

# Appendix B-2

Harley Knox Warehouse Project, Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Consistency Analysis

Noreas Inc

June 2022

# Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Consistency Analysis

# **Harley Knox Warehouse Project**

## **Prepared for:**

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APNs 302-100-002 and 302-100-007.

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#### 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed Harley Knox Warehouse Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Project") consists of the construction of a 143,168 square foot industrial building, landscaping, parking, and drive aisles on an unimproved piece of land. The building will not exceed a maximum height of 45 feet. Eighty-eight vehicular parking stalls would be provided where 56 are required, in addition to 4 bicycle parking stalls. Twenty-five truck dock positions shall also be provided with 37 trailer parking stalls - delivered within a 14-foot-high concrete screen walled, truck court. Guard booths will be located at the gated entries to the truck court. General location of the Project is 150 Harley Knox Blvd, at the northwest corner of Harley Knox Blvd and Las Palmas Avenue in Perris, California (Figures 1 and 2). For the purposes of this document, the "study area" includes the Project's proposed ground disturbance footprint (hereafter referred to as the Project Site), and a buffer (Figure 2). Additionally, the Project is located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), within the Mead Valley Area Plan and the San Jacinto Habitat Management Unit. The Project Site is not within the boundaries of any MSHCP established Subunit, Cell Group, Criteria Cell, Public/Quasi-Public Land, Linkages/Cores, Conserved Lands, or Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) Easements (Figures 3 and 4).

The Project limits of work only include 7.87-acres of developed, anthropogenically disturbed, and ruderal land cover types (Figure 5). The study area for the Project extended beyond its 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint, and included roughly 53-acres. According to the RCA MSHCP Information Map, Project limits lie partially or completely within predetermined survey areas for the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), narrow endemic and criteria area sensitive plant species. But the Project is not within a survey area for amphibians or mammals.

In 2012 the MSHCP mapped the vegetation within the Project Site as Developed/Disturbed Lands (GISD 2021, Figure 6). In 2021 and 2022, no burrowing owl, no narrow endemic and no criteria area sensitive plant species were observed within the study area, but two vegetation communities/land cover types were detected within the Project Site: Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed. Furthermore, based on the results of the 2021 ad 2022 habitat assessments and field surveys, potential habitat is not present within the study area for MSHCP narrow endemic, or criteria area sensitive plant species.

Additionally, no federal- or state-listed flora or fauna were observed within the study area during the 2021 and 2022 field surveys. To that end, the Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint (Project Site) is comprised of developed, disturbed and/or non-native land cover types. To that end, the Project is not collocated with any United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) designated critical habitat (Figure 9), nor were any special status species detected during the 2021 or 2022 field surveys. No nesting birds, remnant raptor nests, or bat guano have been detected within the Project Site either. The Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint has little value as suitable breeding / nesting, and foraging habitat for native species. Furthermore, the Project Site has limited – if any, value as a low-quality migration corridor or overland dispersal habitat for wildlife, because it is severely movement constrained by the surrounding residential, industrial and commercial developments, and public infrastructure.

The target conservation acreage range for the Mead Valley Area Plan is 4,980 to 6,730 acres composed of approximately 3,095 acres of existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands and 1,885 - 3,635 acres of Additional Reserve Lands. The City of Perris is located entirely within the Mead Valley Area Plan. The target acreage range within the City of Perris is 720 - 1,400 acres. The City of Perris target acreage is included within the 1,885 - 3,635-acre target conservation range on Additional Reserve Lands for the entire Mead Valley Area Plan. Furthermore, conservation within the Mead Valley Area Plan is centered around Proposed Constrained Linkage 19, Proposed Core 1, Proposed Extension of Existing Core 4, Proposed Linkage 3, Proposed Linkage 7, and Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 4. The Project's 7.87-acres permanent disturbance footprint includes no lands within or immediately adjacent to MSHCP Proposed Constrained Linkage 19, Proposed Core 1, Proposed Extension of Existing Core 4, Proposed Linkage 3, Proposed Linkage 7, and Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 4, Cell Groups, Criteria Cells or Subunits. As such, the Project is not anticipated to adversely affect any of the MSHCP Mead Valley Area Plan's Planning Species, Biological Issues and Considerations, and Criteria for the aforesaid Subunits.

Nonetheless, Lake Creek Industrial will commit to a pre-construction burrowing owl survey that will be conducted prior to initiation of ground disturbance. If burrowing owls are observed, a Burrowing Owl Protection and Relocation Plan will be prepared.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Consistency Analysis (Analysis) report is to summarize the biological data for the Harley Knox Industrial Project and to document its consistency with the goals and objectives of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The Project consists of the construction of an industrial building, landscaping, parking, and drive aisles. Vehicular parking stalls, bicycle parking stall, truck dock positions and trailer parking stalls in Perris, Riverside County, California.

## 2.1 Project Area

The Project's study area is defined as its proposed physical ground disturbance footprint (Project Site), plus a buffer (Figures 1 and 2). The Project includes Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 302-100-002 and 302-100-007. The Project's "study area" includes all lands to be affected directly and/or indirectly by the Project, and are not merely the immediate lands involved in the action itself. The APNs associated with the Project's "study area" include 302-100-001, 302-100-002, 302-100-006, 302-100-007, 302-100-032, 302-100-010, 302-100-011, 302-100-019, 302-100-020, 302-100-024, 302-100-025, 302-100-026, 302-100-028, 302-100-031, 312-250-045, 302-100-018, 302-100-023, 312-250-005, and 312-250-046.

The Project can be found on the Perris United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-MinuteTopographic Quadrangle Map (USGS 1981) - Section 32 of Township 3 South and Range 3 West, and Section 5 of Township 4 South and Range 3 West. The Project occurs at an approximate elevation of 1,450 ft. above mean sea level (MSL). Land use in the surrounding vicinity includes commercial, agriculture, residential and industrial endeavors. The Project is

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located within the MSHCP's Mead Valley Area Plan (Figures 3). The lands to be impacted include no MSHCP established Subunits, Cell Groups, Criteria Cells, Public/Quasi-Public Lands, Linkages/Cores, Conserved Lands, or RCA Easements (Figures 3 and 4). The Project's construction limit is 7.87-acres (Figure 2). The study area consists of Ruderal (28.10-acres) and Developed/Disturbed (24.87-acres) land cover types. Representative photos of the study area are provided in Appendix A. The Project includes no off-site features, or staging areas. The Project does not include any proposed temporary impacts.

## 2.2 Project Description

Project consists of the construction of a 143,168 square foot industrial building, landscaping, parking, and drive aisles. Vehicular parking stalls, bicycle parking stalls, truck dock positions, trailer parking stalls within a truck court are included within the Project. The Project's construction limit is 7.87-acres. The study area consists of Ruderal (28.10-acres) and Developed/Disturbed (24.87-acres) land cover types. The Project includes no off-site features, or staging areas. The Project does not include any proposed temporary impacts. The Project site plan is included within Appendix B. This Project doesn't include regular weed abatement and fuel modification zones as the entire 7.87-acres disturbance footprint will be permanently impacted.

#### 2.3 Covered Roads

The Project is located at 150 Harley Knox Blvd, at the northwest corner of Harley Knox Blvd and Las Palmas Avenue in Perris, Riverside County, California (Figures 1 and 2). Harley Knox Blvd, is not Covered Road identified by the RCA. Therefore - Harley Knox Blvd, is not applicable to MSHCP Covered Operations and Maintenance Activities. As described the Project does not entail the construction of, or improvements to, Harley Knox Blvd.

#### 2.4 Covered Public Access Activities

The Project does not entail the construction of, or improvements to, Covered Public Access Activities. The Project involves no construction or improvements to trails or other public access facility, referred to within MSHCP Section 7.4.2 Therefore, this section is not applicable.

#### 2.5 General Setting

Four soil types occur within the Project Site based on U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Soil Survey data sets (Figure 7):

- Traver fine sandy loam, saline-alkali;
- Grangeville sandy loam, drained, saline-alkali, 0 to 5 % slopes;
- Traver loamy fine sand, eroded; and
- Domino silt loam, saline-alkali.

Of the above referenced soil types, none are classified as hydric, or are known to support seasonal wetlands, or special status invertebrates. With that said, it is worth noting that with deference to the USDA-NRCS Soil Survey data, it is predominately collected and developed through the use of historic aerial photographic interpretation - with limited ground truthing. Therefore, the data the USDA-NRCS Soil Survey provides does not always represent precise information about the presence - or absence, of a specific soil or land cover within an exact

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location in 2021. USDA-NRCS Soil Survey data users are often cautioned that due to the limitation of mapping — primarily through aerial photo interpretation, a percentage of unique soil types may have gone unidentified - or misidentified.

Land use in the surrounding vicinity includes commercial, agriculture, residential and industrial endeavors. In 2012 the MSHCP mapped the vegetation within the Project Site as Developed/Disturbed Lands (GISD 2021, Figure 6). In 2021 and 2022, two vegetation communities/land cover types were detected within the Project Site: Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed (Figure 5).

The Project's construction limit is 7.87-acres (Figure 2). The stud area consists of Ruderal (28.10-acres) and Developed/Disturbed (24.87-acres) land cover types. The Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint (Project Site) is comprised of developed, disturbed and/or non-native land cover types. The Project is not collocated with any USFWS designated critical habitat (Figure 9), nor were any special status species detected during the 2021 or 2022 field surveys. No nesting birds, no burrowing owls, no remnant raptor nests, ad no bat guano have been detected within the Project Site either. Special-status species known to occur within several miles of the Project, and their potential for occurrence within it, are detailed within Appendix D and Figure 8.

Wildlife species observed within the study area consisted of commonly-occurring species - including, but not limited to, rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) common raven (*Corvus corax*), and Side-blotched Lizard (*Uta stansburiana*). A complete list of wildlife species detected within and adjacent to the 7.87-acres disturbance footprint during the 2021 and 2022 field surveys are provided in Appendix C.

#### 3 RESERVE ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS

The Project is located within the Mead Valley Area Plan. But not within the boundaries of any MSHCP established Subunit, Cell Group, Criteria Cell, Public/Quasi-Public Land, Linkages/Cores, Conserved Lands, or RCA Easements. The target conservation acreage range for the Mead Valley Area Plan is 4,980 to 6,730 acres - composed of approximately 3,095 acres of existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands and 1,885 - 3,635 acres of Additional Reserve Lands. The City of Perris is located entirely within the Mead Valley Area Plan. The target acreage range within the City of Perris is 720 - 1,400 acres. The City of Perris target acreage is included within the 1,885 - 3,635 acre target conservation range on Additional Reserve Lands for the entire Mead Valley Area Plan.

The Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint (Project Site) does not impact any of the Mead Valley Area Plan's 4 Subunits. The Project is not anticipated to adversely affect any of the MSHCP Mead Valley Area Plan's Planning Species, Biological Issues and Considerations, and Criteria for the aforesaid Subunits. As stated above, the Project Site includes no land, nor is it connected, or adjacent to any Cell Groups, Criteria Cells, habitat proposed for conservation, locales proposed for additional reserve assembly, cores or linkages within the MSHCP. Furthermore, conservation within the Mead Valley Area Plan is centered around Proposed Constrained Linkage 19, Proposed Core 1, Proposed Extension of Existing Core 4, Proposed

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Linkage 3, Proposed Linkage 7, and Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 4. The Project Site includes no lands within or immediately adjacent to MSHCP Proposed Constrained Linkage 19, Proposed Core 1, Proposed Extension of Existing Core 4, Proposed Linkage 3, Proposed Linkage 7, and Proposed Noncontiguous Habitat Block 4, Cell Groups or Criteria Cells.

According to the RCA MSHCP Information Map, Project limits lie partially or completely within predetermined survey areas for the burrowing owl, narrow endemic, and criteria area sensitive plant species. But the Project is not within a survey area for amphibians or mammals. Therefore, a burrowing owl habitat suitability assessment was conducted in accordance with the MSHCP burrowing owl survey instructions. Since suitable habitat was present, surveys were performed. Similarly - per the MSHCP, lands that occur within a survey area for narrow endemic, and criteria area sensitive plant species, must have a habitat evaluation for the species. The Project Site following vegetation communities/land cover types: Disturbed/Developed. No special status species were observed within the Project Site during the 2021 or 2022 field survey events. Furthermore, the Project is not collocated with any United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) designated critical habitat (Figure 9). Based on the results of the 2021 ad 2022 habitat assessments and field surveys, potential habitat is not present within the study area for MSHCP narrow endemic or criteria area sensitive plant species. According to the MSHCP guidelines, focused surveys are not required if suitable habitat is not present - even if the Project is located within a predetermined MSHCP Survey Area (MSHCP 2004). In 2012 the MSHCP mapped the vegetation within Project limits predominately as Developed/Disturbed Lands (GISD 2021, and Figure 6). During the 2021 and 2022 field surveys, no burrowing owls, narrow endemic or criteria area sensitive plant species were observed within, or adjacent to Project limits.

#### 3.1 Public Quasi-Public Lands

The majority of the cities in western Riverside County - as well as the County, have contributed open space/land to help establish the MSHCP Conservation Area. These lands are described in the MSHCP as Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) Lands.

#### 3.1.1 Public Quasi-Public Lands in Reserve Assembly Analysis

P/QP Lands are a subset of MSHCP Conservation Area lands that known to be in public/private ownership and expected to be managed for open space value and/or in a manner that contributes to the Conservation of Covered Species (including lands contained in existing reserves). The Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint is not within, nor is it immediately adjacent to - PQP lands (Figure 4).

## 3.1.2 Project Impacts to Public Quasi-Public Lands

The Project's 7.87-acre permanent disturbance footprint foot print is located >3,000 feet from any known PQP lands. The Project will not directly impact any PQP lands because its disturbance footprint is not located with PQP Lands.

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#### 4 VEGETATION MAPPING

On October 19, 2021, March 01 and April 22, 2022, pedestrian-based field surveys involved defining general and dominant land cover types, vegetation types, plant community sizes, habitat types, and species present within communities were performed by NOREAS Inc. (NOREAS). Type descriptions were based on observed dominant cover and vegetation composition; and were derived from the criteria and definitions of widely accepted land classification systems (Holland 1986; and Sawyer et al. 2009). Plants were identified in the field to the lowest taxonomic level sufficient to determine whether the species detected were non-native, native, or special-status. Plants of uncertain identity were subsequently identified from taxonomic keys (Baldwin et al. 2012). Scientific and common species names were recorded according to Baldwin et al. (2012) and those detailed in Sections 2.1.3 and 6.1.2 of the MSHCP. This method of floristic survey was conducted to safeguard that special-status plant species were not inadvertently overlooked because they were not targeted during surveys.

Two vegetation communities/land cover types were observed within the study area: Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed (Table 2 and Figure 5). Cover types are described in detail below.

- Developed/Disturbed lands within the study area include locales that have been developed, paved, cleared, graded or otherwise altered by anthropogenic activities (i.e., industrial warehouses, access roads, residential housing, ornamental landscaping, industrial facilities, storage yards, commercial enterprises, etc.). Common non-native plants species detected within this type included ripgut brome (Bromus diandrus), Sahara mustard (Brassica Tournefortii), Mexican fan palm (Washingtonia Robusta), and Schismus (Schismus barbatus).
- The Ruderal vegetation community includes locales that have been subject to recent grading, clearing, or other physical human modification of soils and/or vegetation. These lands also include areas with exposed soils with minimal vegetation, and moderate cover by various non-native annual grasses, and weeds (adapted for growth on substrates subject to disturbance). Common non-native plants species detected within this type included ripgut brome, Sahara mustard, and Schismus.

Table 2. Vegetation Community/Land Cover Types

Vegetation Community/L and Cover Type	Study Area Acres	Project Site Acres	Permanent Impact Acres	Permanent Impact Acres Inside a Subunit, Cell Group, Criteria Cell, PQP Lands, Linkages/Cores, Conserved Lands, or RCA Conservation Easements	Permanent Impact Acres Outside a Subunit, Cell Group, Criteria Cell, PQP Lands, Linkages/Cores, Conserved Lands, or RCA Conservation Easements.
Disturbed /Developed	24.87	0.72	0.72	0	0.72
Ruderal	28.10	7.15	7.15	0	7.15
Total	52.97	7.87	7.87	0	7.87

In general terms, the plants observed in the study area included a range of native and non-native species common to disturbed habitats, etc. Commonly-occurring species included: ripgut brome, Sahara mustard, Mexican fan palm, and Schismus, among others. Please note that in 2012, the MSHCP mapped the vegetation within the Project Site as Developed/Disturbed Lands (GISD 2021; Figure 6). A comprehensive list of plant species observed during the 2021 and 2022 surveys is presented in Appendix B.

# 5 PROTECTION OF SPECIES ASSOCIATED WITH RIPARIAN/RIVERINE AREAS AND VERNAL POOLS (SECTION 6.1.2)

According to Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP:

"Riparian/Riverine Areas are lands which contain Habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year."

"Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season, while upland species (annuals) may be dominant during the drier portion of the growing season. The determination that an area exhibits vernal pool characteristics, and the definition of the watershed supporting vernal pool hydrology, must be made on a case-by-case basis. Such determinations should consider the length of the time the area

exhibits upland and wetland characteristics and the manner in which the area fits into the overall ecological system as a wetland. Evidence concerning the persistence of an area's wetness can be obtained from its history, vegetation, soils, and drainage characteristics, uses to which it has been subjected, and weather and hydrologic records."

"Fairy Shrimp. For Riverside, vernal pool and Santa Rosa fairy shrimp, mapping of stock ponds, ephemeral pools and other features shall also be undertaken as determined appropriate by a qualified biologist.

"With the exception of wetlands created for the purpose of providing wetlands Habitat or resulting from human actions to create open waters or from the alteration of natural stream courses, areas demonstrating characteristics as described above which are artificially created are not included in these definitions."

## 5.1 Riparian/Riverine

As defined under Section 6.1.2 of the MSHCP, Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools, riparian/riverine areas are areas dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent plants, or emergent mosses and lichens which occur close to or are dependent upon nearby freshwater, or areas with freshwater flowing during all or a portion of the year. Conservation of these areas is intended to protect habitat that is essential to several listed or special-status water-dependent fish, amphibian, avian, and plant species. This assessment is independent from considerations given to Waters of the United States (WoUS) and Waters of the State (WoS), under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) jurisdictional streambed under the California Fish and Game Code (FGC).

#### 5.1.1 Methods

The Project was evaluated via field surveys on October 19, 2021, March 01 and April 22, 2022 for the presence of riverine/riparian and vernal pool areas, and jurisdictional waters (i.e., WoUS as regulated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and/or streambed and associated riparian habitat as regulated by the CDFW. Aerial photography was reviewed prior to conducting the field investigation. The aerials were used to locate and inspect potential natural drainage features, ponded areas, or water bodies that may be considered riparian/riverine habitat and/or fall under the jurisdiction of the USACE, RWQCB, or CDFW. In general, surface drainage features indicated as blue-line streams on United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps that are observed - or expected to exhibit evidence of flow, are considered potential riparian/riverine habitat and are also subject to State and Federal regulatory authorities.

The methods used to delineate the non-wetland WoUS at the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) in variable, ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial non-wetland waters followed guidance described in A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark in the Arid West Region of the Western United States (Lichvar and McColley 2008) and the Updated

Datasheet for the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark in the Arid West Region of the Western United States ("Updated Datasheet", Curtis and Lichvar 2010).

Evaluation of FGC Section 1600 Streambed Waters followed guidance in the Mapping Episodic Stream Activity (MESA) protocols [MESA Field Guide], pursuant to which CDFW claims jurisdiction beyond traditional stream banks and the outer edge of riparian. Under MESA, the term stream is defined broadly to include "a body of water that flows perennially or episodically and that is defined by the area in which water currently flows, or has flowed, over a given course during the historic regime [i.e., 'circa 1800 to the present'], and here the width of its course can reasonably be identified by physical or biological indicators."

The methods used to determine any riparian/riverine or vernal pool areas were based on the above techniques as well as soils evaluations and vegetation classifications. This is because an area may be characterized as riparian based on its vegetative composition, but not meet the criteria of being federal or state jurisdictional water.

#### 5.1.2 Existing Conditions and Results

According to the USGS and the United Sates Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory: there are no current or historical drainages on, or adjacent to, or even near the Project Site. There was also no evidence of current or historical drainages / water conveyance features observed during the field evaluations of the study area (Figure 10). No hydric vegetation, hydric soils, signs of surface flow, and/or wetland hydrology are present in, adjacent to, or near any portion of the Project Site. Therefore, no riparian/riverine areas occur within Project limits.

#### 5.1.3 Impacts

There is no impact to riparian/riverine resources because no evidence of any soils, plants or other features that meet the definition of 6.1.2 of the MSHCP were visible within the study area.

## 5.1.4 Mitigation

There is no mitigation for riparian/riverine resources because there is no impact to riparian/riverine resources within the Project Site.

#### 5.2 Vernal Pools

Vernal pools are seasonally inundated, ponded areas that only form in regions where specialized soil and climatic conditions exist. During fall and winter rains typical of Mediterranean climates, water collects in shallow depressions where downward percolation of water is prevented by the presence of a hard pan or clay pan layer (duripan) below the soil surface. Later in the spring when rains decrease and the weather warms, the water evaporates, and the pools generally disappear by May. The shallow depressions remain relatively dry until late fall and early winter with the advent of greater precipitation and cooler temperatures.

Vernal pools provide unusual "flood and drought" habitat conditions to which certain plant and wildlife species have specifically adapted - as well as, invertebrate species such as fairy shrimp. One of the factors for determining the suitability of the habitat for fairy shrimp would be

demonstrable evidence of seasonal ponding in an area of topographic depression that is not subject to flowing waters. These astatic pools are typically characterized as vernal pools. More specifically, vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas without a continual source of water. They have wetland indicators of all 3 parameters (soils, vegetation, and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetland indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season.

The determination that an area exhibits vernal pool characteristics and the definition of the watershed supporting vernal pool hydrology is made on a case-by-case basis. Such determinations consider the length of time the area exhibits upland and wetland characteristics, and the way the area fits into the overall ecological system as a wetland. The seasonal hydrology of vernal pools provides for a unique environment, which supports plants and invertebrates specifically adapted to a regime of winter inundation, followed by an extended period when the pool soils are dry. The MSHCP lists two general classes of soils known to be associated with special-status plant species; clay soils and Traver-Domino Willow association soils. Without the appropriate soils to create the impermeable restrictive layer, none of the special-status species associated with vernal pools can occur.

#### 5.2.1 Methods

Methods included a review of recent and historic aerial photographs (2000-2021) of the Project Site and its immediate vicinity, a review of soils data, and 100 percent visual coverage pedestrian evaluation of the study area. The team looked for signs of clayey soils, ponding, cracking, mottling, etc.

## 5.2.2 Existing Conditions and Results

A review of recent and historic aerial photographs of the study area and its immediate vicinity did not provide visual evidence of an astatic or vernal pool conditions — on, or in the vicinity of the Project Site. Four soil types occur within the Project Site based on U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Soil Survey data sets (Figure 7):

- Traver fine sandy loam, saline-alkali;
- Grangeville sandy loam, drained, saline-alkali, 0 to 5 % slopes;
- Traver loamy fine sand, eroded; and
- Domino silt loam, saline-alkali.

Of the above referenced soil types, none are the appropriate soils to support vernal pools, nor are they known to support seasonal wetlands, or special status invertebrates in Western Riverside County. No ponding was observed within the study area and the hydrologic regime associated with the Project Site does not support vernal pools, or astatic ponds. From the review of historic aerial photographs and observations during the field investigations, it is concluded no vernal pools or suitable fairy shrimp habitat occur within the Project's permanent disturbance

footprint. Further, no special status plant species associated with vernal pools were observed during the field visits either.

## 5.2.3 Impacts

There are no impacts to vernal pools because none occur within the Project Site, and the soil types within the study area do not support the potential for vernal pools.

## 5.2.4 Mitigation

No mitigation is required because no vernal pools exist within the Project Site.

## 5.3 Fairy Shrimp

Fairy shrimp can be found in non-vernal pool features such as stock ponds, ephemeral pools, road ruts, human-made depressions, or other depressions that may pond water. No habitat features suitable for fairy shrimp exist within the Project Site. Therefore, evaluations for the presence of fairy shrimp were not warranted or required. No further discussion on fairy shrimp is made in this report.

## 5.4 Riparian Birds

Riparian Birds covered under the MSHCP such as the Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) [LBVI], Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax trallii extimus*) [SWWF] and Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) [YBCU] are found only in well-developed riparian habitat. No habitat features suitable for any riparian birds exist within the Project Site. Therefore, evaluations for the presence of riparian birds were not warranted or required. No further discussion on riparian birds is made in this report.

## 6 PROTECTION OF NARROW ENDEMIC PLANT SPECIES (SECTION 6.1.3)

The Project lies within a predetermined survey area for the following MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species:

- Hammitt's clay-cress (Sibarpsis hammittii)
- Many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*)
- San Miguel savory (Satureja chandleri)
- San Diego ambrosia (Ambrosia pumila)
- Spreading navarretia (Navarretia fossalis)
- California Orcutt grass (Orcuttia californica)
- Wright's trichocoronis (*Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii*)

The MSHCP states that in general, habitat suitability assessments may be undertaken year-round, with few exceptions. Based on the results of a habitat assessment conducted on October 19, 2021, March 19 and April 22, 2022, potential habitat is not present within the Project Site for the aforementioned MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species (Table 3). According to the MSHCP guidelines, focused surveys are not required for MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species since

suitable habitat is not present within the Project Site, even though the Project is located within a predetermined MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Area (MSHCP 2004). Therefore, no further discussion is made in this document with deference to MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species.

**Table 3. MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species Assessment** 

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Hammitt's clay-cress (Sibarpsis hammittii)	Hammitt's clay-cress is known from the Santa Ana Mountains of Riverside County and Viejas Mountain and nearby peaks east of San Diego. It grows in grassy habitat in openings in chaparral alongside purple needlegrass (Nassella pulchra), generally in moist areas in heavy clay soils.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  This annual species was not detected within the Project Site and is not expected to be present.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., moist areas in heavy clay soils) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (clay soils), it has long since been removed and regularly disked. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs for this species within the Project Site and therefore no potential for occurrence.
Many-stemmed dudleya ( <i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> )	This dudleya is endemic to southern California, and of its known occurrences are along the coastal plain in heavy clay soils.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., coastal plain in heavy clay soils) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite, it has long since been removed and regularly disked. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs for this species within the Project Site and therefore no potential for occurrence.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
San Miguel savory (Satureja chandleri)	San Miguel savory tends to grow in rocky slopes, at elevations of 1,700-2,300 feet. This species is a low-growing, fragrant, spreading herb that prefers regular water and some shade.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., rocky slopy with moist soils) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite, it has long since been removed and regularly disked. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for occurrence.
San Diego ambrosia (Ambrosia pumila)	San Diego ambrosia is known from Baja California, Mexico, and San Diego and Riverside counties in the United States. It blooms May to September. San Diego ambrosia occurs primarily on upper terraces of rivers and drainages as well as in open grasslands, openings in coastal sage scrub, and occasionally in areas adjacent to vernal pools.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  This perennial species was not detected within the Project Site and is not expected to be present.  No Ambrosia species were observed onsite during Spring 2022 rare plant assessments. This species is perennial and would have been detected during field efforts, if present, Furthermore, this species occurs in vernal pools (disturbed) which are absent from the Project Site. Given the severely disturbed nature of the Project Site no habitat occurs onsite for this species.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
(Colonoly) Colonoly		
Spreading navarretia (Navarretia fossalis)  California Orcutt grass (Orcuttia californica)	member of the phlox family, and is found in vernal pools, chenopod scrub, edge of marshes, and playas on salinealkali soils. It occasionally grows in ditches and depressions associated with degraded habitat or old stock ponds (Consortium 2012). Spreading navarretia is a small prostrate to occasionally erect annual. Spreading navarretia blooms April to June.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., vernal pools and freshwater marsh) for this species occurs within the Project Site. No Navarretia species were observed onsite during field surveys. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.  Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site
	vernal pool habitats. It is known from Orange (recently reported occurrence), Los Angeles, Riverside, Ventura, and San Diego Counties, and continues south into Baja California, Mexico. California Orcutt grass blooms April to August. In Riverside County, this species is found in southern basaltic claypan vernal pools at the Santa Rosa Plateau.	based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., vernal pools) for this species occurs within the Project Site. No Orcuttia species were observed onsite during surveys. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Wright's trichocoronis (Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii)		Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., riparian, meadows, marsh, and vernal pools) for this species occurs within the Project Site. No Trichoronis species were observed onsite during surveys. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.

## 7 ADDITIONAL SURVEY NEEDS AND PROCEDURES (SECTION 6.3.2)

The Project Site is not mapped in a Criteria Survey Area for mammals or amphibians. It is however, mapped in a Criteria Survey Area for plants and burrowing owl. Surveys must be conducted within suitable habitat for these species according to accepted protocols. Under the MSHCP, burrowing owl is considered an adequately conserved covered species that still requires focused surveys in certain areas as designated in Figure 6-4 of the MSHCP.

#### 7.1 MSHCP Criteria Area Sensitive Plant Species

The Project lies within a predetermined survey area for the following MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species:

- San Jacinto Valley crownscale (Atriplex coronata var. natatior)
- Parish's brittlebush (Atriplex parishii)
- Davidson's saltscale (Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii)
- Thread-leaved brodiaea (Brodiaea filifolia)
- Smooth tarplant (Centromadia pungens ssp. Laevis)
- Round-leaved filaree (*Erodium macrophyllum*)
- Coulter goldfields (Lasthenia glabrata ssp. Couteri)
- Little mousetail (Myosurus minimus)
- Mud nama (Nama stenocarpum)

The MSHCP states that in general, habitat suitability assessments may be undertaken year-round, with few exceptions. Based on the results of a habitat assessment conducted on October 19, 2021, March 19 and April 22, 2022, potential habitat is not present within the Project Site for the aforementioned MSHCP Criteria Area Sensitive Plant Species (Table 4). According to the MSHCP

guidelines, focused surveys are not required for MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species since suitable habitat is not present within the Project Site, even though the Project is located within a predetermined MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species Survey Area (MSHCP 2004). Therefore, no further discussion is made in this document with deference to MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species.

Table 4. MSHCP Criteria Area Sensitive Plant Species Assessment

Table 4. MSHCP Criteria Area Sensitive Plant Species Assessment			
Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The San Jacinto Valley crownscale occurs primarily in floodplains that support alkali scrub, alkali playas, vernal pools, and occasionally alkali grasslands (Bramlet 1993).	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., alkaline scrub, playa, vernal pools, and alkaline grasslands) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (alkaline-saline soils), it has long since been removed and regularly disked. No Atriplex species were observed within the Project Site during Spring 2022 rare plant assessments. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs for this species within the Project Site and therefore no potential for occurrence.	
Parish's brittlebush (Atriplex parishii)	Parish's brittlescale is a small prostrate to decumbent annual, white scaly, and is often much less than eight inches in length. It blooms May to October. This species occurs on alkali or saline flats, alkali meadows, and in or along the margins of vernal pools or playa depressions.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., alkaline flats, playa, vernal pools, and alkaline meadows) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (alkaline-saline soils) it has long since been removed and regularly disked. No Atriplex species were observed within the Project Site during Spring 2022 rare plant assessments. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for occurrence.	

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Davidson's saltscale (Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii)	Davidson's saltscale is a decumbent to ascending annual that is sparsely scaly. It blooms April to October. It grows on coastal bluffs and alkaline alluvial terraces, and on alkali or saline flats in interior areas such as western Riverside County.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., alkaline-saline flats, or terraces) for this species occurs within the Project Site Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (alkaline-saline soils) it has long since been removed and regularly disked. No Atriplex species were observed within the Project Site during Spring rare plant assessments. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for occurrence.
Thread-leaved brodiaea (Brodiaea filifolia)	Thread-leaved brodiaea is a geophyte, which produces leaves and flower stalks that sprout from corms (underground bulb-like storage stems), it blooms March to June, and typically occurs on gentle hillsides, valleys, and floodplains in semialkaline flats of riparian areas, vernal pools, mesic southern needlegrass grassland, mixed native-annual grassland, and alkali grassland plant communities in association with clay, clay loam, or alkaline silty-clay soils.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No Brodiaea species were observed within the Project Site. This species is perennial and would have been detected during survey efforts, if present, onsite. Furthermore, the constant disking that occurs within the Project Site would remove this species (perennial bulb) if present and therefore no potential for its occurrence.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Smooth Tarplant (Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis)	Smooth tarplant is an annual member of the sunflower family (Asteraceae) that occurs in vernal pools, alkali playas and scrub, alkali grasslands, riparian areas, along watercourses and disturbed sites. It blooms April to September.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  Smooth tarplant was not detected within the Project Site. The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No <i>Centormadia</i> species were observed onsite during surveys. This species would have been detected during survey efforts, if present, within the Project Site.
Round-leaved filaree (Erodium macrophyllum)	Habitats include open areas in cismontane woodland and valley and foothill grasslands, which are often associated with heavy clay soils below 3,600 feet elevation.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite. The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. Given the disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Coulter's goldfields (Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri)	Coulter's goldfields is associated with low-lying alkali and saline habitats along the coast and inland valleys. The majority of the populations are associated with coastal salt marsh. In Riverside County, Coulter's goldfields primarily grow in highly alkaline, silty clays associated with the Traver-Domino-Willows soils, and usually in the wet areas in the alkali vernal plain community.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., alkaline-saline wetlands) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (alkaline-saline soils) it has long since been removed and regularly disked. No <i>Lasthenia</i> species were observed within the Project Site. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.
Little mousetail (Myosurus minimus ssp. apus)	Little mousetail is widespread in California. It occurs in alkaline vernal pools, and vernal alkali plains and grasslands, and blooms March to June.	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., alkaline wetlands) for this species occurs within the Project Site. Although historically this habitat may have occurred onsite (alkaline-saline soils) it has long since been removed and regularly disked. No Myosurus species were observed within the Project Site. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.

Species Name (Scientific Name)	Habitat Description	Habitat Assessment Results
Mud nama (Nama stenocarpum)	Mud nama grows on muddy embankments of marshes and swamps, lake margins, riverbank, meadow, playa, and vernal pools. In western Riverside County, it is known only from the north shore of Mystic Lake (Roberts et al. 2004).	Habitat Not Present: Potential to Occur – None  The species is not expected to occur within the Project Site based on a lack of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed and previously developed conditions documented onsite.  The species was not detected during Spring of 2022 rare plant assessments. No habitat (e.g., riparian, lake margins and streambanks) for this species occurs within the Project Site. No Nama species were observed onsite during surveys. Given the severely disturbed nature of the site, no habitat occurs within the Project Site for this species and therefore no potential for its occurrence.

## 7.2 Burrowing Owl

The Project Site is within a mapped survey area for burrowing owl, in accordance with MSHCP Figure 6-4, and a recent review of the RCA MSHCP Information GIS map. The burrowing owl is a grassland specialist distributed throughout western North America where it occupies open areas with short vegetation and bare ground within shrub, desert, and grassland environments. Burrowing owls use a wide variety of arid and semi-arid environments with level to gently sloping areas characterized by open vegetation and bare ground. The western burrowing owl, which occurs throughout the western United States including California, rarely digs its own burrows and is instead dependent upon the presence of burrowing mammals (i.e., California ground squirrels [Otospermophilus beecheyi], coyotes, and badgers [Taxidea taxus]) whose burrows are often used for roosting and nesting.

The presence or absence of colonial mammal burrows is often a major factor that limits the presence or absence of burrowing owls. Where mammal burrows are scarce, burrowing owls have been found occupying manmade cavities, such as buried and non-functioning drainpipes, stand-pipes, and dry culverts. They also require low growth or open vegetation allowing line-of-sight observation of the surrounding habitat to forage and watch for predators. In California, the burrowing owl breeding season extends from the beginning of February through the end of August. Under the MSHCP, burrowing owl is considered an adequately conserved covered species that still requires focused surveys in certain areas as designated in Figure 6-4 of the MSHCP. The survey for burrowing owl requires a systematic survey of all areas that provide suitable habitat plus an approximately 500 feet zone of influence on all sides of suitable habitat, where applicable.

## 7.2.1 Methods

A burrowing owl habitat suitability assessment and burrow survey was conducted on March 01, 2022 in accordance with the March 29, 2006 Western Riverside County MSHCP burrowing owl survey instructions. Since suitable habitat was detected for Burrowing Owls within the study

area, therefore four (4) additional surveys were performed. Targeted owl surveys were conducted on 02, 10 and 22 March and 26 April of 2022 from approximately 1 hour before sunrise to 2 hours after sunrise, when weather conditions were conducive to observing owls outside of burrows.

Natural and non-natural substrates were examined for potential burrow sites. All potential burrows encountered were examined for shape, size, molted feathers, whitewash, cast pellets and/or prey remains. Disturbance characteristics and all other animal sign encountered within the study area were recorded. A hand-held, global positioning system (GPS) unit with sub meter accuracy was used to survey transects that were prepared within a Geographic Information System prior to the start of field surveys, to identify study area boundaries, and for other pertinent information. Representative photographs of the study area were taken, and recent aerial photographs were evaluated for Project Site and surrounding area. Detailed field survey methods are provided in Appendix E.

## 7.2.2 Existing Conditions and Results

Habitat in the vicinity of the Project consists of non-native grasses, developed, and disturbed land cover types. No burrowing owls were detected nesting, foraging, or dispersing during pedestrian-based field surveys in 2021 and 2022. Numerous low quality potential burrows were observed within the study area. The burrows detected lacked any evidence of owl tracks, molted feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, egg shell fragments, owl white wash, nest burrow decoration materials, or other items. Detailed field survey results are provided in Appendix E. Burrowing owl are absent from the Project Site

## 7.2.3 Impacts

No impacts can be identified, in that no burrowing owl or burrowing owl sign was observed within the Project Site.

## 7.2.4 Mitigation

To safeguard there will be no impact to burrowing owl, a pre-construction survey is required. The suggested mitigation is as follows:

"Prior to issuance of a grading permit, the applicant shall perform a preconstruction survey that shall be conducted within 30 days prior to ground disturbance to avoid direct take of burrowing owls. If the results of the survey indicate that no burrowing owls are present on-site, then the project may move forward with grading, upon Planning Department approval. If burrowing owls are found to be present or nesting on-site during the preconstruction survey, then the following recommendations must be adhered to: Exclusion and relocation activities may not occur during the breeding season, which is defined as March 1 through August 31, with the following exception: From March 1 through March 15 and from August 1 through August 31 exclusion and relocation activities may take place if it is proven to the Lead Agency and/or appropriate agencies (if any) that

egg laying or chick rearing is not taking place. This determination must be made by a qualified biologist."

#### 8 INFORMATION ON OTHER SPECIES

#### 8.1 Delhi Sands Flower Loving Fly

The Project Site does not fall within the Delhi soils mapped within the MSHCP baseline data.

## 8.2 Species Not Adequately Conserved

MSHCP Table 9-3 identifies 28 species where requirements must be met for those to be considered not adequately conserved. None of the species listed in the MSHCP Table 9-3 occur on or near the Project Site. Therefore, there is no further action required.

## 9 GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO THE URBAN/WILDLANDS INTERFACE (SECTION 6.1.4)

The MSHCP Section 6.1.4 Guidelines are intended to address indirect effects associated with locating Development in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area, where applicable. The Project is located within Criteria Cell 2529, therefore, the MSHCP guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlands Interface for the management of edge factors such as lighting, urban runoff, toxics, and domestic predators applies.

Effect criteria include the following:

## Drainage

Requirement - Developments in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area shall incorporate measures, including measures required through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements, to ensure that the quantity and quality of runoff discharged to the MSHCP Conservation Area is not altered in an adverse way when compared with existing conditions. Measures shall be put in place to avoid discharge of untreated surface runoff from developed and paved areas into the MSHCP Conservation Area. Stormwater systems shall be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources or ecosystem processes within the MSHCP Conservation Area. This can be accomplished using a variety of methods including natural detention basins, grass swales or mechanical trapping devices. Regular maintenance shall occur to ensure effective operations of runoff control systems.

#### **Toxics**

Requirement - Land uses in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area that use chemicals or generate bioproducts such as manure that are potentially toxic or may adversely affect wildlife species, habitat or water quality shall incorporate measures to ensure that application of such chemicals does not result in discharge to the MSHCP Conservation Area. Measures such as those employed to address drainage issues shall be implemented.

## Lighting

Night lighting shall be directed away from the MSHCP Conservation Area to protect species within the MSHCP Conservation Area from direct night lighting. Shielding shall be incorporated in Project designs to ensure ambient lighting in the MSHCP Conservation Area is not increased.

#### Noise

Noise generating land uses affecting the MSHCP Conservation Area shall incorporate setbacks, berms or walls to minimize the effects of noise on MSHCP Conservation Area resources pursuant to applicable rules, regulations and guidelines related to land use noise standards. For planning purposes, wildlife within the MSHCP Conservation Area should not be subject to noise that would exceed residential noise standards.

## **Invasive Plant Species**

When approving landscape plans for Development that is proposed adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area, Permittees shall consider the invasive, non-native plant species listed in Table 6-2 and shall require revisions to landscape plans (subject to the limitations of their jurisdiction) to avoid the use of invasive species for the portions of Development that are adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area. Considerations in reviewing the applicability of this list shall include proximity of planting areas to the MSHCP Conservation Areas, species considered in the planting plans, resources being protected within the MSHCP Conservation Area and their relative sensitivity to invasion, and barriers to plant and seed dispersal, such as walls, topography and other features.

#### **Barriers**

Land uses adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area shall incorporate barriers, where appropriate in individual project designs to minimize unauthorized public access, domestic animal predation, illegal trespass or dumping in the MSHCP Conservation Area. Such barriers may include native landscaping, rocks/boulders, fencing, walls, signage and/or other appropriate mechanisms.

#### Grading/Land Development

Manufactured slopes associated with development shall not extend into the MSHCP Conservation Area.

## 10 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (VOLUME I, APPENDIX C)

This section of the report is designed to describe and comment as to the necessity of implementation of the BMPs identified in Volume 1, Appendix C. The BMPs and their applicability to the Project is identified in Table 3.

Table 3. MSHCP Best Management Practices Applicability (Volume 1, Appendix C)

BMP	Applicable	Comment
DIVIF	Yes or No	Comment
No. 1 – A condition shall be placed on grading permits requiring a qualified biologist to conduct a training session for Project personnel prior to grading. The training shall include a description of the species of concern and its habitats, the general provisions of the Endangered Species Act (Act) and the MSHCP, the need to adhere to the provisions of the Act and the MSHCP, the penalties associated with violating the provisions of the Act, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve the species of concern as they relate to the Project, and the access routes to and Project boundaries within which the Project activities must be accomplished.	No	There are no special status species within or near the Project Site
No. 2 – Water pollution and erosion control plans shall be developed and implemented in accordance with RWQCB requirements.	Yes	The Project will include grading and paving.
No. 3 – The footprint of disturbance shall be minimized to the maximum extent feasible.  Access to sites shall be via preexisting access routes to the greatest extent possible.	Yes	The Project Site is < 7.87- acres, and is accessible from Harley Knox Blvd and Las Palmas Avenue.
No. 4 – The upstream and downstream limits of Projects disturbance plus lateral limits of disturbance on either side of the stream shall be clearly defined and marked in the field and reviewed by the biologist prior to initiation of work.	No	There are no streambed resources on or near the Project Site
No. 5 – Project should be designed to avoid the placement of equipment and personnel within the stream channel or on sand and gravel bars, banks, and adjacent upland habitats used by target species of concern.	No	There are no streambed resources on or near the Project Site
No. 6 – Projects that cannot be conducted without placing equipment or personnel in sensitive habitats should be timed to avoid the breeding season of riparian identified in MSHCP Global Species Objective No. 7.	No	There are no riparian or streambed resources on or near the Project Site
No. 7 – When stream flows must be diverted, the diversions shall be conducted using	No	There are no streambed resources on or near the

ВМР	Applicable Yes or No	Comment
sandbags or other methods requiring minimal instream impacts. Silt fencing of other sediment trapping materials shall be installed at the downstream end of construction activity to minimize the transport of sediments offsite.  Settling ponds where sediment is collected shall be cleaned out in a manner that prevents the sediment from reentering the stream. Care shall be exercised when removing silt fences, as feasible, to prevent debris or sediment from		Project Site
returning to the stream.  No. 8 – Equipment storage, fueling, and staging areas shall be located on upland sites with minimal risks of direct drainage into riparian areas or other sensitive habitats. These designated areas shall be in such a manner as to prevent any runoff from entering sensitive habitat. Necessary precautions shall be taken to prevent the release of cement or other toxic substances into surface waters. Project related spills of hazardous materials shall be reported to appropriate entities including but not limited to applicable jurisdictional city, FWS, and CDFG, RWQCB and shall be cleaned up immediately and contaminated soils removed to approved disposal areas.	No	There are no riparian or streambed resources on or near the Project Site
No. 9 – Erodible fill material shall not be deposited into water courses. Brush, loose soils, or other similar debris material shall not be stockpiled within the stream channel or on its banks.	No	There are no streambed resources on or near the Project Site
No. 10 – The qualified project biologist shall monitor construction activities for the duration of the project to ensure that practicable measures are being employed to avoid incidental disturbance of habitat and species of concern outside the Project Site	No (But available as needed)	The Project Site consists of Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed land cover types.

ВМР	Applicable Yes or No	Comment
No. 11 – The removal of native vegetation shall be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable. Temporary impacts shall be returned to pre-existing contours and revegetated with appropriate native species.	No	Project includes no temporary impacts, and its Project Site consists of Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed land cover types.
No. 12 – Exotic species that prey upon or displace target species of concern should be permanently removed from the site to the extent feasible.	Yes	The Project Site removes Ruderal and Developed/Disturbed land cover types from Riverside County.
No. 13 – To avoid attracting predators of the species of concern, the Project Site shall be kept as clean of debris as possible. All food related trash items shall be enclosed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the site(s).	Yes	Standard Measure
No. 14 – Construction employees shall strictly limit their activities, vehicles, equipment, and construction materials to the proposed Project Site and designated staging areas and routes of travel. The construction area(s) shall be the minimal area necessary to complete the project and shall be specified in the construction plans. Construction limits will be fenced with orange snow screen. Exclusion fencing should be maintained until the completion of all construction activities. Employees shall be instructed that their activities are restricted to the construction areas.	Yes	Standard Measure
No. 15 – The Permittee shall have the right to access and inspect any sites of approved projects including any restoration/ enhancement area for compliance with project approval conditions including these BMPs.	Yes	Standard Measure

## 11 CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE:	June 06,	2022		

SIGNED:

#### 12 REFERENCES

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FIGURES

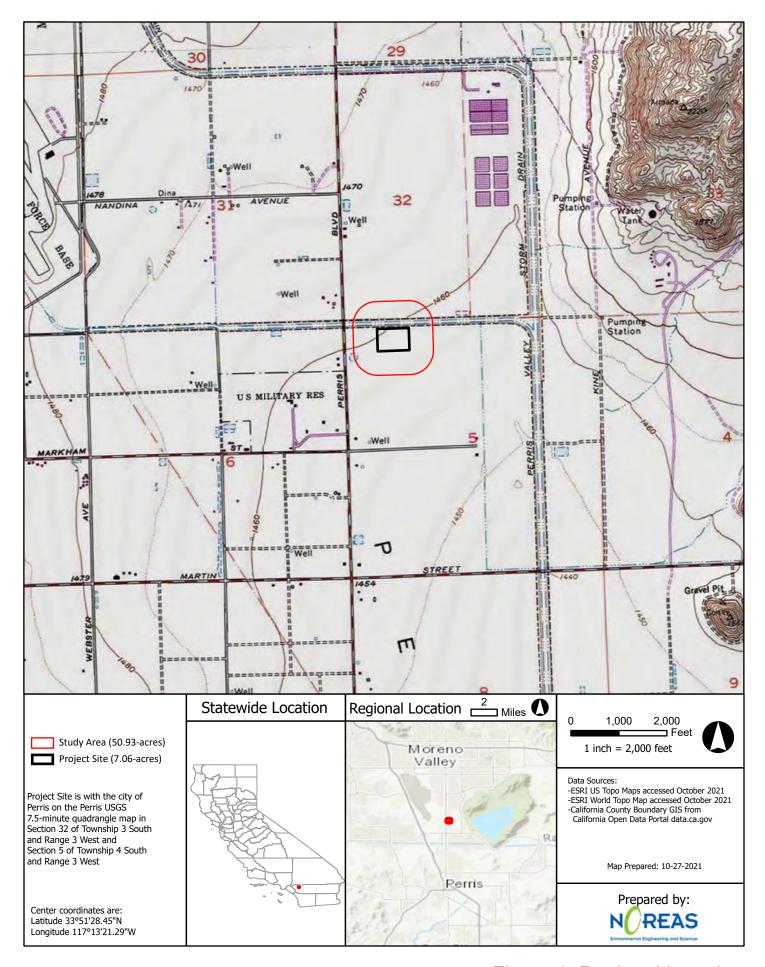
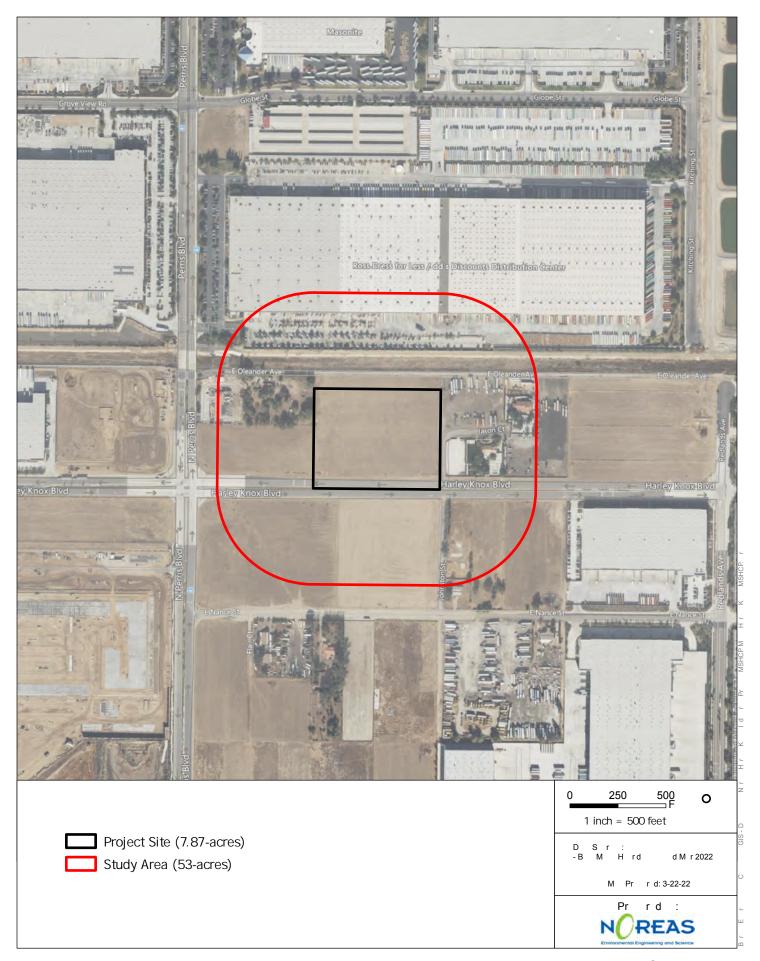


Figure 1. Regional Location



F r 2. S V

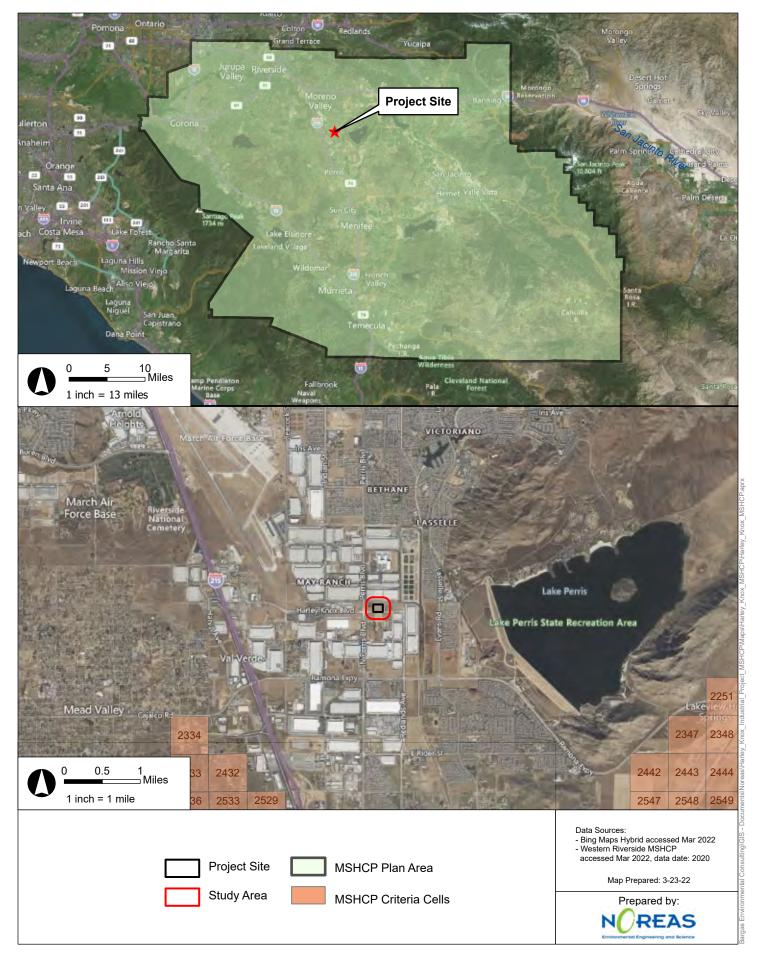


Figure 3. MSHCP Criteria Cells

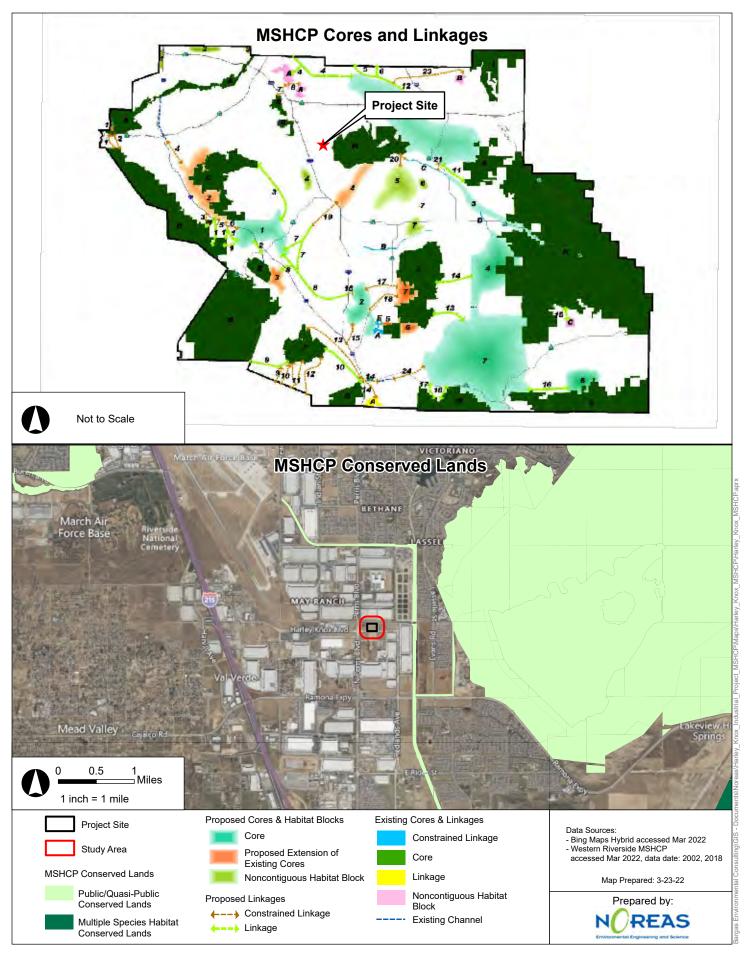


Figure 4. Cores, Linkages, and Conserved Lands

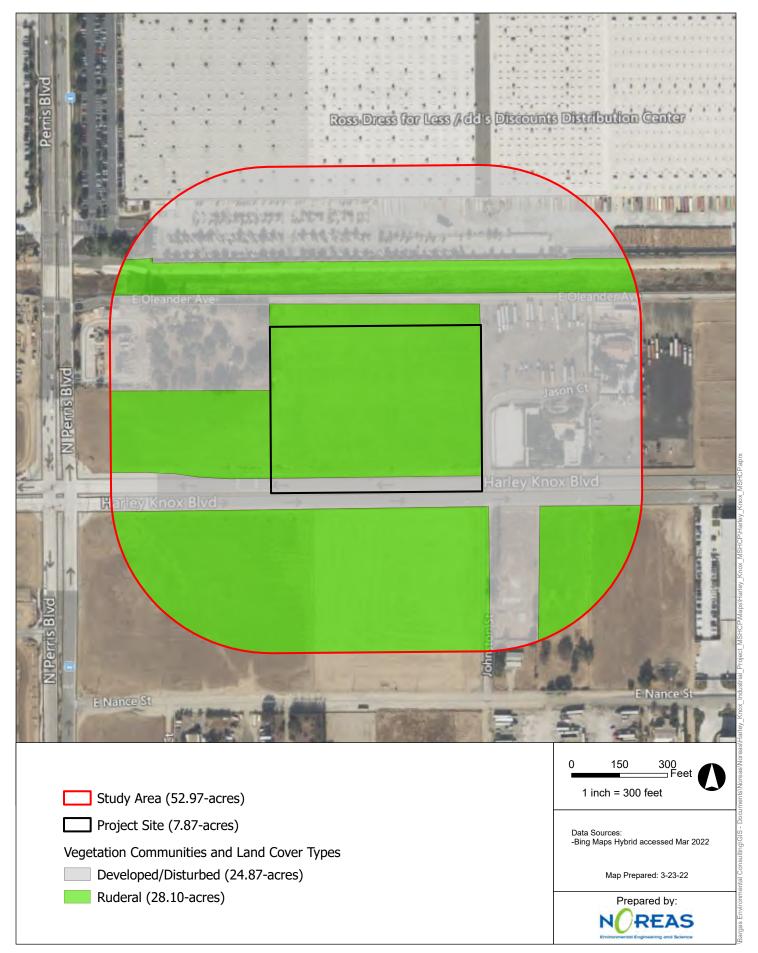
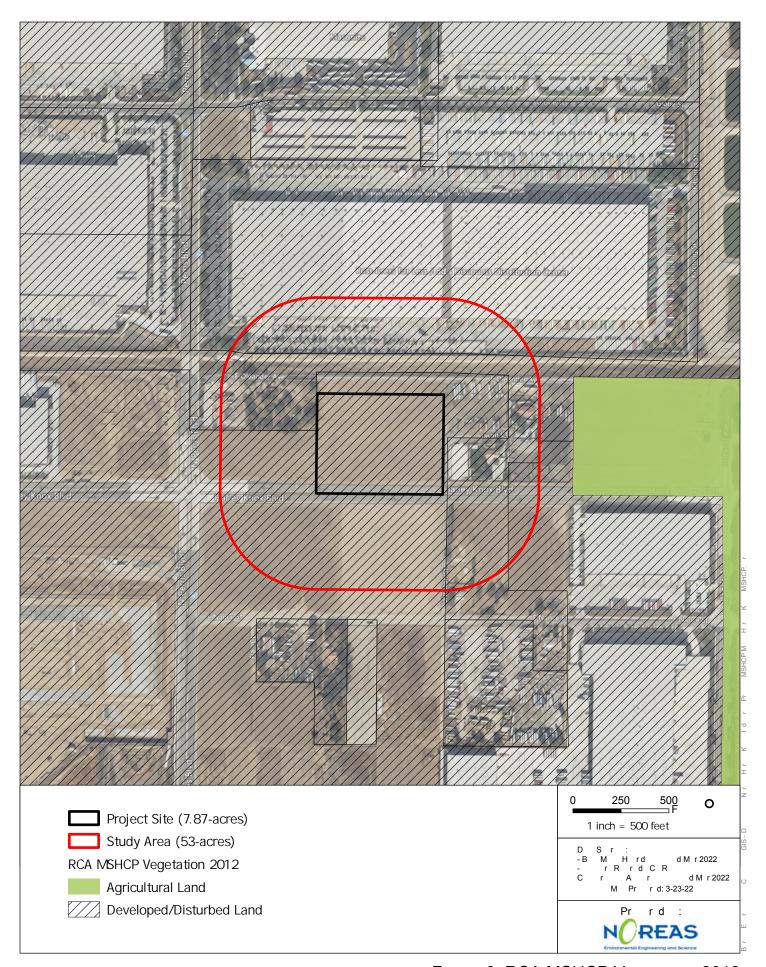
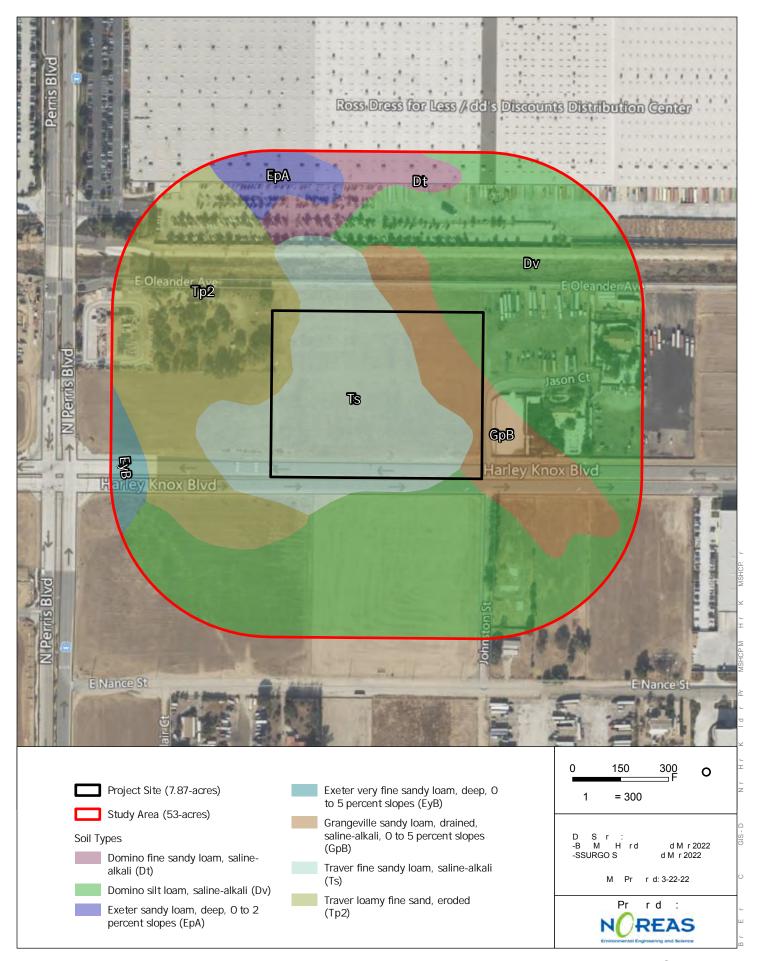
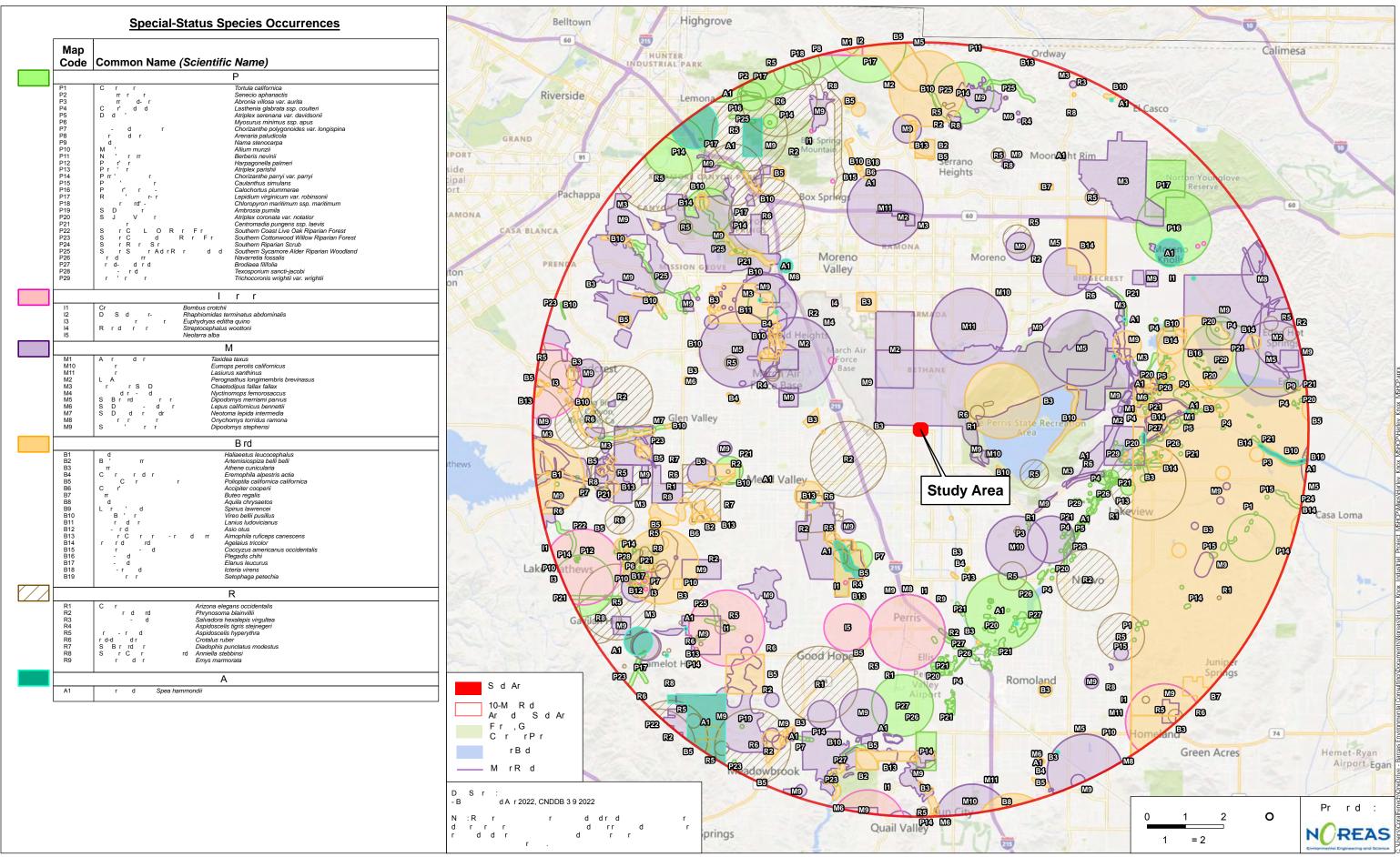
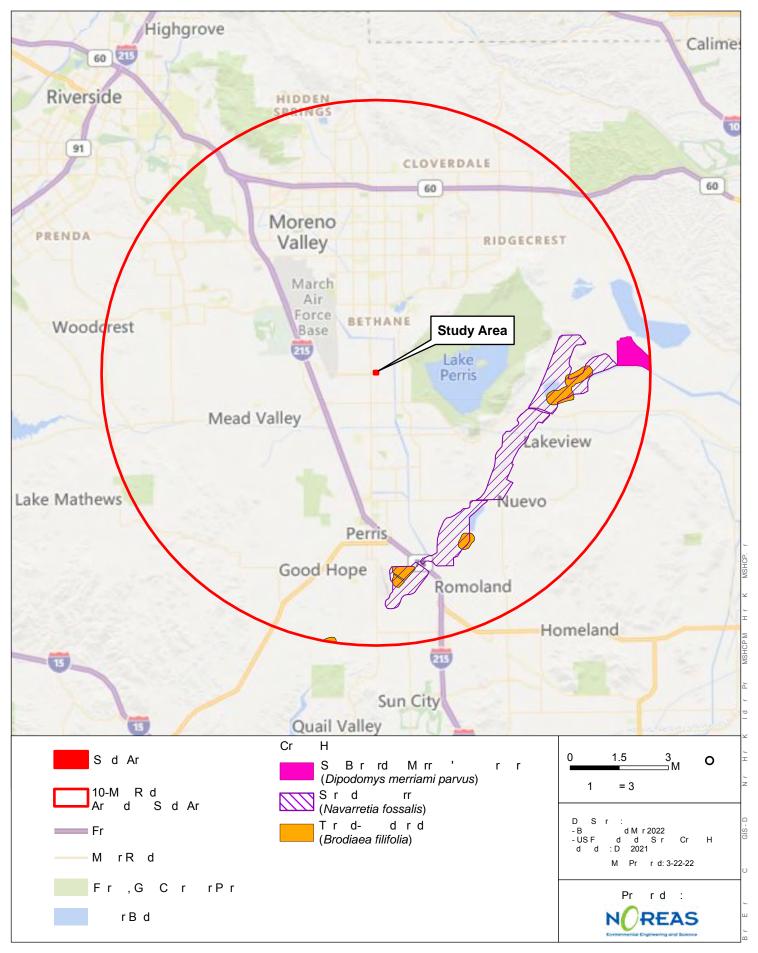


Figure 5. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types









F r 9. Cr H

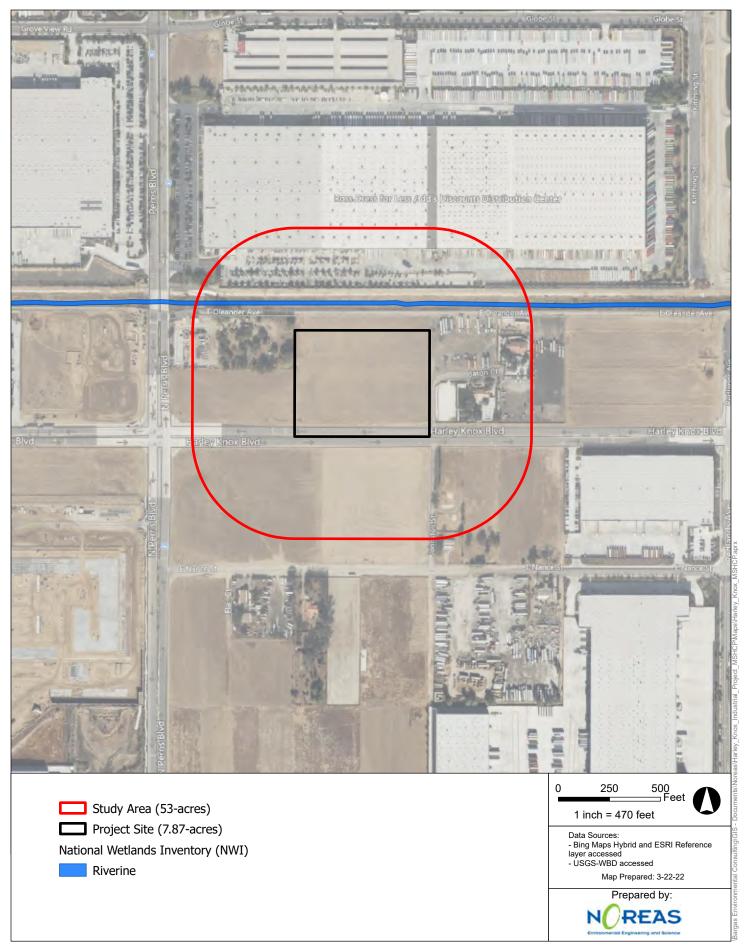
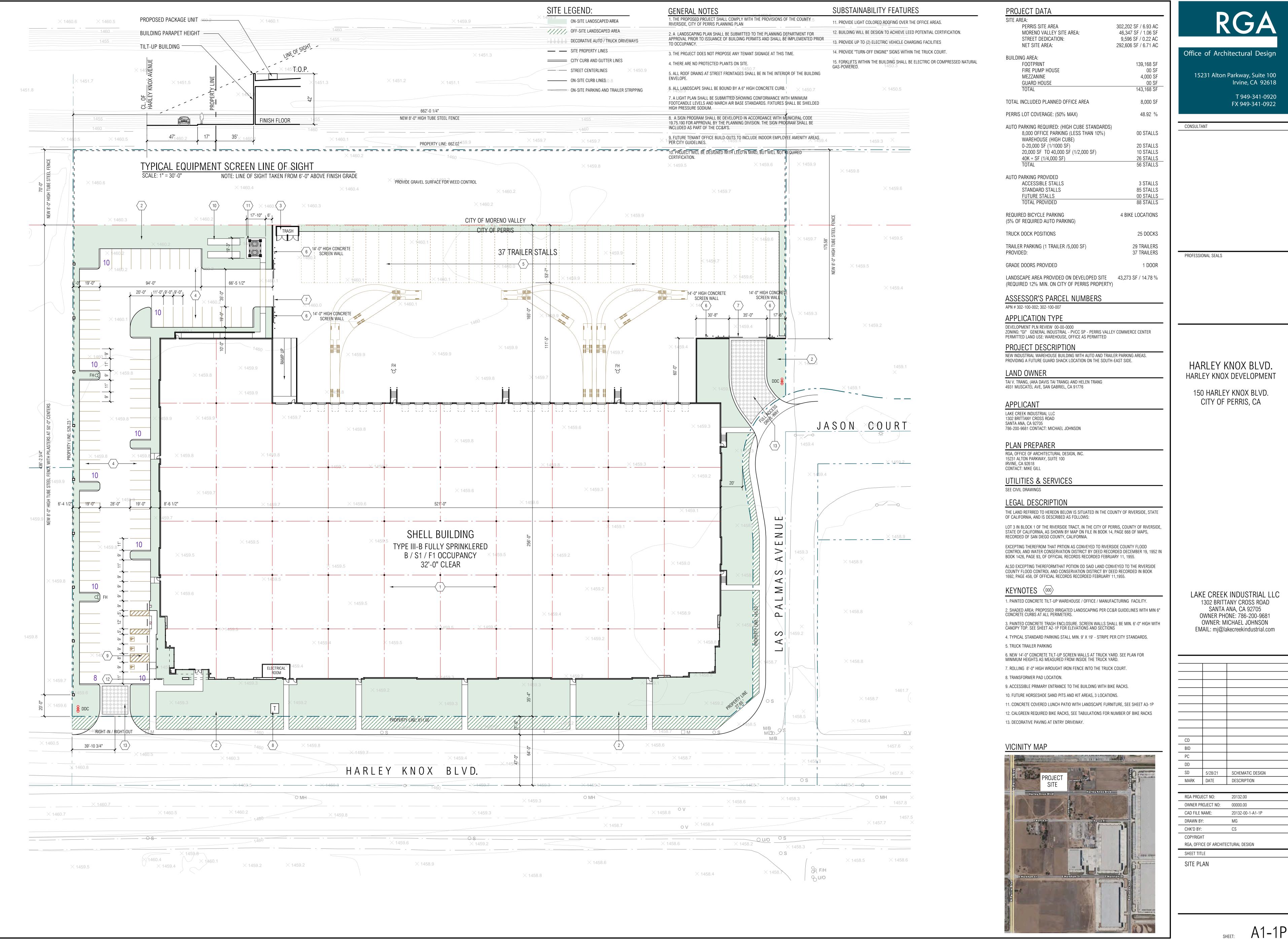


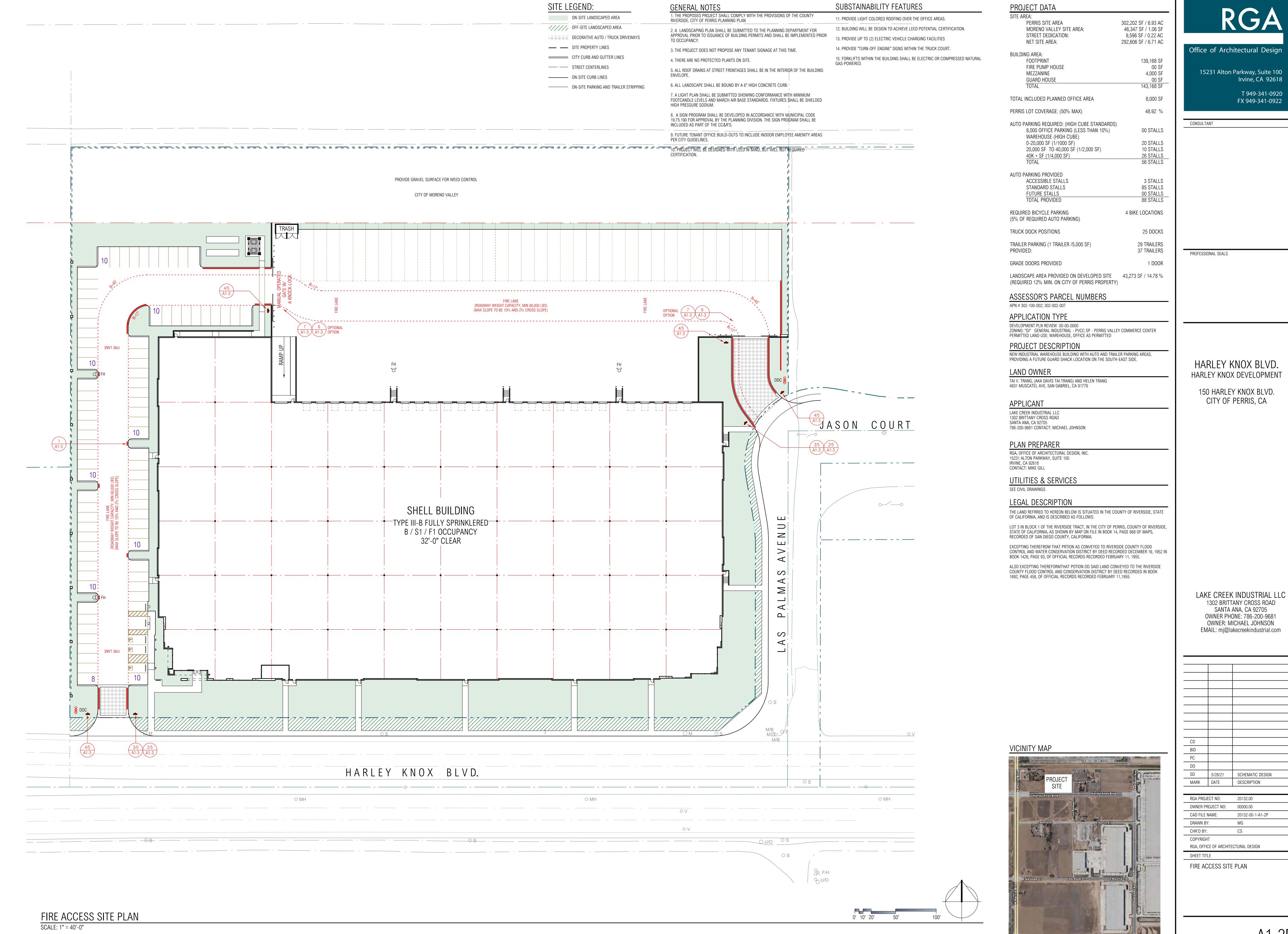
Figure 10. National Wetlands Inventory

APPENDICES
APPENDICES

Appendix A Site Plan



CD		
3ID		
PC Oc		
DC		
SD	5/28/21	SCHEMATIC DESIGN
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION



A1-2P



CD		
BID		
PC		
DD		
SD	5/17/21	SCHEMATIC DESIGN
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
DOA DDO IE	OT NO.	20122.00



Mrr BrdCr BrdCr Mr 1

36" . . 3,018

Office of Architectural Design

15231 Alton Parkway, Suite 100

Irvine, CA 92618 T 949-341-0920 FX 949-341-0922

A S S O C | A T E S, | N C
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
3633 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD, SUITE 300
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90807

HARLEY KNOX BLVD. HARLEY KNOX DEVELOPMENT

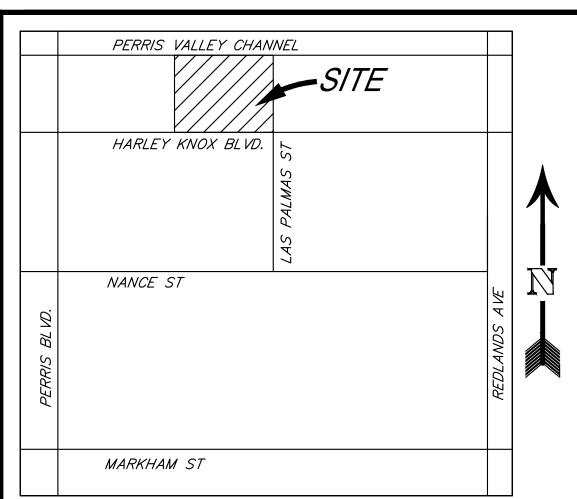
> 150 HARLEY KNOX BLVD. CITY OF PERRIS, CA

LAKE CREEK INDUSTRIAL LLC 1302 BRITTANY CROSS ROAD SANTA ANA, CA 92705 OWNER PHONE: 786-200-9681 OWNER: MICHAEL JOHNSON EMAIL: mj@lakecreekindustrial.com

CD		
BID		
PC		
DD		
SD	5/17/21	SCHEMATIC DESIGN
MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION

A PROJECT NO:	20132.00
NER PROJECT NO:	00000.00
D FILE NAME:	20132-00-1-A1-1P
AWN BY:	RC
K'D BY:	MG
PYRIGHT	

RGA, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN



#### VICINITY MAP NOT TO SCALE

#### O NER DEVELOPER

LAKE CREEK INDUSTRIAL, LLC 1302 BRITTANY CROSS CIRCLE SANTA ANA, CA 90705 PHONE: (949) 910-4616

## **ENGINEER**

SDH & ASSOCIATES, INC 27363 VIA INDUSTRIA TEMECULA, CA 92590 VOICE: (951) 683-3691 FAX: (951) 788–2314

## ARCHITECT

RGA OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN 15231 ALTON PARKWAY, SUITE 100 IRVINE CA. 92612 PHONE: (949) 341-0920

#### EARTH ORK

CUT: 7,500 C.Y. FILL: 7,500 C.Y.

#### SOURCE OF TOPO

ARROWHEAD MAPPING CORP. 1887 BUSINESS CENTER DR SUITE 5A SAN BERNADINO CA. 92408 *VOICE: (909) 889–2420* FLOWN: 11–16–19

## UTILITY PURVEYORS

<i>WATER</i>	E.M.W.D.
<i>GAS</i>	SO. CALIF. GAS
ELECTRICAL	EDISON
TELEPHONE	<i>VERIZON</i>
<i>SEWER</i>	CITY OF PERRIS/EMWD
CABLE	· ·

## PROJECT DATA

SITE AREA: 292,606 S.F. (6.71 AC.) BUILDING AREA: 143,168 S.F.

## PARKING INFO

PARKING REQUIRED: 56 SPACES PARKING PROVIDED: 88 SPACES

# HA ARDOUS MATERIALS

NOT IN A FIRE HAZARD ZONE

#### FEMA FLOOD ONE DESIGNATION ZONE D

# ONING AND LAND USE

EXISTING ZONING..... PVCC SP EXISTING LAND USE......VACANT PROPOSED ZONING......PVCC SP PROPOSED LAND USE.....INDUSTRIAL

# <u>LEGEND</u>

TOP CATCH BASIN - FINISHED GRADE

- PAD ELEVATION - GRADE BREAK

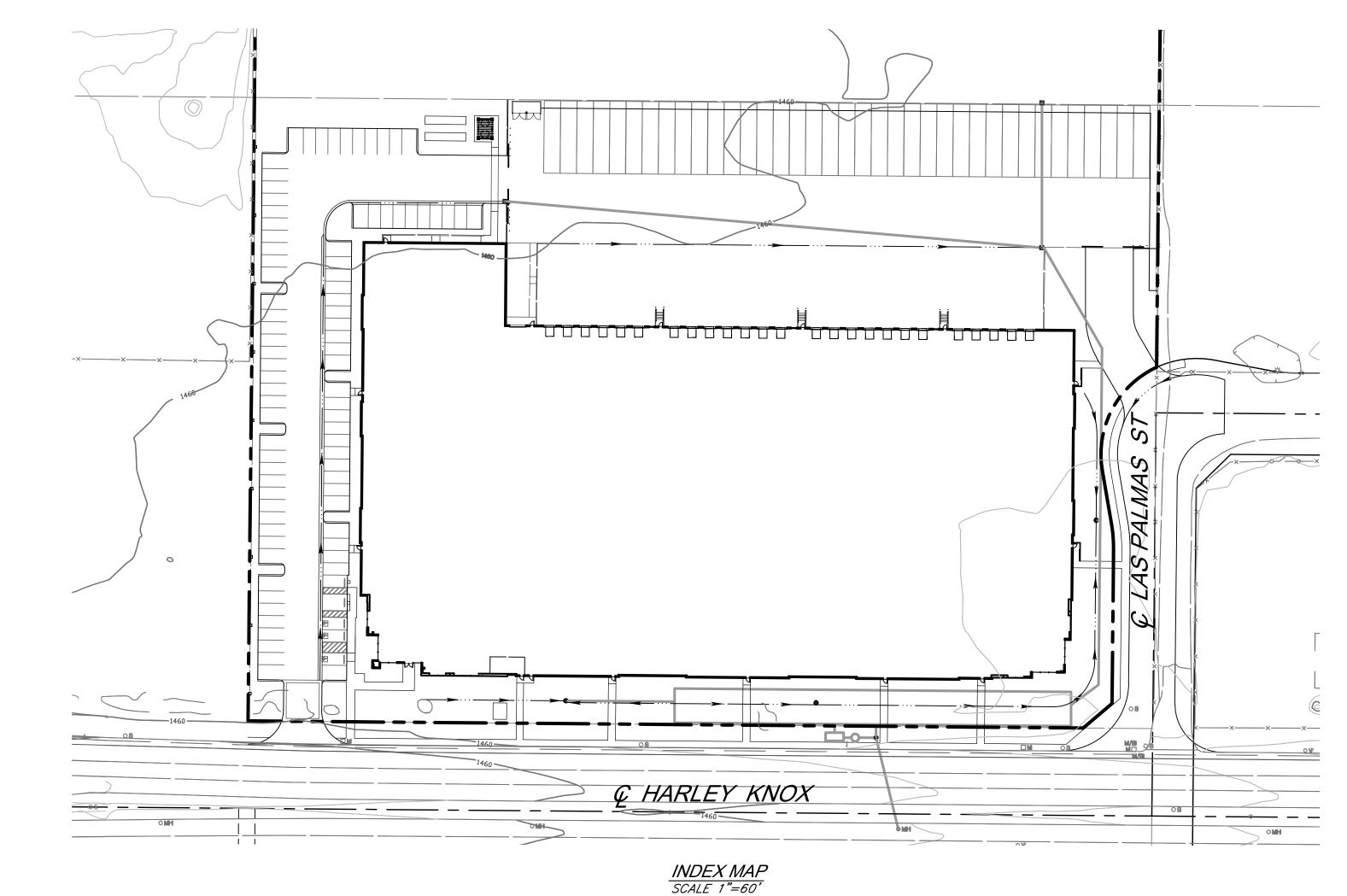
—— — CENTERLINE

CURB AND GUTTER 1280 — EXISTING CONTOUR LINE

CITY OF PERRIS

# PRELIMINARY GRADING PLAN

SDH ASSOCIATES, INC. JUNE 2021



# CONSTRUCTION NOTES

THOMAS BROTHERS INFO.

PAGE: 747, GRID: E7

ATER UALITY

HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT

ONING DISTRIC

SCHOOL DISTRICT

VAL VERDE UNIFIED

SHEET INDEX

SHEET 1: TITLE SHEET

A PROJECT SPECIFIC WQMP

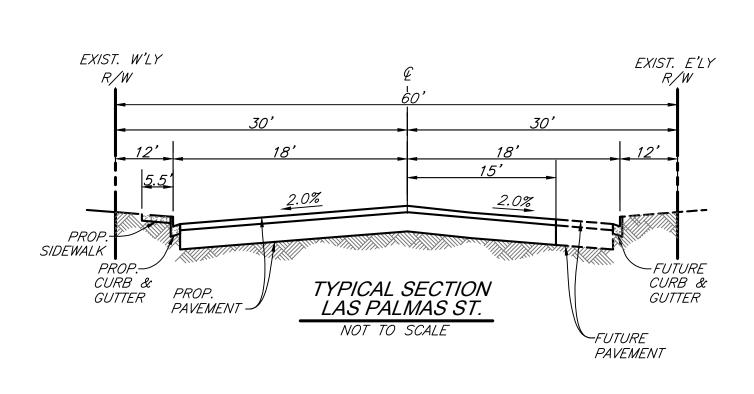
NOT IN A ZONING DISTRICT/AREA

302-030-002, 302-100-007

SHEET 2: PRELIMINARY GRADING PLAN

SHEET 3: SECTIONS AND DETAILS

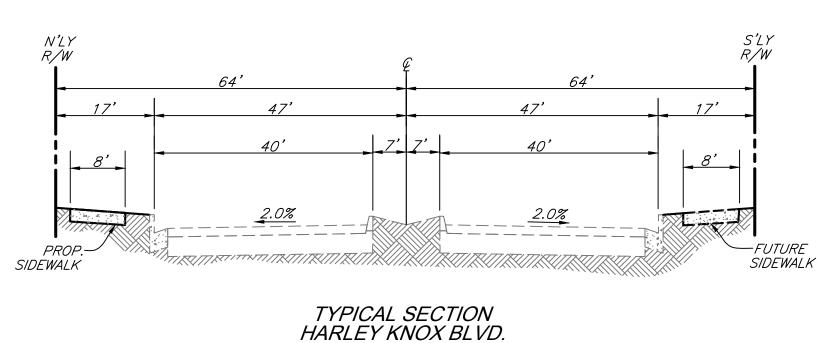
- (1) CONSTRUCT P.C.C./A.C. 15LE & PARKING AREAS
- (2) CONSTRUCT 6" CURB ONLY
- (3) CONSTRUCT 6" CURB AND AND GUTTER
- (4) CONSTRUCT 3" WIDE CONCRETE RIBBON GUTTER
- (5) CONSTRUCT P.C.C. SIDEWALK (ONSTE) FINISHES PER ARCH. PLANS
- (6) CONSTRUCT 6" CURB AND AND GUTTER (OFFSITE) PER COUNTY STDS.
- 7 CONSTRUCT P.C.C. SIDEWALK (OFFSITE) PER COUNTY STDS.
- 8 CONSTRUCT A.D.A. COMPLIANT RAMP.
- 9 CONSTRUCT COMMERCIAL DRIVEWAY APPROACH PER COUNTY STDS.
- (10) CONSTRUCT 24" CATCH BASIN PER BROOKS STD 2424CB OR APP'D EQUAL
- (11) CONSTRUCT HDPE STORM DRAIN
- (12) CONSTRUCT A.C. PAVING (OFFSITE) PER COUNTY/CITY STDS.
- (13) CONSTRUCT DUAL 3" PVC PIPES UNDER SIDEWALK
- (14) CONSTRUCT LANDSCAPE DRAIN W/ATRIUM GRATE
- (15) CONSTRUCT JUNCTION STRUCTURE @ CHANNEL PER RCFC STDS.
- (6) CONSTRUCT UNDERGROUND DETENTION FACILITY-STORMTRAP
- SINGLE TRAP (OR EQUIVALENT) (17) CONSTRUCT MODULAR WETLAND SYSTEM (MWS-L-8-12)
- (18) CONSTRUCT VEGETATED SWALE
- (19) CONSTRUCT CONCRETE BROW DITCH

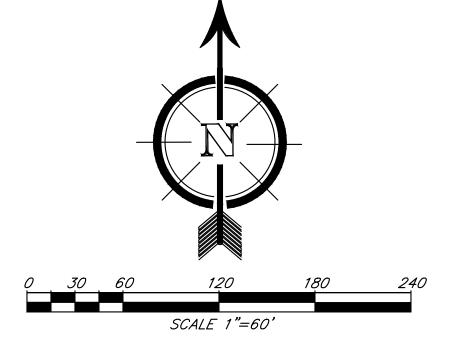


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EXP. <u>9-30-21</u>





# PRELIMINA **NOT FOR CONSTRUCT**

J V		
	MARK	
ΓΙΟΝ	DESIC	GNED BY:
	CHEC	KED BY:

REV.	'EVISIONS'					PLANNING DIVISION:		
								PREPARED BY:
MARK			DESCRIPTION		BY	APPR	DATE	DANE 0044500
DES/C	GNED BY:	<i>S.S.</i>		DRAWN BY:	S.J.S.			DANE SOMMERS
CHEC	KED BY:	<i>R.V.Z</i> .		PROJECT MANAGER:	<i>S.S.</i>			R.C.E. NO.: <u>90433</u>

SEAL:	PREPARED BY:
PROFESSIONAL COMMENCES	
1/~ // > 3/1/3/1	
No. 90433 Exp. 9–30–21	
	SCALE: 1" =60'
CIVIL OF CALIFORNIA	
CALLY	DATE: JUNE 2021

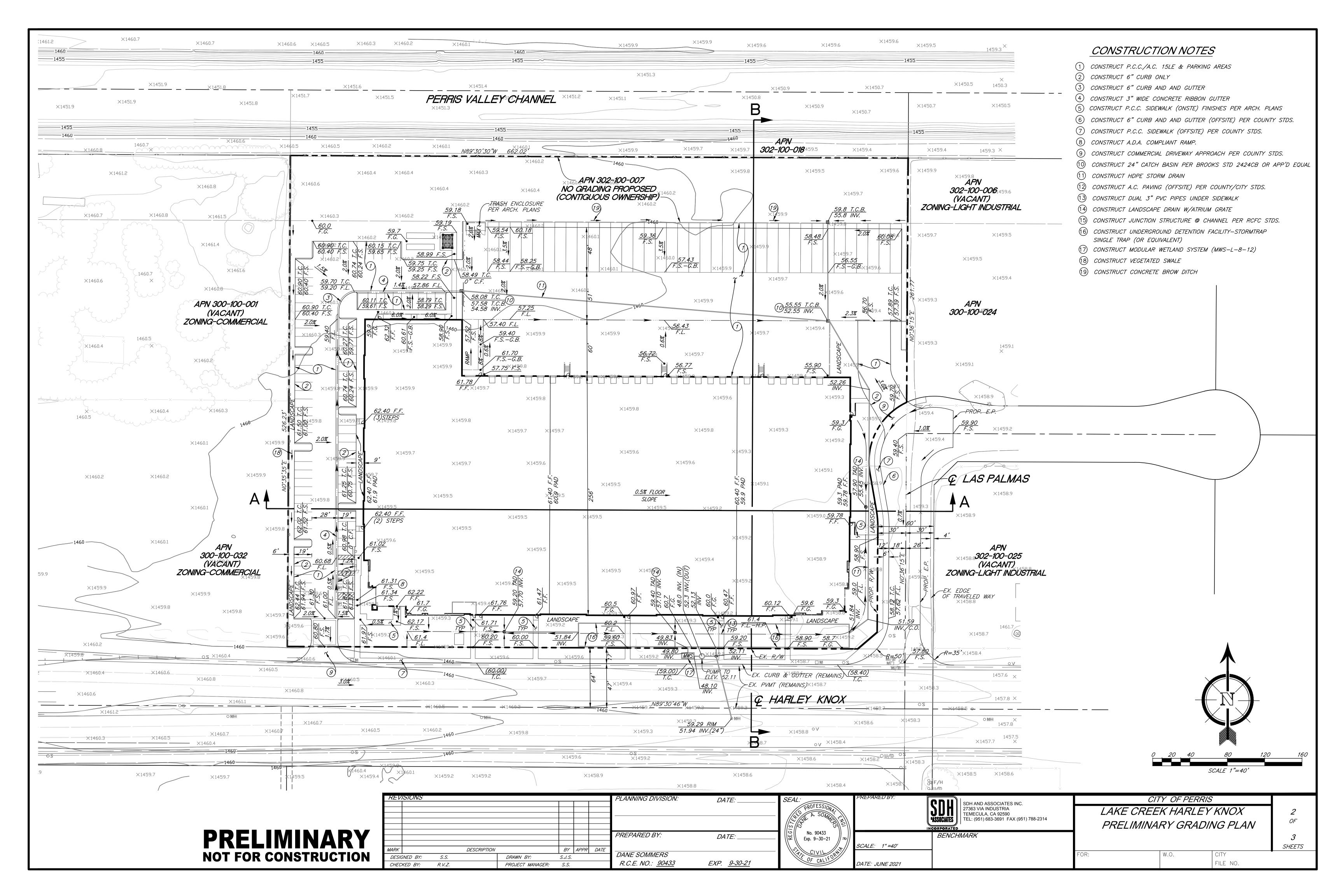
	SDH AND ASSOCIATES INC. 27363 VIA INDUSTRIA TEMECULA, CA 92590 TEL: (951) 683-3691 FAX (951) 788-2314	
	BENCHMARK	
1" =60'		

NOT TO SCALE

CITY OF PERRIS LAKE CREEK - HARLEY KNOX PRELIMINARY GRADING PLAN

FILE NO.

SHEETS



## **Appendix B Plant Species Observed Within the Study Area**

Scientific Name	Common Name				
Anacardiaceae	(Cashew family)				
Schinus molle*	Peruvian pepper				
Arecaceae (Palm family)					
Phoenix dactylifera*	Date palm				
Washingtonia Robusta*	Mexican fan palm				
Asteraceae (.	Aster family)				
Ambrosia acanthicarpa *	Annual bur-sage				
Anthemis cotula*	Mayweed				
Conyza canadensis	Horseweed				
Eragrostis Curvula*	Love grass				
Helianthus californicus	Sunflower				
Heterotheca grandiflora *	Telegraphweed				
Lactuca serriola *	Prickly lettuce				
Xanthium strumarium	Cocklebur				
Boraginaceae (	Borage family)				
Amsinckia menziesii	Small flowered fiddleneck				
Brassicaceae (Mustard family)					
Brassica Tournefortii*	Sahara mustard				
Hirschfeldia incana *	Shortpod mustard				
Sisymbrium irio *	London rocket				
Chenopodiaceae (	Goosefoot family)				
Atriplex canescens	Fourwing saltbush				
Salsola tragus*	Prickly Russian thistle				
Convolvulaceae (i	bindweed family)				
Convolvulus Arvensis*	Field bindweed				
Geraniaceae (Geranium family)					
Erodium cicutarium *	Redstem stork's bill				
Fabaceae (	Pea family)				
Melilotus indicus*	Sourclover				
Malvaceae (Mallow family)					
Malva neglecta* Cheeseweed					
Lamiaceae (	Mint family)				
Marrubium Vulgare	Horehound				
Myrtaceae (n					
Eucalyptus sp.	Eucalyptus				
Plantaginaceae (	(Plantain family)				

Scientific Name	Common Name				
Plantago sp.	Narrow leaf plantai				
Poaceae (Grass family)					
Bromus diandrus *	Ripgut brome				
Bromus madritensis subsp. Rubens *	Red brome				
Distichlis Spicata	Salt grass				
Echinochloa Crus-galli*	Barnyard grass				
Hordeum murinum ssp. leporinum*	Mediterranean barley				
Schismus barbatus*	Schismus				
Portulacaceae (Purslane family)					
Portulaca oleracea	Common purslane				
Solanaceae (	Solanaceae (Potato family)				
Nicotiana glauca*	Tree tobacco				
Solanum elaeagnifolium*	Silverleaf nightshade				
Simaroubaceae (Tropical tree family)					
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of heaven				
Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk family)					
Tamarix ramosissima*	Saltcedar				

Nomenclature follows the Jepson Manual, Second Edition (Baldwin et al 2011). \* = naturalized, non- native plant species.

## Appendix C Wildlife Species Observed Within the Study Area

Scientific name	Common name					
Reptiles						
Sceloporus occidentalis	Western fence lizard					
Bird	S					
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-Tailed Hawk					
Carduelis psaltria	Lesser goldfinch					
Sayornis saya	Say's Phoebe					
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird					
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling					
Corvus corax	Common Raven					
Carpodacus mexicanus	House Finch					
Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove					
Columba livia	Rock Pigeon					
Mamm	Mammals					
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel					

### Appendix D Special-Status Species and Their Potential to Occur Within the Project Site

Potential for occurrence	Common name (Scientific name)	Federal listing status	State listing status	CNPS list	Number of records within 10 miles	Year(s) sighted
Α	Stephens' kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi)	Endangered	Threatened		36	1923-2011
Α	Coast horned lizard (Phrynosoma blainvillii)	None	None		3	1929-2006
HP	Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia)	None	None		17	1980-2017
Α	Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni)	Endangered	None		1	2009
Α	California glossy snake (Arizona elegans occidentalis)	None	None		8	1929-2016
Α	Orange-throated whiptail (Aspidoscelis hyperythra)	None	None		11	1918-2005
Α	Red-diamond rattlesnake (Crotalus ruber)	None	None		9	1923-2015
Α	Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus)	Endangered	Endangered		28	1920-2014
А	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (Aimophila ruficeps canescens)	None	None		19	1992-2016
Α	Los Angeles pocket mouse ( <i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> )	None	None		2	1916-2016
Α	Western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis californicus)	None	None		9	1957-1992
Α	Western yellow bat (Lasiurus xanthinus)	None	None		31	1981-1992
Α	Chaparral sand-verbena (Abronia villosa var. aurita)	None	None	1B.1	7	2004-2014
Α	Coulter's goldfields (Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri)	None	None	1B.1	2	2000-2017
Α	Davidson's saltscale (Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii)	None	None	1B.2	37	1991-2013
А	Long-spined spineflower ( <i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> var. longispina)	None	None	1B.2	1	1980-2015
Α	Parish's brittlescale (Atriplex parishii)	None	None	1B.1	8	1999
А	San Jacinto Valley crownscale (Atriplex coronata var. notatior)	Endangered	None	1B.1	6	2000-2015
Α	Smooth tarplant (Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis)	None	None	1B.1	10	1969-2015
Α	Spreading navarretia (Navarretia fossalis)	Threatened	None	1B.1	5	21995-2015
А	Wright's trichocoronis ( <i>Trichocoronis wrightii var.</i> wrightii)	None	None	2B.1	7	1937-2011
Α	Coastal whiptail (Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri)	None	None		2	1993-1999
А	San Bernardino ringneck snake ( <i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i> )	None	None		9	2000
А	Western pond turtle (Emys marmorata)	None	None		5	1987



Potential for occurrence	Common name (Scientific name)	Federal listing status	State listing status	CNPS list	Number of records within 10 miles	Year(s) sighted
L	California horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia)	None	None		11	1992-2015
А	Coastal California gnatcatcher ( <i>Polioptila californica</i> californica)	Threatened	None		8	1928-2004
Α	Loggerhead shrike (Lanius Iudovicianus)	None	None		696	1994
А	Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse ( <i>Chaetodipus</i> fallax)	None	None		295	1992-2017
Α	Pocketed free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops femorosaccus)	None	None		959	1985
Α	San Bernardino kangaroo rat ( <i>Dipodomys merriami</i> parvus)	Endangered	Candidate Endangered		3	1908-2015
А	Southern grasshopper mouse ( <i>Onychomys torridus</i> ramona)	None	None		112	1908-1938
Α	Western spadefoot (Spea hammondii)	None	None		350	1958-2017
Α	California screw moss (Tortula californica)	None	None	1B.2	265	2012-2013
Α	Chaparral ragwort (Senecio aphanactis)	None	None	2B.2	156	2004
Α	Little mousetail (Myosurus minimus ssp. apus)	None	None	3.1	100	1981
Α	Marsh sandwort (Arenaria paludicola)	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1	70	1899
Α	Mud nama (Nama stenocarpa)	None	None	2B.2	15	2010
Α	Munz's onion (Allium munzii)	Endangered	Threatened	1B.1	23	1897-2012
Α	Palmer's grapplinghook (Harpagonella palmeri)	None	None	4.2	11	1986-1990
Α	Parry's spineflower (Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi)	None	None	1B.1	175	1917-2012
Α	Payson's jewelflower (Caulanthus simulans)	None	None	4.2	81	1982
Α	Plummer's mariposa-lily (Calochortus plummerae)	None	None	4.2	69	1989-2003
Α	Robinson's pepper-grass ( <i>Lepidium virginicum var.</i> robinsonii)	None	None	4.3	20	1952-2004
Α	Salt marsh bird's-beak ( <i>Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum</i> )	Endangered	Endangered	1B.2	176	1888
Α	Hammitt's clay-cress (Sibarpsis hammittii)	None	None	1B.2	14	2009
Α	Many-stemmed dudleya (Dudleya multicaulis)	None	None	1B.2	22	1997-2011
А	San Miguel savory (Satureja chandleri)	None	None	1B.2	10	1987-1991
Α	San Diego ambrosia ( <i>Ambrosia pumila</i> )	Endangered	None	1B.1	213	2009
Α	Thread-leaved brodiaea ( <i>Brodiaea filifolia</i> )	Threatened	Endangered	1B.1	113	2000-2017
Α	Woven-spored lichen ( <i>Texosporium sancti-jacobi</i> )	None	None	3	50	2002
А	Delhi Sands flower-loving fly ( <i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> )	Endangered	None		66	1990-2013



Potential for occurrence	Common name (Scientific name)	Federal listing status	State listing status	CNPS list	Number of records within 10 miles	Year(s) sighted
А	Quino checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha quino)	Endangered	None		2	1945-1998
А	Coast patch-nosed snake (Salvadora hexalepis virgultea)	None	None		31	2016
Α	Southern California legless lizard (Anniella stebbinsi)	None	None		30	1967-2018
Α	Bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)	Delisted	Endangered		4	1975-1981
Α	Bell's sage sparrow (Artemisiospiza belli belli)	None	None		17	1999-2002
Α	Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii)	None	None		131	1983-2001
Α	Ferruginous hawk (Buteo regalis)	None	None		53	1989-2005
Α	Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos)	None	None		165	1974
Α	Lawrence's goldfinch (Spinus lawrencei)	None	None		62	2001
Α	Long-eared owl (Asio otus)	None	None		89	1983
Α	Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor)	None	Threatened		57	2011-2015
А	Western yellow-billed cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> occidentalis)	Threatened	Endangered		138	2001
Α	White-faced ibis (Plegadis chihi)	None	None		3	1993
Α	White-tailed kite (Elanus leucurus)	None	None		10	1983
Α	Yellow warbler (Setophaga petechia)	None	None		71	2014
А	Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens)	None	None		25	2001
А	American badger ( <i>Taxidea taxus</i> )	None	None		6	1908-1990
А	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit ( <i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> )	None	None		84	1998-2015
А	San Diego desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida intermedia)	None	None		58	1990

#### **CNPS List Definitions**

List 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California

List 1B.1: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; seriously threatened in California

List 1B.2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, fairly threatened in California

List 1B.3: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, not very threatened in California

List 2.1: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere; seriously threatened in California

List 2.2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere; fairly threatened in California

#### Potential for Occurrence Definitions

Absent [A] – Species distribution is restricted by substantive habitat requirements, which do not occur – or are negligible within the Project Site, and no further survey or study is obligatory to determine likely presence or absence of this species.



Habitat Present [HP] – Species distribution is restricted by substantive habitat requirements, which occur within the Project Site, and further survey or study may be necessary to determine likely presence or absence of species.

Present [P] – Species or species sign were observed within the Project's permanent disturbance footprint, or historically has been documented within the Project Site Critical Habitat [CH] – The Project Site is located within a USFWS-designated critical habitat unit



### **Appendix E Burrowing Owl Survey Report**



## **Harley Knox Warehouse**

June 2022

#### **BURROWING OWL SURVEY**

Perris United States Geological Survey 7.5-MinuteTopographic Quadrangle Map

Prepared By

NOREAS

Environmental Engineering and Science

16361 Scientific Way, Irvine, CA 92618

(949) 467-9100

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3.0	METH	HODS	3-1
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Figure	3	Results	4-5



#### 1.0 SUMMARY / INTRODUCTION

CRG - LCI Harley Knox, LLC (LCI) is proposing to develop the Harley Knox Warehouse Project (hereafter referred to as the Project) located at 150 Harley Knox Boulevard, in Riverside California. This report provides the methods, assumptions, and results of focused surveys for Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) conducted for the Project. The Project is located within Section 05 of Township 04 South and Range 03 West, and in Section 32 of Township 03 South and Range 03 West of the Perris United States Geological Survey 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map (USGS 1988).

The Project occurs at an approximate elevation of 1,460 ft. above mean sea level (msl). Land use in the vicinity of the Project includes commercial, agriculture, residential and industrial endeavors. For the purposes of this report, the "study area" includes the Project's proposed ground disturbance footprint (Project Site), plus a 500-foot buffer where practical (Figures 1 and 2). The Project Site is located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), Mead Valley Area Plan. According to the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) MSHCP Information Map, Project limits are within the burrowing owl study area. Agricultural and other commercial development activities were historically operated within Project limits. There is also evidence of recent disking, and trash from illegal dumping throughout the study area.

No Burrowing Owls were detected nesting, foraging, or dispersing within the study area during the 2022 surveys. Numerous low quality potential burrows and burrow complexes were detected (Figure 3). The burrows observed lacked evidence of owl tracks, molted feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, egg shell fragments, owl white wash, and nest burrow decoration materials. The lack of Burrowing Owls within the study area is likely a result of the depauperate landscape, and the presence of owl predators. Although the Project has potential to impact lands that could be utilized by Burrowing Owls as habitat, surveys for the species are negative. Therefore, there is no presumption that the Project would result in the loss of individual Burrowing Owls, or that it would adversely affect local or regional populations of them.



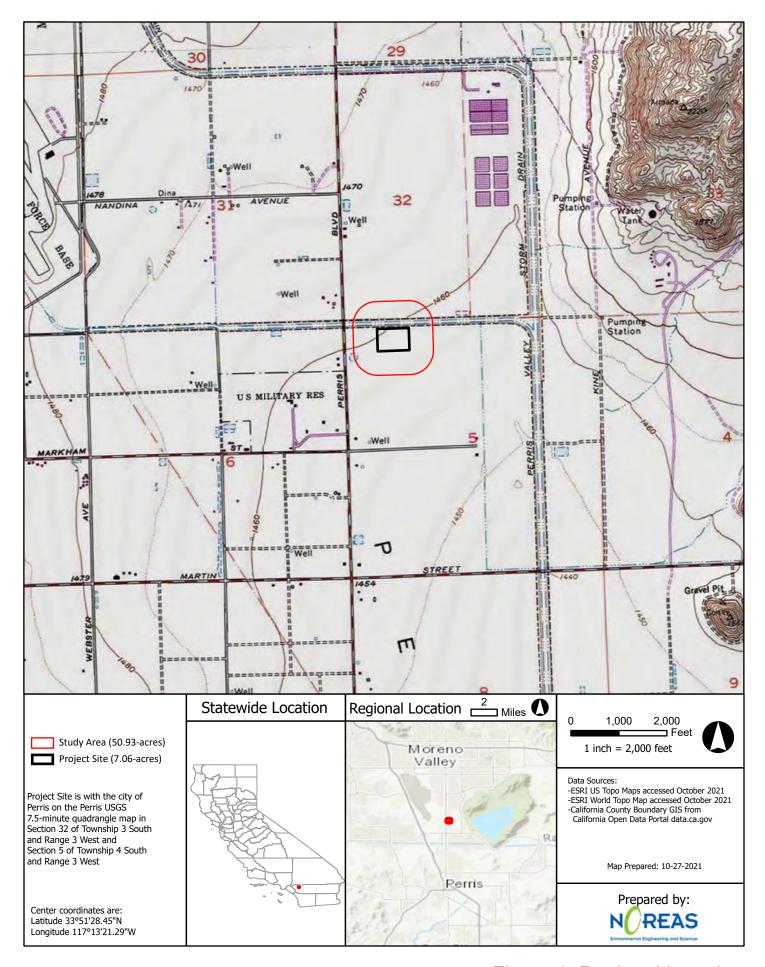


Figure 1. Regional Location

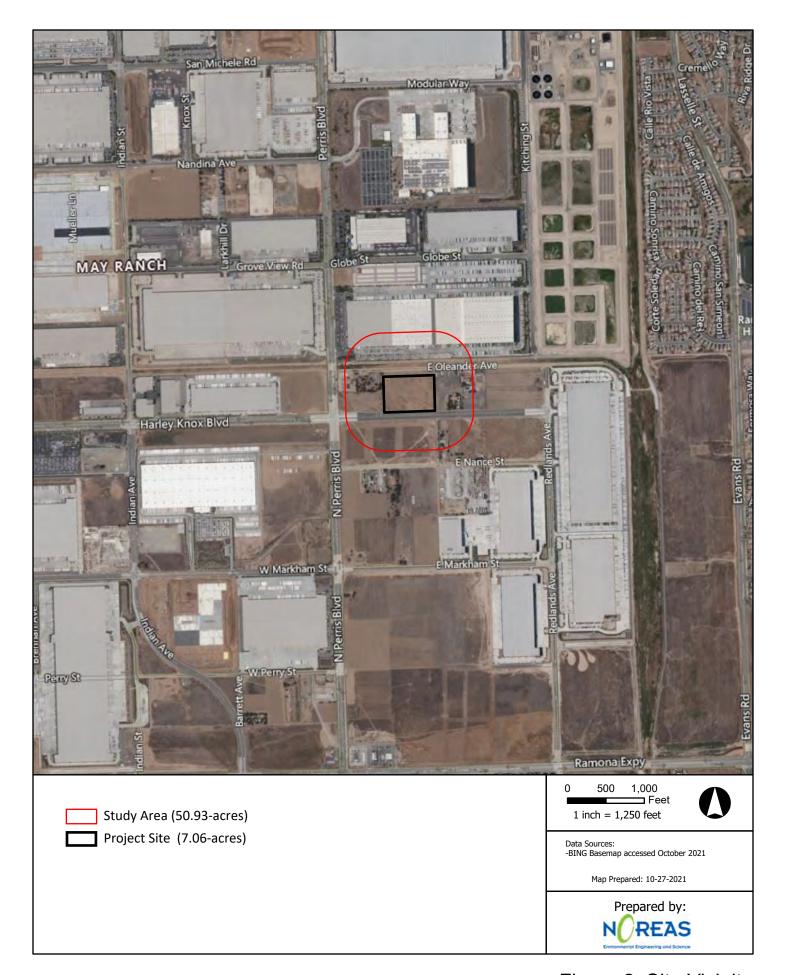


Figure 2. Site Vicinity

#### 2.0 BURROWING OWL BACKGROUND

The Burrowing Owl has been designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as a species of special concern. "State Species of Special Concern" status applies to animals not listed for protection under the federal Endangered Species Act or the California Endangered Species Act. The designation denotes that a species is declining at a rate that could result in State listing or that a species has historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist. The designation is intended to result in "special consideration" for these animals during the environmental review and discretionary permitting processes. In addition, the designation is also intended to focus research and management attention on poorly-known, potentially at-risk species by stimulating the collection of additional information on their biology, distribution, and status.

Burrowing Owls prefer open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, agricultural and rangelands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Burrowing Owls also prefer areas inhabited by small mammals as they predominately depend on mammal burrows (particularly ground squirrels) for subterranean nesting. Owls can be found at elevations ranging from 200 ft. below sea level to 9,000 ft. above (CDFG 1995). Burrowing Owls commonly perch on fence posts or on mounds outside their burrows. Northern populations of Burrowing Owls are usually migratory, while more southern populations may move short distances or not at all (Haug et al. 1993, Botelho 1996). Little is known about the winter ranges of migratory populations, although migratory Burrowing Owls are believed to mix with resident populations in California during the winter months (Coulombe 1971, Haug et al. 1993).

Burrowing Owls tend to be resident where food sources are stable and available year-round (Rosenberg et al. 1998). Typically, they disperse or migrate south in areas when food becomes seasonally scarce. Burrowing Owls tend to be opportunistic feeders. Large arthropods, mainly beetles and grasshoppers, comprise a substantial portion of their diet (Rosenberg et al. 1998). Small mammals, especially mice, rats, gophers, and ground squirrels, are also important food items. Other prey animals include reptiles and amphibians, scorpions, young cottontail rabbits, bats, and birds such as sparrows and Horned Larks. Consumption of insects increases during the breeding season. Burrowing Owls hover while hunting; after catching their prey they return to perches on fence posts or the ground. Burrowing Owls are primarily active at dusk and dawn, but, if necessary, will hunt at any time of day (CBOC 1993, CDFG 1995; Rosenberg et al. 1998).

The breeding season for Burrowing Owls is March to late August; the season tends to last later in the northern part of the range (CBOC 1993, CDFG 1995, Klute et al. 2003). Clutch size (number of birds hatched at the same time) ranges from 1 to 12 and averages about 7 (Ehrlich 1988). The incubation period is 28–30 days (Ehrlich 1988). The female performs all the incubation and brooding (sitting on eggs to hatch them by the warmth of the body) and is believed to remain continually in the burrow while the male does all the hunting (Rosenberg et al. 1998). The young fledge (take their first flight out of the nest) at 44 days but remain near the burrow and join the adults in foraging flights at dusk (Ehrlich 1988). The maximum life span recorded for a banded bird in the wild is approximately 8.5 years (Rosenberg et al. 1998).

In resident populations, nest site fidelity is common, with many adults nesting each year in their previous year's burrow; young from the previous year often establish nest sites near (<900 ft) their natal sites (Trulio 1997,Rosenberg et al. 1998). Burrowing Owls in migratory populations also often nest in the same burrow, particularly if the previous year's breeding was successful (Belthoff and King 1997). Other birds in the same population may move to burrows near their previous year's burrow. The species is



threatened primarily by loss, degradation, and fragmentation of habitat, although they do readily inhabit anthropogenic landscapes such as agricultural fields, golf courses, and airport grasslands (Korfanta et al. 2005).



#### 3.0 METHODS

Prior to beginning field surveys, resource specialists were consulted and available information from resource management plans and relevant documents were reviewed to determine the locations and types of resources that have the potential to exist within and adjacent to the study area. Resources were evaluated within several miles of the Project. The materials reviewed included, but were not limited to, the following:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Critical Habitat Mapper and File Data (USFWS 2022a);
- USFWS Carlsbad Field Office Species List for Riverside County (USFWS 2022b);
- California Natural Diversity Database maintained by the CDFW (CDFW 2022);
- California Burrowing Owl Consortium (CBOC). 1993. Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines;
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2012. Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation;
- Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP 2003); and
- Aerial Photographs (Microsoft Corporation 2022).

A burrowing owl habitat suitability assessment and burrow survey was conducted on March 01, 2022 in accordance with the March 29, 2006 Western Riverside County MSHCP burrowing owl survey instructions. Natural and non-natural substrates were examined for potential burrow sites. All potential burrows encountered were examined for shape, size, molted feathers, whitewash, cast pellets and/or prey remains. Disturbance characteristics and all other animal sign encountered within the study area were documented.

Since suitable habitat was detected for Burrowing Owls within the study area, four (4) additional surveys were performed (details are presented within *TABLE NO. 1 - SUMMARY OF SURVEY CONDITIONS FOR SURVEYS*). A hand-held, global positioning system (GPS) unit with sub meter accuracy was used to survey predetermined transects that were prepared within a Geographic Information System prior to the start of owl surveys (Figure 3). Survey transects were spaced at appropriate intervals to allow for complete visual coverage of the Project Site and study area. Where necessary, transect spacing was reduced or expanded in the field - to account for differences in terrain, vegetation density, visibility and access (i.e., private property) considerations. Where access was limited, observations were made from the nearest appropriate vantage points by means of public rights-of-way with the use of binoculars and spotting scopes. The presence of a species was based on direct observations of individual(s), sign, and/or vocalization. Avian scientific nomenclature and common names follows Sibley (2000).

Field surveys were conducted when weather conditions were conducive to observing birds. Surveys were not performed during rain, extreme temperatures, high winds (> 25 miles per hour), or dense fog. Where access was limited, observations were made from the nearest appropriate vantage points with the use of binoculars and spotting scopes. Targeted owl surveys were conducted on 02, 10 and 22 March and 26 April of 2022 from approximately 1 hour before sunrise to 2 hours after sunrise, when weather conditions were conducive to observing owls outside of burrows.



#### 4.0 BURROWING OWL SURVEY RESULTS

The majority of the study area consists of heavily disturbed ruderal vegetation with no substantial native stands of vegetation. Livestock grazing, commercial development, agricultural and residential activities were historically operated within Project limits. There is also evidence of recent disking, and trash from illegal dumping throughout the study area.

No Burrowing Owls were detected nesting, foraging, or dispersing within the study area during the 2022 surveys. Nonetheless, low quality potential burrows and burrow complexes were detected (Figure 3). The burrows observed lacked evidence of owl tracks, molted feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, egg shell fragments, owl white wash, or nest burrow decoration materials. The presence of several burrows and burrow complexes >11 cm in diameter (height and width), and >150 cm in depth warranted recording and reporting; even though the aforementioned burrows lacked owl sign or owls. Survey conditions during the field events are presented in Table No. 1.

TABLE NO. 1 - SUMMARY OF SURVEY CONDITIONS FOR SURVEYS

Survey Dates	Surveyors	Survey Type	Time <sup>1</sup> Start/End	Temperature °Fahrenheit Start/End	Wind Speed (MPH)	Start/End Cloud Cover (%)	Date of last precipitation prior to survey
3/01/22	Lincoln. Hulse & Ben Zamora	Burrow Survey	0730 - 1500	47/80	0-05	Clear/Clear	02/23/22
3/02/22	Lincoln. Hulse	Crepuscular BUOW (Morning) Survey 1)	0530- 1230	46/73	0-05	Clear/Clear	02/23/22
03/10/21	Lincoln. Hulse	Crepuscular BUOW (Morning) Survey 2)	0530- 1200	51/66	0-10	Clear/Clear	03/04/22
03/22/21	Lincoln. Hulse	Crepuscular BUOW (Morning) Survey 3)	0530- 1245	59/81	0-05	Clear/Clear	03/04/21
04/26/21	Lincoln. Hulse & Ben Zamora	Crepuscular BUOW (Morning) Survey 4)	0530- 1120	57/82	0-05	20/Clear	04/22/21
BUOW = Burrowing Owl							

BUOW = Burrowing Owl MPH = Miles Per Hour

The lack of Burrowing Owls within the study area is likely a result of the depauperate landscape, and the presence of owl predators (e.g., Red-Tailed Hawk [Buteo jamaicensis] and Cooper's hawk [Accipiter cooperii]) within the study area. Although the Project has potential to impact lands that could be utilized by Burrowing Owls as habitat, surveys for the species are negative. Therefore, there is no presumption that the Project would result in the loss of individual Burrowing Owls, or that it would adversely affect local or regional populations of them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While targeted owl surveys were limited to approximately 1 hour before sunrise to 2 hours after sunrise; the start and end times presented within this table details all time spent within the study area on any given day - which include setup, reporting and demobilization activities.



Representative photographs of the study area are provided below, and wildlife detected during the surveys are provided within Table No. 2.



**Photograph 1.** Facing North.



Photograph 2. Facing Northwest.



**Photograph 3.** Facing South.



Photograph 4. Facing East.



#### TABLE NO. 2 – WILDLIFE DETECTED DURING FIELD SURVEYS

Scientific Name	Common Name			
Birds				
Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged blackbird			
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk			
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-Tailed hawk			
Cathartes aura	Turkey vulture			
Corvus corax	Common Raven			
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow			
Sturnus vulgaris	European Starling			
Carpodacus mexicanus	House Finch			
Columba livia	Rock Pigeon			
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's Blackbird			
Falco sparverius	American kestrel			
Melospiza melodia	Song sparrow			
Mimus polyglottos	Northern mockingbird			
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow			
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Cliff Swallow			
Sayornis nigricans	Black phoebe			
Quiscalus quiscula	Common Grackle			
Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove			
Tyrannus vociferans	Cassin's Kingbird			
Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned Sparrow			
M	ammals			
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel			
Sylvilagus audubonii	Audubon's cottontail			
R	eptiles			
Uta stansburiana	Common Side-blotched Lizard			



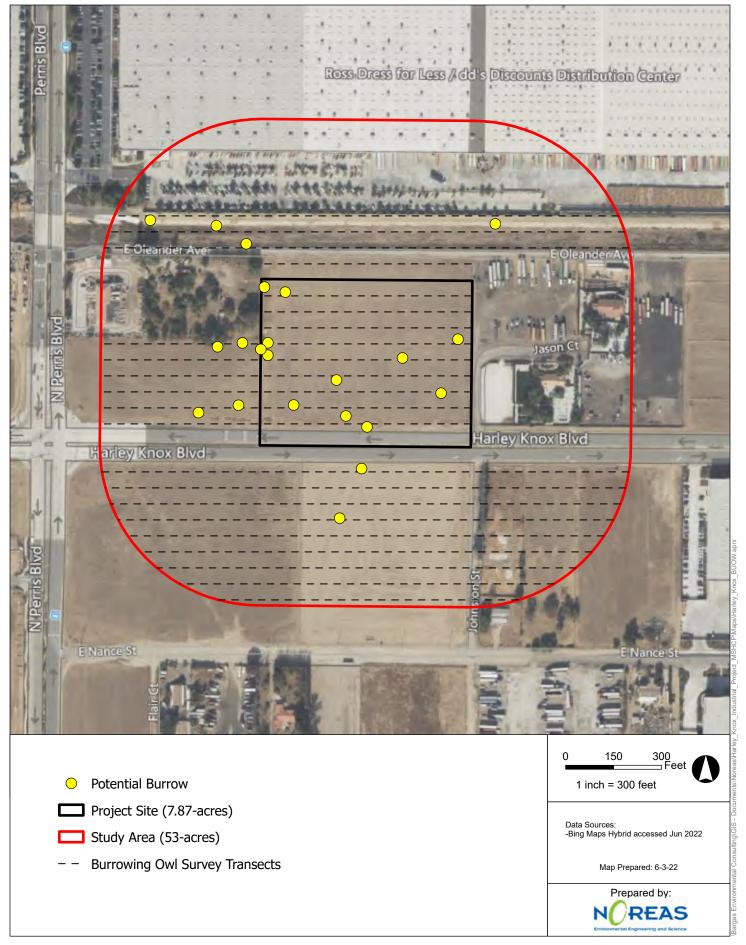


Figure 3. Burrowing Owl Survey Results

#### 5.0 RECOMMENDED MEASURES TO AVOID AND MINIMIZED IMPACTS TO NESTING BIRDS

The following measures are recommended as a means of avoiding and minimizing adverse impacts to nesting birds that have the potential to occur within the Project Site and on adjacent lands:

- Due to the presence of potentially suitable habitat, a 30-day pre-construction survey for burrowing owls is required prior to initial ground-disturbing activities (including vegetation clearing, clearing and grubbing, tree removal, site watering, equipment staging, grading, etc.) to safeguard that no owls have colonized the Project Site in the days or weeks preceding the ground-disturbing activities. If Burrowing Owls have colonized the Project Site prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, the Project will immediately inform the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) and the appropriate wildlife agencies, to coordinate further regarding the need for a Project specific Burrowing Owl Protection and/or Relocation Plan. If ground-disturbing activities occur, but the Project Site is left undisturbed for more than 30 days, a pre-construction survey will again be necessary to safeguard that Burrowing Owl have not colonized the Project Site since it was last disturbed. If Burrowing Owl is found, the same coordination described above will be necessary
- In order to comply with Section 10 of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and relevant sections of the California Fish and Game Code, any vegetation clearing within the Project Site should take place outside of the typical avian nesting season (e.g., March 15<sup>th</sup> until September 1<sup>st</sup>) to the maximum extent practical. If work needs to take place between March 15<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>, a pre-activity survey for nesting birds should be completed prior to the onset of Project activities. To the maximum extent practicable, a buffer zone from occupied nests should be maintained during physical ground disturbing activities. Once nesting has ended, the buffer may be removed.
- Limits of grading and construction activities shall be clearly delineated with temporary construction staking, flagging, or similar materials.
- To avoid attracting predators and nuisance species, the Project Site shall be clear of debris, where possible. All food-related trash items shall be enclosed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the Project.



The services performed and documented in this report have been conducted in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by other professional consultants under similar circumstances. No other representations are either expressed or implied and no warranty or guarantee is included or intended in this report. Opinions relating to presence, absence, or potential for occurrence of biological resources are based on limited data and actual conditions may vary from those encountered at the times and locations where the data were obtained despite due professional care.

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE: <u>April 27, 2022</u>

IGNED: \_

Lincoln Hulse

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## Appendix F Photographic Log





Photograph 1. Facing North.



Photograph 2. Facing East.





**Photograph 3.** Facing Northwest.



**Photograph 4.** Facing Southwest.



## **Appendix G Project GIS Files (provided separately)**

