial WEAT, any workers new to the project can be provided the WEAT by the City's staff in a tail-gate format at the project site.
- WEAT handouts should always be available at the project site when work is being performed to be handed out to workers during on-site trainings.
- A record of all trained personnel should be kept by the City.

The WEAT would contain the following information:

- A list of phone numbers for City's Public Works Department and relevant agency contacts should always be kept on-site during work activities.

- A list of all AMMs for the project along with information on to which project activity or special status species each BMP addresses.
- Instruction on identification of special status species and where and when special status species are most likely to be found.
- Instructions on correct techniques and procedures for working within the Bubbling Springs Natural Channel.
- Instruction regarding the importance of maintaining a clean construction site, including ensuring that all food scraps, wrappers, food containers, cans, bottles, and other trash from the project are deposited in closed trash containers.
- Instructions to notify the regional spill response coordinator in case of a hazardous materials spill or leak from equipment, or upon the discovery of soil or groundwater contamination.
- Instruction on proper notification procedures in the event of take of special status species. The on-site foreman would be notified immediately followed directly by notification to the City's Public Works Department. Within 12 hours of the incidence of take, the notification should be provided to relevant agencies. Written documentation of the incidence should be provided to agencies within 48 hours.

Instruction that noncompliance with any laws, rules, regulations, or AMMs could result in a worker(s) being barred from participating in any remaining construction activities associated with the proposed project.

AMM-4 – Pre-activity Surveys

Prior to any vegetation removal activities, a pre-activity survey should be conducted to identify the presence, or potential for presence, of special status species. The pre-activity survey should be completed by a qualified biologist throughout all areas where vegetation removal will be conducted. The pre-activity survey should be completed no less than two weeks prior to the start of vegetation removal activities.

If special status species are found near any vegetation removal areas, avoidance or minimization measures should be implemented to reduce the potential of impacts to special status species. Species not listed as threatened or endangered, that can be safely relocated by a qualified biologist, for example, western pond turtle, should be relocated according to AMM-7 – Species Capture and Relocation. Species that cannot be safely relocated, or that would require an incidental take permit, should be avoided during project implementation through AMM-6 – Special Status Species Avoidance Buffers or through seasonal timing (AMM-2 – Schedule/Timing of Work). Any individuals that can be avoided and left free of harm should be left undisturbed. If avoidance is not possible, the qualified biologist should capture individual turtles and relocate them to nearby, suitable habitat a minimum of 300 feet downstream from the work area.

The proposed project should generally be completed outside the nesting bird season with project activities limited to the periods when the majority of the channel is dry and is not exhibiting flow; ideal conditions are generally between September 15 and December 31 (AMM-2 – Schedule/Timing of Work). The City expects no nesting bird activity should be occurring during project implementation. If work does occur during the nesting season, the qualified biologist, should conduct a pre-activity survey, to ensure no late-season nesting activity is occurring, and to detect any existing inactive nests. The survey should cover an area not less than the project site, which

provides at minimum a 50-foot buffer from the project footprint. The survey should be completed no less than 14 days prior to the start of project activities.

AMM-5 – Nesting Birds

If project activities will occur between February 1 and September 15, within the nesting bird season, the following AMMs should be implemented.

- Any nests encountered should be identified to nearest taxonomic level possible, activity status should be determined, and the nest location should be mapped with a Geographic Information System (GIS) unit and marked in the field. Field marks should include high visibility flagging located so as to not disturb the nest.
- If an inactive nest is found, a qualified biologist should determine if avoidance of the nest is feasible and should establish a minimum suitable vegetation buffer around the nest to the maximum extent practicable. If avoidance is not practicable, the qualified biologist should oversee removal of the nest.
- If an active nest is found, a qualified biologist should establish an avoidance buffer appropriate to the species, see AMM-6– Special Status Species Avoidance Buffers. No project activities should occur within the avoidance buffer until and only if a qualified biologist has determined the nest is no longer active. Avoidance buffers should be clearly delineated with highly reflective flagging or similar material.
- Buffer distances from the nest may be adjusted up or down in consultation with CDFW and USFWS. Buffer distances may be increased if a subject bird is displaying any signs of stress due to project activities. Buffer distances may be decreased if needed to adequately conduct project activities and if the subject bird is not displaying any signs of stress due to project activity.
- Upon completion of project activities, all nest and nest buffer markings and flagging should be removed.
- Survey results should be summarized in a report prepared by the qualified biologist and provided to the City of Port Hueneme prior to undertaking vegetation removal activities at the site.

AMM-6 – Special Status Species Avoidance Buffers

If any special status species are detected during pre-activity surveys, avoidance buffers should be established according to species. Typical avoidance buffers are as follows:

- All raptor nests should be avoided by no less than 300 feet
- All non-raptor bird nests should be avoided by no less than 150 feet
- All areas where special status reptiles or mammals are identified should be avoided by no less than 50 feet.

AMM-7 – Species Capture and Relocation

To minimize impacts to special status species, the capture and relocation of individuals should be implemented only in the event that impacts cannot be avoided while undertaking project activities. No special status bird species should be relocated because of the higher susceptibility of birds to stress, and the difficulty involved in capture and transport of birds. No federal or state threatened or endangered or candidate species should be captured or otherwise handled. The capture and relocation of individuals should be implemented using the best available approach, based on

current professional literature, resource agency guidance, and expert experience, for capture, handling, and relocation.

The capture and relocation should safely capture and relocate special status species, primarily western pond turtle. Prior to the start of any project activity that should potentially require the capture and relocation of special status species, a qualified biologist should be provided with the WEAT material and conduct surveys (AMM-3– Worker Environmental Awareness Training and AMM-4– Pre-activity Surveys) of the project site for the presence of special status species that could occur in or could be impacted by the project. If not already identified, the surveys should also identify suitable relocation sites based on physical essential habitat characteristics and species presence at relocation sites. Only qualified biologists assigned by City's Environmental Services staff should conduct capture and relocation activities. All capture and relocation activities should be documented.

During capture and relocation activities, it is anticipated that native non-special status species should be incidentally encountered and may require relocation to suitable habitats away from the project site. Relocation sites for native non-special status species may be within the immediate area if return to the project site during covered activities is not expected. Capture and relocation should occur only in the event special status species could be directly affected by project activities.

Any individuals encountered in the study area that require relocation to avoid project-related impacts should be captured in a manner deemed safe for the given species. Individuals should be captured and handled only by experienced qualified biologist designated by City Environmental Services staff. Individuals captured for relocation should be handled and temporarily housed in a manner deemed safe for the given species. Fresh substrate and water should be made available if housing persists for greater than four hours (not expected). All captured individuals should be released at the pre-determined relocation site within the same day. Individuals should be released at the relocation site near cover/shelter and away from areas that should make them immediately vulnerable to predation or other harm.

AMM-8 – Biological Monitoring

If any special status species are determined to be present during the pre-activity survey (AMM-3– Worker Environmental Awareness Training and AMM-4– Pre-activity Surveys), a qualified biological monitor should be contracted by the City prior to conducting vegetation removal activities. At a minimum, qualified monitors should be able to demonstrate applied experience with special status species, including ability to identify the species, experience with the species' biological life history and behavior, experience with detection of the species in its natural habitat, and experience coordinating with project personnel in avoidance of impacts to special status species. Experience with handling of special status species is not required for biological monitors; however, if such experience is lacking, the biological monitor should not handle special status species. Handling of special status species for any reason should only be performed by qualified biologists with demonstrated relevant experience.

The contracted qualified biologist should be present to monitor during all vegetation removal activities occurring within or adjacent to habitat areas where special status species are known to be present. The monitor's responsibilities include observing and documenting project activities, and providing recommendations designed to avoid or minimize potential impacts to special status species and ensure compliance with any applicable permits. The monitor should retain stop-work authority for instances when special status species are observed to be at risk. If project activities do

not have the potential to result in impacts to special status species, no biological monitoring would be required, and trained City staff would be able to complete the project activity.

AMM-9 – Invasive Species Management

During implementation of project activities, BMPs should be in place to avoid and minimize the introduction and spread of invasive species. These BMPs include ensuring all vehicles, equipment, tools, and sediment and erosion control activities are free of invasive plant and animal species. Invasive species management protocols should be implemented for all renovation related activities that occur within the Bubbling Springs channel, riparian, and riverine habitat.

The following BMPs should be implemented during all project activities:

- BMPs for invasive species management should be implemented when biological surveys are required (e.g., pre-activity surveys) in aquatic habitats suitable for covered species.
- All equipment should be washed at an off-site location approved by City, before entering the project site, to ensure equipment is free of mud, algae, snails, or other debris.
- All equipment should be inspected to ensure equipment is free of mud or other debris that could contain invasive species.
- All soils, seed mix (e.g., for habitat restoration), or other material should be certified free of invasive species before being imported or exported to or from the project site.

7 Limitations, Assumptions, and Use Reliance

This Biological Resources Assessment has been performed in accordance with professionally accepted biological investigation practices conducted at this time and in this geographic area. The biological investigation is limited by the scope of work performed. Reconnaissance biological surveys for certain taxa may have been conducted as part of this assessment but were not performed during a particular blooming period, nesting period, or particular portion of the season when positive identification should be expected if present, and therefore, cannot be considered definitive. The biological surveys are limited also by the environmental conditions present at the time of the surveys. In addition, general biological (or protocol) surveys do not guarantee that the organisms are not present and will not be discovered in the future within the site. In particular, mobile wildlife species could occupy the site on a transient basis or re-establish populations in the future. Our field studies were based on current industry practices, which change over time and may not be applicable in the future. No other guarantees or warranties, expressed or implied, are provided. The findings and opinions conveyed in this report are based on findings derived from site reconnaissance, jurisdictional areas, review of CNDDB RareFind5, and specified historical and literature sources. Standard data sources relied upon during the completion of this report, such as the CNDDB, may vary with regard to accuracy and completeness. In particular, the CNDDB is compiled from research and observations reported to CDFW that may or may not have been the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Although Rincon believes the data sources are reasonably reliable, Rincon cannot and does not guarantee the authenticity or reliability of the data sources it has used. Additionally, pursuant to our contract, the data sources reviewed included only those that are practically reviewable without the need for extraordinary research and analysis.

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Appendix A

Site Photographs

Photograph 1. View of southern portion of Bubbling Springs near J Street Pump Station. Ice plant dominates Bubbling Springs banks and the area beyond banks is paved. Aspect: northwest. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 2. View of J Street Pump Station at the southern end of Bubbling Springs. Aspect: east. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 3. View of Bubbling Springs from Port Hueneme Road with bulrush on banks. Note dark color and high opacity of water indicating low water quality. Aspect: southeast. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 4. View of Bubbling Springs north of Port Hueneme Road and south of Moranda Park. Western pond turtle was observed in this section of Bubbling Springs. Aspect: north. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 5. View of cattail marsh within Bubbling Springs south of Port Hueneme Road. Note drain exiting into Bubbling Springs from eastern bank. Aspect: north. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 6. View of Bubbling Springs dominated by cattail marsh south of Joyce Drive. Aspect: southeast. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 7. View of culverted section of Bubbling Springs between Joyce Drive and East Clara Street from Joyce Drive. Aspect: north. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 8. Representative view of Bubbling Springs dominated by non-native plant species in the tree, shrub, and herbaceous layers. Aspect: south. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 9. Unnamed drainage in Bubbling Springs Park exiting into Bubbling Springs. Aspect: northwest. Date: 8/4/21.

Photograph 10. View of Bubbling Springs dominated by cattails in Bubbling Springs Park with recreational fields on either side of Bubbling Springs. Aspect: south. Date: 8/4/21.

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Appendix B

Floral and Faunal Compendium

Plant Species Observed Within the Study Area on August 4, 2021

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
Plants			
Acacia melanoxylon	blackwood acacia	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Achillea millefolium	yarrow	–	Native
Agapanthus sp.	lily of the Nile	–	Introduced
Ambrosia chamissonis	silver beachweed	–	Native
Ambrosia psilostachya	ragweed	–	Native
Anemopsis californica	yerba mansa	–	Native
Araucaria sp.	Norfolk Island pine	–	Introduced
Artemisia douglasii	mugwort	–	Native
Arum sp.	Solomon's lily	–	Introduced
Asparagus aethiopicus	asparagus fern	–	Introduced
Atriplex semibaccata	Australian saltbush	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Baccharis pilularis	coyote brush	–	Native
Bromus diandrus	ripgut brome	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Bromus hordeaceus	soft chess	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Callistemon citrinus	crimson bottlebrush	–	Introduced
Calystegia macrostegia	bindweed	–	Native
Camissoniopsis cheiranthifolia	beach evening primrose	–	Native
Carpobrotus edulis	iceplant	Invasive; Cal-IPC High	Introduced
Chenopodium murale	nettle leaf goosefoot	–	Introduced
Convolvulus arvensis	morning glory	–	Introduced
Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda grass	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Cyperus involucratus	umbrella plant	–	Introduced
Datura wrightii	jimsonweed	–	Native
Delairea odorata	Cape ivy	Invasive; Cal-IPC High	Introduced
Distichlis spicata	saltgrass	–	Native
Eleusine coracana	African millet	–	Introduced
Epilobium ciliatum	willow herb	–	Native
Erigeron bonariensis	flax-leaved horseweed	–	Introduced
Erythranthe cardinalis	cardinal monkeyflower	–	Native
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	–	Native
Eucalyptus camaldulensis	red gum	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Eucalyptus globulus	blue gum	Invasive; Cal-IPC LImited	Introduced
Eucalyptus polyanthemos	silver dollar gum	–	Introduced
Euphorbia maculata	spotted spurge	–	Introduced
Ficus religiosa	sacred fig	–	Introduced
Hedera helix	English ivy	Invasive; Cal-IPC High	Introduced
Heliotropium curassavicum	wild heliotrope	–	Native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
Hirschfeldia incana	summer mustard	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Hordeum murinum	foxtail barley	Invasive: Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Iris sp.	iris	–	Introduced
Jacaranda mimosifolia	jacaranda	–	Introduced
Lactuca serriola	prickly lettuce	–	Introduced
Lemna sp.	duckweed	–	Native
Leptochloa fusca	sprangletop	–	Native
Limonium californicum	marsh rosemary	–	Native
Ludwigia hexapetala	six petal water primrose	Invasive; Cal-IPC High	Introduced
Lysimachia arvensis	scarlet pimpernel	–	Introduced
Malva nicaeensis	bull mallow	–	Introduced
Melilotus albus	white sweetclover	–	Introduced
Myoporum laetum	lollypop tree	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Nandina domestica	sacred bamboo	–	Introduced
Nasturtium officinale	watercress	–	Native
Pennisetum clandestinum	kikuyu grass	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Pennisetum setaceum	fountain grass	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Petroselinum crispum	parsley	–	Introduced
Pinus sp.	pine	–	Introduced
Plantago lanceolatum	English plantain	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Plantago majo	common plantain	–	Introduced
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	–	Native
Plumbago auriculata	cape leadwort	–	Introduced
Poa annua	annual blue grass	–	Introduced
Podocarpus macrophyllus	fern pine	–	Introduced
Polygonum aviculare	knotweed	–	Introduced
Polypogon monspeliensis	rabbitsfoot grass	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Prunus domestica	plum	–	Introduced
Robinia pseudoacacia	black locust	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Rumex crispus	curly dock	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Salix lasiolepis	arroyo willow	–	Native
Salsola tragus	Russian thistle	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Schinus molle	Peruvian pepper	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Schinus terebinthifolius	Brazilian pepper	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush	–	Native
Sonchus oleraceus	sow thistle	–	Introduced
Stipa miliacea	smilo grass	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced
Taraxacum officinale	dandelion	–	Introduced
Tetragonia tertragonioides	New Zealand spinach	Invasive; Cal-IPC Limited	Introduced

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
Trifolium fragiferum	strawberry clover	–	Native
Typha angustifolia	narrow leaf cattail	–	Introduced
Typha latifolia	broad leaf cattail	–	Native
Washingtonia robusta	Mexican fan palm	Invasive; Cal-IPC Moderate	Introduced

Source: Rincon Consultants field survey on August 4, 2021; Calflora 2021; Jepson Flora Project 2021; California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) 2021, which rates introduced species according to their level of invasiveness; CDFW Special Animals List 2021

Animal Species Observed Within the Study Area on August 4, 2021

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Native or Introduced
Reptiles			
Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	CDFW SSC	Native
Trachemys scripta elegans	red eared slider	Invasive	Introduced
Birds			
Anas platyrhynchos	mallard	–	Native
Ardea alba	great egret	–	Native
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird	–	Native
Columba livia	rock pigeon	–	Introduced
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow	–	Native
Egretta thula	snowy egret	–	Native
Haemorhous mexicanus	house finch	–	Native
Larus occidentalis	western gull	–	Native
Mammals			
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel	–	Native

Source: Rincon Consultants field survey on August 4, 2021; CDFW Invasive Species Program 2021; CDFW Special Animals List 2021

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Appendix C

Special Status Species Evaluation Tables

Special Status Plant Species in the Regional Vicinity of the Project Site

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CRPR	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Aphanisma blitoides aphanisma	None/None G3G4/S2 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub. On bluffs and slopes near the ocean in sandy or clay soils. 1-305m. Blooms Feb-Jun.	No Potential	No coastal bluff, coastal dune, or coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks bluffs. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Astragalus brauntonii Braunton's milk-vetch	FE/None G2/S2 1B.1	Perennial herb. Blooms January to August. Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coast scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Recent burns or disturbed areas; in saline, somewhat alkaline soils high in Ca, Mg, with some K. Soil specialist; requires shallow soils to defeat pocket gophers and open areas, preferably on hilltops, saddles or bowls between hills. 200-650m (655-2130ft).	No Potential	No coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Astragalus didymocarpus var. *milesianus* Miles' milk-vetch	None/None G5T2/S2 1B.2	Occurs in clay substrates within coastal scrub. This species blooms between March and June, and typically occurs at elevations ranging from 20-90 meters.	No Potential	No coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Astragalus pycnostachyus var. *lanosissimus* Ventura Marsh milk-vetch	FE/SE G2T1/S1 1B.1	Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Marshes and swamps. Within reach of high tide or protected by barrier beaches, more rarely near seeps on sandy bluffs. 1-35m. Blooms (Jun)Aug-Oct.	Low Potential	Cattail marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Atriplex coulteri Coulter's saltbush	None/None G3/S1S2 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland. Ocean bluffs, ridgetops, as well as alkaline low places. Alkaline or clay soils. 3-460m. Blooms Mar-Oct.	No Potential	No coastal bluff, coastal dune, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks bluffs and ridgetops. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CRPR	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Atriplex pacifica south coast saltscale	None/None G4/S2 1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Playas. Alkali soils. 0-140m. Blooms Mar-Oct.	No Potential	No coastal bluff, coastal dune, coastal scrub, or playa habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Atriplex serenana var. *davidsonii* Davidson's saltscale	None/None G5T1/S1 1B.2	Annual herb. Blooms April to October. Coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub. Alkaline soil. 3-250m (10-820ft).	No Potential	No coastal bluff or coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis slender mariposa-lily	None/None G4T2T3/S2S3 1B.2	Perennial bulbiferous herb. Blooms March to June. Chaparral, coastal scrub. Shaded foothill canyons; often on grassy slopes within other habitats. 420-760m (1380-2495ft).	No Potential	No chaparral or coastal scrub habitat in shaded foothill canyons occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Calochortus fimbriatus late-flowered mariposa-lily	None/None G3/S3 1B.3	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Riparian woodland. Dry, open coastal woodland, chaparral; on serpentine. 275-1905m. Blooms Jun-Aug.	No Potential	No chaparral or woodland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks serpentine substrates. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Calochortus plummerae Plummer's mariposa-lily	None/None G4/S4 4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley, and foothill grassland. Occurs on rocky and sandy sites, usually of granitic or alluvial material. Can be very common after fire. 100-1700m. Blooms May-Jul.	No Potential	No chaparral, woodland, coastal scrub, coniferous forest, or grassland occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Calystegia peirsonii Peirson's morning-glory	None/None G4/S4 4.2	Chaparral, Chenopod scrub, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley and foothill grassland. Often in disturbed areas or along roadsides or in grassy, open areas. 30-1500m. Blooms Apr-Jun.	No Potential	No chaparral, chenopod scrub, woodland, coastal scrub, coniferous forest, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CRPR	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Chaenactis glabriuscula var. *orcuttiana* Orcutt's pincushion	None/None G5T1T2/S1 1B.1	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes. Sandy sites. 0-100m. Blooms Jan-Aug.	No Potential	No coastal bluff or coastal dune habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Chloropyron maritimum ssp. *maritimum* salt marsh bird's-beak	FE/SE G4?T1/S1 1B.2	Occurs in coastal dunes and coastal salt marshes and swamps. This species blooms between May and October, and typically occurs at elevations ranging from 0-30 meters.	Low Potential	Cattail marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Cistanthe maritima seaside cistanthe	None/None G3G4/S3 4.2	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland. Sea bluffs; sandy sites. 5-300m. Blooms (Feb)Mar-Jun(Aug).	No Potential	No coastal bluff, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks bluffs. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Corethrogyne leucophylla branching beach aster	None/None G3Q/S3 3.2	Closed-cone coniferous forest, Coastal dunes. 3-60m. Blooms May-Dec.	No Potential	No coniferous forest or coastal dune habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Dichondra occidentalis western dichondra	None/None G3G4/S3S4 4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland. On sandy loam, clay, and rocky soils. 50-500m. Blooms (Jan)Mar-Jul.	No Potential	No chaparral, woodland, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. *blochmaniae* Blochman's dudleya	None/None G3T2/S2 1B.1	Occurs in rocky, often clay or serpentinite substrates within coastal bluff scrub, chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. This species blooms between April and June, and typically occurs at elevations ranging from 5-450 meters.	No Potential	No coastal bluff, chaparral, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks serpentinite substrates. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CRPR	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Dudleya verityi Verity's dudleya	FT/None G1/S1 1B.1	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub. On volcanic rock outcrops in the Santa Monica Mountains. 60-120m. Blooms May-Jun.	No Potential	No chaparral, woodland, or coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks volcanic rock outcrops and is not within the Santa Monica Mountains. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Eriogonum crocatum conejo buckwheat	None/SR G1/S1 1B.2	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland. Conejo volcanic outcrops; rocky sites. 50-580m. Blooms Apr-Jul.	No Potential	No chaparral, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks volcanic substrates. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Erysimum insulare island wallflower	None/None G3/S3 1B.3	Coastal bluff scrub, Coastal dunes. Mesas and cliffs. 0-300m. Blooms Mar-Jul.	No Potential	No coastal bluff or coastal dune habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks mesas and cliffs. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri* Coulter's goldfields	None/None G4T2/S2 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms February to June. Coastal salt marshes, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Usually found on alkaline soils in playas, sinks, and grasslands. 1-1400m (3-4595ft).	No Potential	No coastal salt marsh, playa, grassland, or vernal pool habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Malacothrix similis Mexican malacothrix	None/None G2G3/SH 2A	Coastal dunes. 0-40m. Blooms Apr-May.	No Potential	No coastal dune habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. *hypoleuca* white-veined monardella	None/None G4T3/S3 1B.3	Perennial herb. Blooms April to December. Chaparral, cismontane woodland. Dry slopes. 50-1525m (165-5005ft).	No Potential	No chaparral or woodland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Monardella sinuata ssp. *gerryi* Gerry's curly-leaved monardella	None/None G3T1/S1 1B.1	Coastal scrub. Sandy openings. 150-245m. Blooms Apr-Jun.	No Potential	No coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CRPR	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Navarretia ojaiensis Ojai navarretia	None/None G2/S2 1B.1	Annual herb. Blooms May to July. Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Openings in shrublands or grasslands. Typically occurs on clay soils. 275-620m (900-2035ft).	No Potential	No chaparral, coastal scrub, or grassland habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum white rabbit-tobacco	None/None G4/S2 2B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian woodland. Sandy, gravelly sites. 0-2100m. Blooms (Jul)Aug-Nov(Dec).	No Potential	No chaparral, woodland, or coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Senecio aphanactis chaparral ragwort	None/None G3/S2 2B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub. Drying alkaline flats. 15-800m. Blooms Jan Apr(May).	No Potential	No chaparral, woodland, or coastal scrub habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area lacks drying alkaline flats. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Suaeda californica California seablite	FE/None G1/S1 1B.1	Marshes and swamps. Margins of coastal salt marshes. 0-15m. Blooms Jul-Oct.	Low Potential	Cattail marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Suaeda esteroa estuary seablite	None/None G3/S2 1B.2	Marshes and swamps. Coastal salt marshes in clay, silt, and sand substrates. 0-5m. Blooms (Jan-May)Jul-Oct.	Low Potential	Cattail marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Texosporium sancti-jacobi woven-spored lichen	None/None G3/S2 3	Chaparral. Open sites; in California with Adenostoma fasciculatum, Eriogonum, Selaginella. Found on soil, small mammal pellets, dead twigs, and on Selaginella. 60-660m.	No Potential	No chaparral habitat occurs within the Study Area. Associated California species *Adenostoma fasciculatum*, *Eriogonum*, and *Selaginella* were not observed within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Regional Vicinity refers to within a 9-quad search radius of site.

Status (Federal/State)

FE = Federal Endangered
FT = Federal Threatened
FPE = Federal Proposed Endangered
FPT = Federal Proposed Threatened
FD = Federal Delisted
FC = Federal Candidate
SE = State Endangered
ST = State Threatened

CRPR (CNPS California Rare Plant Rank)

1A = Presumed extirpated in California, and rare or extinct elsewhere
1B = Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere
2A = Presumed extirpated in California, but common elsewhere
2B= Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

SCE = State Candidate Endangered
SCT = State Candidate Threatened
SR = State Rare
SD = State Delisted
SSC = CDFW Species of Special Concern
FP = CDFW Fully Protected
WL = CDFW Watch List

CRPR Threat Code Extension
.1 = Seriously endangered in California (>80% of occurrences threatened/ high degree and immediacy of threat)
.2 = Moderately threatened in California (20-80% of occurrences threatened/ moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
.3 = Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened/ low degree and immediacy of threat)

Other Statuses
G1 or S1 Critically Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G2 or S2 Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G3 or S3 Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction Globally or Subnationally (state)
G4/5 or S4/5 Apparently secure, common and abundant
GH or SH Possibly Extirpated – missing; known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery

Additional notations may be provided as follows
T – Intraspecific Taxon (subspecies, varieties, and other designations below the level of species)
Q – Questionable taxonomy that may reduce conservation priority
? – Inexact numeric rank

Special Status Animal Species in the Regional Vicinity of the Project Site

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CDFW	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Invertebrates				
Bombus crotchii Crotch bumble bee	None/SCE G3G4/S1S2	Coastal California east to the Sierra-Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Food plant genera include Antirrhinum, Phacelia, Clarkia, Dendromecon, Eschscholzia, and Eriogonum.	No Potential	No food plant genera occur within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed. Additionally, in December of 2020 the courts provided a final ruling granting a writ of mandate setting aside the June 2019 candidate petition listing for the Crotch bumble bee and the species is no longer afforded protection under CESA
Danaus plexippus pop. 1 monarch - California overwintering population	FC/None G4T2T3/S2S3	Winter roost sites extend along the coast from northern Mendocino to Baja California, Mexico. Roosts located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress), with nectar and water sources nearby.	Low Potential	Eucalyptus occurs within the Study Area but does not occur in groves. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Fish				
Eucyclogobius newberryi tidewater goby	FE/None G3/S3	Brackish water habitats along the California coast from Agua Hedionda Lagoon, San Diego County to the mouth of the Smith River. Found in shallow lagoons and lower stream reaches, they need fairly still but not stagnant water and high oxygen levels.	Low Potential	One CNDDB occurrence from 1995 in Tsumas Creek. Bubbling Springs and Tsumas Creek are separated by Ventura County Watershed Protection District infrastructure (J Street Pump Station). When Bubbling Springs drains into Tsumas Creek flowers are channeled through pipes which creates velocities too high for tidewater goby to pass.
Reptiles				
Anniella stebbinsi Southern California legless lizard	None/None G3/S3 SSC	Generally south of the Transverse Range, extending to northwestern Baja California. Occurs in sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation. Disjunct populations in the Tehachapi and Piute Mountains in Kern County. Variety of habitats; generally in moist, loose soil. They prefer soils with a high moisture content.	Low Potential	Sandy and loamy soils occur within the Study Area; however, the terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CDFW	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Emys marmorata western pond turtle	None/None G3G4/S3 SSC	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation. Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.	Present	Western pond turtle was observed basking on the banks of Bubbling Springs south of Moranda Park.
Phrynosoma blainvillii coast horned lizard	None/None G3G4/S3S4 SSC	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes. Open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and abundant supply of ants and other insects.	No Potential	No sandy wash habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Birds				
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	None/None G4/S3 SSC	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No grassland, desert, or scrubland habitat occurs within the Study Area. Prey species are likely present, however, the terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Buteo regalis ferruginous hawk	None/None G4/S3S4 WL	Open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills and fringes of pinyon and juniper habitats. Eats mostly lagomorphs, ground squirrels, and mice. Population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No grassland, sagebrush, desert, pinyon, or juniper habitat occurs within the Study Area. Prey species are likely present, however, the terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed.
Charadrius nivosus western snowy plover	FT/None G3T3/S2 SSC	Sandy beaches, salt pond levees & shores of large alkali lakes. Needs sandy, gravelly or friable soils for nesting.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No breeding habitat occurs within the Study Area. The southern-most portion of the Study Area is adjacent to a CNNDB occurrence in Ormond Beach mapped to a non-specific area, however, the terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed. Foraging western snowy plover have low potential to occur.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CDFW	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis western yellow-billed cuckoo	FT/SE G5T2T3/S1	Riparian forest nester, along the broad, lower flood-bottoms of larger river systems. Nests in riparian jungles of willow, often mixed with cottonwoods, with lower story of blackberry, nettles, or wild grape.	No Potential - Breeding and Foraging	No riparian forest or willow jungle habitat occurs within the Study Area. The Study Area occurs within a possibly extirpated historic (1936) CNDDB occurrence. No other CNDDB records are reported within 5 miles of the Study Area.
Falco peregrinus anatum American peregrine falcon	FD/SD G4T4/S3S4 FP	Near wetlands, lakes, rivers, or other water; on cliffs, banks, dunes, mounds; also, human-made structures. Nest consists of a scrape or a depression or ledge in an open site.	Low Potential - Breeding and Foraging	No cliffs, banks, dunes, or mound habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed containing human-made structures.
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus California black rail	None/ST G3G4T1/S1 FP	Inhabits freshwater marshes, wet meadows and shallow margins of saltwater marshes bordering larger bays. Needs water depths of about 1 inch that do not fluctuate during the year and dense vegetation for nesting habitat.	Low Potential - Breeding and Foraging	The Study Area contains freshwater marshes and dense vegetation (cattails). The Study Area occurs within a possibly extirpated, historic (1936) CNDDB occurrence. No other CNDDB records are reported within 5 miles of the Study Area.
Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi Belding's savannah sparrow	None/SE G5T3/S3	Inhabits coastal salt marshes, from Santa Barbara south through San Diego County. Nests in Salicornia on and about margins of tidal flats.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No Salicornia nesting habitat occurs within the Study Area. Two CNDDB occurrences mapped to non-specific areas are recorded to southeast near Ormond Beach and Point Mugu.
Rallus obsoletus levipes light-footed Ridgway's rail	FE/SE G3T1T2/S1 FP	Found in salt marshes traversed by tidal sloughs, where cordgrass and pickleweed are the dominant vegetation. Requires dense growth of either pickleweed or cordgrass for nesting or escape cover; feeds on molluscs and crustaceans.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No saltmarsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. One CNNDB occurrence within 5 miles recorded to the southeast near Point Mugu with non-specific accuracy.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status Fed/State ESA CDFW	Habitat Requirements	Potential to Occur	Rationale
Sternula antillarum browni California least tern	FE/SE G4T2T3Q/S2 FP	Nests along the coast from San Francisco Bay south to northern Baja California. Colonial breeder on bare or sparsely vegetated, flat substrates: sand beaches, alkali flats, landfills, or paved areas.	Low Potential - Breeding and Foraging	The Study Area is landscaped and developed with paved areas; however, paved areas are heavily used by vehicle and foot traffic. Multiple CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles including one to the southeast near Ormond Beach mapped with non-specific accuracy.
Vireo bellii pusillus least Bell's vireo	FE/SE G5T2/S2	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 ft. Nests placed along margins of bushes or on twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, Baccharis, mesquite.	No Potential – Breeding; Low Potential - Foraging	No riparian forest habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed. The nearest CNNDB occurrence is approximately 3.7 miles northeast of the Study Area, the nesting status was not determined for this occurrence.
Mammals				
Microtus californicus stephensi south coast marsh vole	None/None G5T2T3/S1S2 SSC	Occurs in tidal marshes of Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties.	No Potential	No tidal marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed. One CNDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the Study Area is historic (1941) and mapped with non-specific accuracy to the southeast near Point Mugu.
Sorex ornatus salicornicus southern California saltmarsh shrew	None/None G5T1/S1 SSC	Coastal marshes in Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. Requires dense vegetation and woody debris for cover.	No Potential	No coastal marsh habitat occurs within the Study Area. The terrestrial portion of the Study Area is entirely landscaped and developed. One CNDDB occurrence within 5 miles of the Study Area is historic (1941) and mapped with non-specific accuracy to the southeast near Point Mugu.

Regional Vicinity refers to within a 9-quad search radius of site.

Status (Federal/State)
FE = Federal Endangered
FT = Federal Threatened
FPE = Federal Proposed Endangered
FPT = Federal Proposed Threatened
FD = Federal Delisted
FC = Federal Candidate
SE = State Endangered

CRPR (CNPS California Rare Plant Rank)
1A = Presumed extirpated in California, and rare or extinct elsewhere
1B = Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere
2A = Presumed extirpated in California, but common elsewhere
2B= Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere
3 = Need more information (Review List)
4 = Limited Distribution (Watch List)

ST = State Threatened
SCE = State Candidate Endangered
SCT = State Candidate Threatened
SR = State Rare
SD = State Delisted
SSC = CDFW Species of Special Concern
FP = CDFW Fully Protected
WL = CDFW Watch List

CRPR Threat Code Extension
.1 = Seriously endangered in California (>80% of occurrences threatened/ high degree and immediacy of threat)
.2 = Moderately threatened in California (20-80% of occurrences threatened/ moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
.3 = Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened/ low degree and immediacy of threat)

Other Statuses
G1 or S1 Critically Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G2 or S2 Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G3 or S3 Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction Globally or Subnationally (state)
G4/5 or S4/5 Apparently secure, common and abundant
GH or SH Possibly Extirpated – missing; known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery

Additional notations may be provided as follows
T – Intraspecific Taxon (subspecies, varieties, and other designations below the level of species)
Q – Questionable taxonomy that may reduce conservation priority
? – Inexact numeric rank

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Appendix D

Regulatory Framework

Regulatory Framework

Federal Regulations

Federal regulations include the ESA passed by Congress in 1973 to protect and recover imperiled species and the habitat upon which they depend. The lead federal agencies for implementing ESA are the City States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Section 9 of the ESA prohibits the "take" of species listed by USFWS and NMFS as threatened or endangered. In addition to the ESA, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act prohibits take of bald or golden eagles, including their nests and eggs. And the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits take, including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport, of protected migratory bird species.

The City States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the City States under Section 404 of the Clean Waters Act (CWA). The term "discharge of dredged material" means any addition of dredged material into, including redeposit of dredged material other than incidental fallback within, the waters of the City States.

The EPA and the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) regulate surface water quality in waters of the City States under Section 401 of the CWA. The objective is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. Clean Water Act Section 401 states before issuing a license or permit resulting in any discharge to waters of the City States, an applicant for a federal permit or license must obtain a certification noting the discharge is consistent with the CWA from the EPA/Tribe/State where the proposed project is located, including attainment of applicable water quality standards, is required.

State Regulations

State regulations include CEQA, under Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), which requires state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible. This statute provides protection for federal and/or state listed species, as well as species not listed but that may be considered rare, threated, or endangered if the species can be shown to meet specific criteria for listing outlined in CCR Section 15380(b). Public Resources Code Section 21084 requires the state CEQA Guidelines to include a list of classes of projects having been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and that are, therefore, exempt from CEQA (see Chapter 19 Sections 15301 through 15333 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) protects native species of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, and plants, and their habitats, threatened with extinction and those experiencing a significant decline. The CDFW may authorize the take of any such species if certain conditions are met. Incidental take permits (ITPs) can be authorized under Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code (CFGC), which allows CDFW to authorize take of species listed as endangered, threatened, candidate, or a rare plant, if take is incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Sections of the CFGC designate fully protected species for which no take authorization can be provided, except under special circumstances. Fully protected species sections include 3511 (birds), 4700 (mammals), 5050 (reptiles and amphibians), and 5515 (fish).

In addition to CESA, several sections of the CFGC provide varying levels of protection for species. Section 3503 of the CFGC generally protects birds, including their nests and eggs, against take, possession, or destruction; Section 3503.5 of the CFGC specifically protects birds of prey, including their nests and eggs against take, possession, or destruction; and Section 3515 of the CFGC incorporates restrictions imposed by the MBTA with respect to migratory birds (which consists of most native bird species). Section 5901 provides for the protection of fish by prohibiting the construction of any device in a stream that should prevent, impede, or tend to prevent or impede, the passing of fish up and down stream. Section 5931 requires the furnishing of a suitable fish passage in the event movement up and down stream may be impeded by a device constructed in a stream. Section 5937 further provides for the protection of fish by requiring sufficient flows of water to pass over, around, or through a dam so as to keep in good condition any fish that may exist below the structure.

California Fish and Game Code Section 1600 et. seq. requires all diversions, obstructions, or changes to the natural flow of bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake in California are subject to the regulatory authority of the CDFW and require preparation of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSA). If work is necessary to protect life or property; or immediate repairs to public service facilities are necessary to maintain service as a result of a disaster in an area in which the Governor has proclaimed a state of emergency an emergency notification must be submitted in writing within 14 days of beginning emergency project/work.

The SWRCB and the local Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) have jurisdiction over waters of the state, pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, which are defined as any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.

Appendix C

Noise Modeling

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 11/15/2021
Case Description:

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA) Daytime	Evening	Night
Residential	Residential	65.0	45.0	45.0

Equipment

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Backhoe	No	40		77.6	50.0	0.0

Results

Noise Limits (dBA)

Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)

Equipment	Calculated (dBA) Day Lmax	Day Leq	Evening Lmax	Evening Leq	Night Lmax	Night Leq	Day Lmax	Day Leq	Evening Lmax	Evening Leq	Night Lmax	Night Leq
Backhoe	77.6	73.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	77.6	73.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A