

Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project <u>Final</u> Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

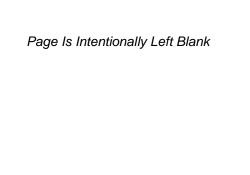
September 7, 2023

## Prepared for:

California Department of Parks and Recreation, Angeles District 1925 Las Virgenes Road Calabasas, CA 91302

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## **Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration**

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Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project Initial Study

## Lead Agency:

California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR)

#### **Environmental Determination**

Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CDPR has independently reviewed and analyzed this Initial Study (IS) for the Proposed Project and finds that it reflects the independent judgment of CDPR. CDPR, as lead agency, confirms that the Proposed Project mitigation measures detailed are feasible, will be implemented and will reduce all impacts to a less than significant level.

Picusigned by:  Kichard Fink  F2C3ACF5D60B4FE	9/12/2023
Richard Fink	Date
Angeles District Superintendent	
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Associate Park & Recreation Specialist

Southern Service Center Environmental Coordinator

**Project:** Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

Lead Agency: California Department of Parks and Recreation, Southern Service Center

2797 Truxtun Road San Diego, CA 92106

**Project Sponsor:** The Nature Conservancy

Project Location: The Proposed Project would occupy approximately 3.2 acres at the

northernmost end of the former Southern Pacific Taylor Yard in the City of

Los Angeles (Assessor's Parcel Number 5442-002).

Project Description: The California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) proposes

redeveloping the northern portion of a former rail yard into a publicly accessible urban greenspace. The greenspace would include habitat restoration and enhancement; viewing opportunities for local wildlife; walking, jogging, and biking trails; shaded picnic areas; historical, cultural,

and environmental programming; and unstructured play areas.

Public Review Period: April, 25, 2023 to June, 8, 2023

## Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project to Avoid Significant Effects:

#### **Biological Resources**

BIO-1 Wildlife Pre-Construction Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring: Prior to ground disturbance or vegetation clearing within the proposed Project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct preconstruction clearance surveys for wildlife (no more than 7 days prior to site disturbing activities) where suitable habitat is present and directly impacted by construction activities within the Project site and a 500 foot buffer (where accessible). Wildlife found within the proposed Project site or in areas potentially affected by the proposed Project shall be relocated to the nearest suitable habitat that would not be affected by the proposed Project prior to the start of construction. Special-status species found within a proposed Project impact area shall be relocated by a qualified biologist to suitable habitat outside the impact area prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities that may impact those species; this activity may be subject to prior incidental take authorization if required. Nesting birds found within the proposed Project impact areas shall be subject to buffer requirements and additional conditions as detailed below in mitigation measure BIO-4.

A qualified biologist shall be onsite during all ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities throughout the construction phase; this qualified biologist shall have experience with special-status species known to occur in the region, including least Bell's vireo. The qualified biologist(s) shall have the right to halt all activities that are in violation of the special-status species protection measures. Work shall proceed only after hazards to

special-status species are removed, the species are allowed to leave, or are removed, and the species is no longer at risk. The qualified biologist(s) shall have a copy of all the compliance measures in their possession while work is being conducted onsite.

If required during pre-construction clearance surveys or required monitoring efforts, the qualified biologist(s) shall relocate common and special-status species that enter the proposed Project site; some special-status species may require specific permits prior to handling or have established protocols for relocation. Records of all detection, capture, and release shall be reported to CDFW and/or USFWS as appropriate. Should a federally or State listed species be discovered onsite, at any time, then activities shall be suspended, and the USFWS and/or CDFW contacted, as appropriate. Work shall not resume until coordination/consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW has been completed, and recommended measures/ requirements have been implemented to minimize harm/harassment to the species.

BIO-2 Environmental Awareness Training: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit proof to CDPR that all proposed Project personnel have attended an environmental awareness and compliance training program. The training program shall present the environmental regulations and applicable permit conditions that the proposed Project team shall comply with. The training program shall include applicable measures established for the proposed Project to minimize impacts to water quality and avoid sensitive resources, habitats, and species. Subsequent training events shall be scheduled to support the training of new personnel. Dated sign-in sheets for attendees at these meetings shall be maintained and submitted to CDPR. Copies of all training materials shall be maintained at the site for workers to reference and shall be provided in Spanish, as needed. A qualified biologist shall provide and document all trainings.

**BIO-3** Implement Best Management Practices: Implement Best Management Practices: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit grading plans and specifications to CDPR, which indicate that the proposed Project shall implement the following BMPs:

- Restrict non-essential equipment to the existing roadways and/or ruderal areas to avoid disturbance to native vegetation.
- All excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of 6 inches in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth dirt fill or wooden planks; escape ramps should be placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped wildlife. Any wildlife discovered shall be allowed to escape before construction activities are allowed to resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist holding the appropriate permits (if required).
- All staged equipment, staged materials (e.g., pipe) or any other construction products that could shelter
  small animals overnight or during periods of work inactivity, shall be inspected for wildlife prior to
  moving. All sections of pipe shall be visually checked for the presence of wildlife prior to being removed
  from the Project site. If any sections of pipes are being stored onsite for any length of time, they shall
  be visually checked to ensure wildlife is absent and then all ends capped to prevent wildlife entry.

- Minimize mechanical disturbance of soils to reduce impact of habitat manipulation on small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.
- Removal or disturbance of vegetation shall be minimized to the greatest extent feasible.
- Installation and maintenance of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures as needed throughout the duration of work activities.
- Implementation of a 15 miles per hour (MPH) speed limit within all proposed Project areas.
- No vehicles or equipment shall be refueled, cleaned, or maintained (e.g., oil changed), nor shall other actions (e.g., washing of tools used for painting) that could result in the release of a hazardous substance, occur within 100 feet of a drainage or wetland unless a bermed and lined refueling area is constructed that would prevent the accidental spill of fuel, oil, or chemicals. Approved/designated areas should be in a location where a spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope that drains away from the water), unless a requested exception is granted or prior written approval obtained. Spill kits shall be maintained onsite in sufficient quantity to accommodate at least three complete vehicle tank failures of 50 gallons each; any spills or discharges shall be immediately contained, cleaned up, and properly disposed.
- The proposed Project area shall be kept clear of trash to avoid attracting scavengers/predators. All food
  and garbage shall be placed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the site. Following
  construction, any trash, debris, or rubbish remaining within the work limits shall be collected and hauled
  off to an appropriate facility.
- No rodent poisons or rodenticide shall be used to control rodents. These products, even used properly, can lead to secondary exposure to wildlife.
- All work shall be performed during daylight hours. No nighttime operations (including lighting) shall be authorized to complete the Project.
- Work limits, as defined on Project plans, shall be clearly delineated onsite (e.g., using orange snow fence, silt fence, lath and survey tape, etc.) prior to the start of any construction activities. No work shall occur outside of the approved work limits.
- Work shall be limited to the construction footprint, as outlined in the Project plans. Access routes, staging areas, and the total footprint of disturbance shall be limited to the minimum number/size necessary to complete the Project and avoid resource impacts. All routes of travel and work boundaries shall be configured to avoid unnecessary intrusions into surrounding habitat.
- Conditions set forth in any Project-related permits/approvals shall be observed and implemented as part of construction.
- No erosion control materials potentially harmful to fish and wildlife species, such as plastic mesh, monofilament netting, or similar material shall be used. Erosion and sediment control devices, such as erosion control blankets, erosion control netting, and fiber rolls, shall be made of biodegradable loose-

weave mesh that is not fused at the intersections of the weave (i.e., jute, coir/coconut fiber, or other natural fiber products without welded weaves) to avoid creating a wildlife entanglement hazard. In addition, weed-free products shall be used to minimize the spread of exotics.

- All equipment shall be cleaned of dirt and vegetative material prior to arrival at and departure from the
  Project site to minimize the opportunity for the spread of non-native species, including noxious weeds.
  All imported fill shall be clean/certified free of invasive species.
- Any non-native, weedy vegetation removed during the clearing and grading activities shall be collected, treated, and disposed of as recommended by the qualified biologist.

BIO-4 Nesting Bird Surveys and Avoidance Measures: To avoid impacts to or take of both common and/or special-status birds (e.g., least Bell's vireo), nestlings, or their eggs, and to the extent feasible, no ground-disturbing activities, including staging, as well as disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation should not occur during the recognized breeding season from Feb 15 through September 15 (January 1 through August 15 for raptors) to avoid impacts to or take of common and/or special-status birds, nestlings, or their eggs.

If construction can't avoid the nesting season, then a temporary sound attenuation barrier shall be placed along the western limits of construction to reduce potential construction noise levels in the bed of the adjacent Los Angeles River. The construction contractor shall be responsible for demonstrating the design of the temporary sound attenuation barrier achieves a minimum of a 15 decibel reduction in noise levels.

Prior to initial ground disturbance or vegetation removal (including construction of the sound attenuation barrier), the Applicant shall provide evidence to CDPR of the following. If initial site disturbance is scheduled to begin during the avian nesting season (February 15 through September 15; January 1 through August 15 for raptors), breeding and nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 3 days prior to the start of site disturbance. Should work be suspended or delayed for a period of greater than seven 7 days (during the nesting season), then the qualified biologist, at their discretion, shall complete an additional nesting bird survey to ensure that no additional nesting has occurred within or adjacent to the Project area. If construction activities carry over into a second nesting season(s), the surveys shall be completed annually until the proposed Project is complete. Surveys shall be conducted within 500 feet of all proposed Project activities.

The Applicant shall ecordinate with notify USFWS and/or CDFW if endangered or threatened species are observed. If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, a qualified biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer around the nest, and no activities shall be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails; initial buffers for nesting raptors shall be 500 feet. a A buffer of 0.25 mile shall be used for nesting peregrine falcon unless the line-of-sight from the edge of development is obscured as determined by a qualified ornithologist. The prescribed buffers for common species may be adjusted by the qualified biologist based on existing conditions around the nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of the species, location of nest in relation to the sound attenuation barrier, and other pertinent factors; for example, buffers for common passerines, often found to be habituated to human activity, may be adjusted down to 25 - 50 feet depending on the disturbance tolerance of each specific species. Buffer adjustments for listed and/or other special-status species shall be done in coordination with the USFWS and CDFW as applicable; nest locations within the areas protected by the sound attenuation barrier will only require notification to the USFWS and CDFW. The qualified biologist shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to

determine success or failure and to ensure that proposed Project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails.

- **CR-1 Worker Environmental Awareness Program:** Prior to construction activities, a qualified archaeologists meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (qualified archaeologist) shall conduct cultural resources Worker environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training for all construction personnel. Construction personnel shall be informed of the proposer procedures for treating cultural resources that may be encountered during construction activities.
- **CR-2** Archaeological Monitoring During Construction: A qualified archaeological monitor (working under the direct supervision of a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology) shall be present to monitor all ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project.

The archaeological monitor shall be empowered to redirect construction activity in the event that archaeological resources are encountered, for the purposes of documenting the resource for evaluation by a qualified archaeologist. The archaeological monitor shall keep daily logs and provide updates to TNC upon request. After monitoring has been completed, the qualified archaeologist shall prepare a monitoring report that details the results of monitoring, which shall be submitted to TNC and to the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton.

- **CR-3 Protection of Encountered Archaeological Resources:** If a potentially significant archaeological resource is encountered, it shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist in coordination with a CDPR cultural resources specialist. If the resource is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance, site capping (burial), creation of conservation easements, and/or data recovery shall be implemented in accordance with Secretary of the Interior's Standards to bring the potential impact to that resource to levels less than significant.
- **GEO-1** Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan: A paleontologist meeting professional standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) shall be retained as the Project paleontologist to oversee all aspects of paleontological mitigation, including the development and implementation of a Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PMMP) tailored to the Project plans that provides for paleontological monitoring of earthwork and ground disturbing activities into undisturbed geologic units with high paleontological potential to be conducted by a paleontological monitor meeting industry standards (Murphey et al. 2019). The PMMP should also include provisions for a Workers' Environmental Awareness Program training that communicates requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of paleontological resources during construction, to be delivered by the paleontological monitor to the construction crew prior to the onset of ground disturbance. As the Project is on CDPR lands, a permit shall be required from CDPR for this work.
- **GEO-2 Paleontological Monitoring During Construction:** Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor for ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area. The Project paleontologist may reduce the frequency of monitoring should subsurface conditions indicate low paleontological potential.
- **GEO-3 Management of Paleontological Resources:** Should a potential paleontological resource be identified in the Project area, whether by the monitor or a member of the construction crew, work shall halt in a

safe radius around the find (usually 50 feet) until the Project paleontologist can assess the find and, if significant, salvage the fossil for laboratory preparation and curation at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

TCR-1 Tribal Cultural Resources Monitoring During Construction: The Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a qualified Native American Monitor(s) during construction-related ground disturbance activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the project area.

The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal Representatives and will be present on-site during the construction phases that involve any ground disturbing activities. The Native American Monitor(s) will complete monitoring logs on a daily basis. The logs will provide descriptions of the daily activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The monitor(s) shall possess Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification. In addition, the monitor(s) will be required to provide insurance certificates, including liability insurance, for any archaeological resource(s) encountered during grading and excavation activities pertinent to the provisions outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Division 13, Section 21083.2 (a) through (k). The on-site monitoring shall end when the Project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor have indicated that the site has a low potential for archeological resources.

Based on the results of tribal consultation conducted for the Project pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 (d), the Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a qualified Tribal Monitor(s) representing the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation during construction-related ground disturbance activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the Project area.

The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation to identify their tribal cultural resources and will be present on-site during the construction phases that involve any ground disturbing activities. The Tribal Monitor(s) will complete monitoring logs on a daily basis. The logs will provide descriptions of the daily activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The monitor(s) shall possess Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification. In addition, the monitor(s) will be required to provide insurance certificates, including liability insurance, for work conducted during grading and excavation activities pertinent to the provisions outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Division 13, Section 21084.3 (a) through (b). The on-site monitoring shall end when the Project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor have indicated that the site has a low potential for tribal cultural resources.

**TCR-2** Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resources: All archaeological resources unearthed by Project construction activities shall be evaluated by the Qualified Archaeologist and Native Monitor. If the resources are Native American in origin, the Tribe shall coordinate with the landowner regarding treatment and curation of these resources. Typically, the Tribe will request reburial or preservation for educational purposes. If a resource is determined by the Qualified Archaeologist to constitute a "historical resource" pursuant to CEQA

Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or has a "unique archaeological resource" pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g), the Qualified Archaeologist shall coordinate with the applicant and the City to develop a formal treatment plan that would serve to reduce impacts to the resources. The treatment plan established for the resources shall be in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f) for historical resources and Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b) for unique archaeological resources. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment. If preservation in place is not feasible, treatment may include implementation of archaeological data recovery excavations to remove the resource along with subsequent laboratory processing and analysis. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin, if encountered, shall be treated appropriately according to the Secretary of Interior Standards. If such material is collected, it shall be curated at a CDPR facility public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, they shall be denated to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.

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## Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

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# **Abbreviations**

ADA	American Disabilities Act	
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan	
ARBOR Project	Area with Restoration Benefits an Opportunities for Revitalization	
BGS	Below ground surface	
BSA	Biological Study Area	
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency	
CARB	California Air Resource Board	
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards	
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act	
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	
CDPR	California Department of Parks and Recreation	
CESA	California Endangered Species Act	
CFS	Cubic feet per second	
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database	
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level	
CNPS	California Native Plant Society	
CO	Carbon monoxide	
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources	
DRAP	Department of Recreation and Parks	
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control	
EIR	Environmental Impact Report	
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act	
FSD	Facilities Service Division	
HEP	Habitat Enhancement Plan	
IRWMP	Integrated Regional Water Management Plan	
IS	Initial Study	
ISMND	Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration	
LAFD	Los Angeles Fire Department	
LAPD	Los Angeles Police Department	
LARERP	Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project	
LARR	Los Angeles River Revitalization	
LST	Localized Significance Criteria	
MRCA	Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	
NAAQS	National Air Ambient Air Quality Standards	
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission	
NOP	Notice of Preparation	
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrous oxide	
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places	
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone	
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark	
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	
PB	Lead	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate Matter 2.5 microns	

PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate Matter 10 microns	
PMMP	Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan	
RAW	Removal Action Workplan	
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board	
<u>SAA</u>	Streambed Alteration Agreement	
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin	
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District	
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulfur dioxide	
TNC	The Nature Conservancy	
UPPR	Union Pacific	
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers	
USCB	United States Census Bureau	
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency	
USGS	United States Geological Survey	
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled	
WEAP	Worker Environmental Awareness Program	
WOTUS	Waters of the United States	

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PROJECT TITLE

Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

## 1.2 LEAD AGENCY

California Department of Parks and Recreation, Southern Service Center 2797 Truxtun Road San Diego, CA 92106

Kelsey Henck, Project Manager

## 1.3 PROJECT SPONSOR

The Nature Conservancy
445 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1950
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Kelsey Jessup, Project Manager

#### 1.4 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project is located within a 3.2-acre portion of a larger site located on land owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) at the northernmost end of the former Southern Pacific (SPRR) Taylor Yard in the City of Los Angeles. The 17.3-acre CDPR property upon which the Project is located is referred to as the "Bowtie parcel" or by its former Southern Pacific Railroad "G-1" parcel designation, and identified by the Los Angeles Assessor as parcel number (APN) 5442-002-914.

#### 1.5 PROJECT PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

The purpose of the Project is to enhance habitat, improve water quality, and increase public access to open space and the LA River. This Project would capture and treat water from a storm drain that previously discharged into the LA River, the water would be pumped into a wetland, the wetland would further improve water quality, a portion of the water would be used for irrigation, and the remaining enhanced water would be returned to the LA River. The Project would also include landscaping and amenities to convert the former brownfield site into habitat native to Southern California and a park space for the surrounding communities. The Project is in Reach 6 of the LA River on the Bowtie/G1 Parcel, the first of eight stages of the Alternatives with Restoration Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization (ARBOR) Study which aims to revitalize habitats along 11 miles of the Los Angeles River (United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2015).

The Project would have the following benefits:

- <u>Biological Resources</u>. The Project would create an engineered wetland that incorporates valley, foothill, riparian strand, and freshwater marsh habitat adjacent to the Los Angeles River using dryweather flow and treated stormwater diverted from an existing a Los Angeles County Flood Control District storm drain. The creation of this wetland habitat would have both botanical and wildlife-related benefits compared to existing site conditions which have limited habitat value for biological resources.
- Carbon Sequestration and Heat Island Reduction. The wetland and associated landscaping installed and maintained as part of the Project would result in a substantial increase in site vegetation, cover, and density compared to existing site conditions. The plant palette would be comprised of native plants historically occurring in valley, foothill, and riparian habitats of the Los Angeles River Basin, per the restoration objectives of the ARBOR Study (United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2015). This increase in site vegetation cover and density would result in an increase in carbon sequestration through a nature-based solution and provide an positive contribution to reducing climate change. The increase in site vegetation would also increase shade and reduce the local heat island effect.
- <u>Hazardous and Hazards Materials</u>. Concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, petroleum hydrocarbons and lead above health risk screening levels have been measured in shallow soils. The Project would remove these shallow impacted soils as described in a Removal Action Workplan (RAW) prepared under the oversight of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) thereby improving environmental quality by removing a source of potential pollutant exposure.
- Water Quality. The Project includes pre-treatment of dry-weather flow and stormwater prior to flowing into the constructed wetland created as part of the Project. Flows that exceed the capacity volume of the wetland would be diverted through a connection with the existing stormwater outfall pipe that discharges into the Los Angeles River. Currently all dry weather and stormwater runoff are untreated and discharged directly into the LA River. The capture and pre-treatment of these flows proposed by the Project would reduce pollutant concentrations and have a beneficial water quality impact compared to existing conditions.
- <u>Recreation</u>. The Project involves re-developing a portion of a former rail yard into urban green spaces for public use and passive recreation. The design includes pathways, viewing platforms, signage, American Disabilities Act (ADA) access, and similar facilities that would provide passive recreation opportunities and benefits compared to none that currently exist at the site.

## 1.6 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the public review period, comments were received on the Draft IS/MND from two public agencies and one non-profit organization. Following is a list of the persons, firms, or agencies that submitted comments on the IS/MND during the public review period:

- A. Miya Edmonson, California Department of Transportation, District 7, letter dated June 2, 2023.
- B. Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager I, South Coast Region, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, letter dated June 8, 2023.
- C. Annelisa Ehret Moe, Water Quality Scientist, Heal the Bay, letter dated June 8, 2023.

Additionally, the following comments were received by DTSC during public review period of the Project's Removal Action Workplan:

- D. James Kiehl, email.
- E. Alejandro Palomino, email.
- F. Diamanda Villareal, email.
- G. Alejandro Palomino, email.

Although and the State CEQA Guidelines do not require a Lead Agency to prepare written responses to comments received on an IS/MND, CDPR has elected to prepare the following responses with the intent of conducting a comprehensive and meaningful evaluation of the proposed Project. Each comment letter is bracketed and coded, and correlates to the letter assigned to each comment as identified in the list above. The Final IS/MND shows updates from the Draft IS/MND with underlined text (additions) and strikethrough text (deletions).

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DISTRICT 7 100 S. MAIN STREET, MS 16 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 PHONE (213) 505-5003 FAX (213) 897-1337 TTY 711 www.dot.ca.gov



June 2, 2023

Luke Serna California Department of Parks and Recreation South Service Center 2797 Truxtun Road San Diego, CA 92108

> RE: Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) SCH # 2023040639 Vic. LA-002 /PM: 15.758 GTS # 07-LA-2023-04217

#### Dear Luke Serna:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced MND. The proposed project consists of enhancing habitat, improving water quality, and increasing public access to open space and the LA River. Dry weather and some wet weather flows will be diverted from the storm drain, treated through a filtration system, and pumped into a wetland where there would be additional water quality improvements. A portion of the water would be used for irrigation, and the remaining enhanced water would be returned to the LA River. The Project would also include landscaping and amenities to convert the former brownfield site into habitat native to Southern California and a park space for public use. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, South Service Center is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**A1** 

The project site is approximately five hundred feet from State Route 2 (SR-2). After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

 Construction activities associated with the proposed underground replacement cable installation would increase daily vehicle trips by an amount substantially lower than the 250 trips screening level adopted by the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, no significant impact is expected to vehicle miles travelled (VMT) levels. Therefore, pursuant to CEQA requirements, the impact during this project duration is expected to be none to minimal.

A2

Temporary vehicle trips would be necessary for the construction of the Project. However, vehicular site access is available the existing entrance to the Bowtie Parcel at the end of Kerr Street. Existing access is sufficient to accommodate the † A3

| A4 project. The project would not include new vehicular access from the public right-of-way, nor would it require modifications to the public right-of-way. No impact would occur regarding potential hazards to a geometric design feature or through incompatible vehicular use. Therefore, the impact during project construction would be none to minimal.

 During the project construction, existing access is also sufficient to accommodate emergency vehicle/personnel access to the project site. Potential impacts are expected to be less than significant. Caltrans has no further comments for this MND at this time.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State Highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends that the Project limit construction traffic to off-peak periods to minimize the potential impact on State facilities. If construction traffic is expected to cause issues on any State facilities, please submit a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for Caltrans' review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mark Garcia, the project coordinator, at Mark.Garcia@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS # 07-LA-2023-04217.

Sincerely,

MIYA EDMONSON LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

Miya Edmonson

cc: State Clearinghouse





STATE OF CALIFORNIA • NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY Gavin Newson, Governor DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE Charlton H. Bonham, Director

South Coast Region 3883 Ruffin Road | San Diego, CA 92123 wildlife.ca.gov

June 8, 2023





Subject: Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project, Mitigated Negative Declaration, SCH #2023040639, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Serna,

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) from the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) for the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project (Project). CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding aspects of the Project that could affect fish and wildlife resources and be subject to CDFW's regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

#### CDFW's Role

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

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may

**B1** 

Luke Serna California Department of Parks and Recreation June 8, 2023 Page 2 of 15

need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code, including lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.). Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take", as defined by State law, of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), or CESA-listed rare plant pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & G. Code, § 1900 et seq.), CDFW recommends the Project Applicant obtain appropriate authorization under the Fish and Game Code.

## **Project Description and Summary**

**Objective:** The Project proposes to enhance habitat, improve water quality, and increase public access to open space and the Los Angeles (LA) River at the Bowtie parcel. The Project would redevelop and restore the northeastern section of the Bowtie parcel, approximately 3.2 acres, currently consisting of bare earth and some concrete debris to demonstration wetlands. The new habitat would include upland, riparian, and wetland habitat areas. Dry weather and some wet weather flows will be diverted from a storm drain, treated through a filtration system, and pumped into a wetland where there would be additional water quality improvements. A portion of the water would be used for irrigation, and the remaining enhanced water would be returned to the LA River. The Project would also include landscaping and amenities to convert the former brownfield site into habitat native to Southern California and a park space for public use.

**Location:** The Project is located in the City of Los Angeles, latitude 34°06'34.4"N and longitude 118°14'46.2"W, at Assessor's Parcel Number 5442-02-914. The Project site is bounded by the LA River to the southwest, Kerr Street to the north, and the Union Pacific railroad to the east.

#### **Comments and Recommendations**

**B2** 

Based on our review of the Project's CEQA document, CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist CDPR in adequately identifying, avoiding, and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct, and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. CDFW recommends the measures or revisions below be included in a science-based monitoring program that contains adaptive management strategies as part of the Project's CEQA mitigation, monitoring, and reporting program (Pub. Resources Code, § 21081.6; CEQA Guidelines, § 15097).

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## **Specific Comments**

## Comment #1: Impacts on Least Bell's Vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus)

**Issue:** The Project may impact least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), an Endangered Species Act (ESA) and CESA-listed species.

**Specific impacts:** The Project occurring during the least Bell's vireo nesting season could adversely affect breeding behavior of least Bell's vireo. Elevated noise and ground disturbance could result in least Bell's vireo abandoning nesting territory. In addition, elevated noise could result in the incidental loss of nests, fertile eggs, or nestlings.

Why impacts would occur: A review of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (CDFW 2023a) and E-bird (E-bird 2023) shows that least Bell's vireo has potential to occur around the Project site. CNDDB shows suitable habitat in the form of low, dense thickets of willow and shrub occurring within two miles of the Project site. E-Bird shows occurrences adjacent to the Project site at the Rio de Los Angeles State Park within a mile of the Project site.

The MND does not provide a discussion of the Project's potential impacts on least Bell's vireo if Project activities occur during the nesting season. Project activities include excavation with heavy machinery such as graders, loaders, and excavators. These activities could result in elevated levels of noise. Substantial noise may adversely affect wildlife species in several ways as wildlife responses to noise can occur at exposure levels of only 55-60 dB (Barber et al. 2009). The Project could adversely affect least Bell's vireo by disrupting foraging or breeding behavior or by causing adults to abandon nests. Disruptions to breeding behavior could include a temporary reduction breeding activity if least Bell's vireos avoid noisy areas. Noise has also been shown to reduce the density of nesting birds (Francis et al. 2009) and cause increased stress that results in decreased immune responses (Kight and Swaddle 2011). Project activities occurring during the breeding season of least Bell's vireo could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs, nestlings, or nest abandonment. Least Bell's vireo could be forced from their territory into adjacent habitat that may be less suitable where they would be at risk of predation, starvation, or other injury.

The MND does not propose any specific mitigation measures for least Bell's vireo or protocol surveys for the species. Without any avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures, the Project may result in significant impacts to least Bell's vireo.

**B3** 

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**Evidence impact would be significant:** Take of any endangered, threatened, candidate species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by State law (Fish & G. Code, §§ 86, 2062, 2067, 2068, 2080, 2085; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 786.9). In addition, take under the ESA is more broadly defined than take under CESA. Take under ESA also includes significant habitat modification or degradation that could result in death or injury to a listed species by interfering with essential behavioral patterns such as breeding, foraging, or nesting.

CDFW considers impacts to CESA-listed species a significant direct and cumulative adverse effect without implementing appropriate avoidance and/or mitigation measures. The MND has yet to provide measures to mitigate for the Project's potential impact on least Bell's vireo. Accordingly, the Project may have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

## Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s):

Recommendation #1: Appropriate take authorization from CDFW under CESA may include a Restoration Management Permit (RMP), Incidental Take Permit (ITP), or a Consistency Determination in certain circumstances, among other options [Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080.1, 2081, subds. (a), (b), and (c)]. Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to the project and mitigation measures may be required to obtain an ITP. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that CDFW issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an RMP or ITP for the Project unless the Project's CEQA document addresses all the Project's impact on CESA endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species. The Project's CEQA document should also specify a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an RMP or ITP. It is important that the take proposed to be authorized by CDFW's RMP or ITP be described in detail in the Project's CEQA document, Biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for an RMP or ITP. However, it is worth noting that mitigation for the Project's impact on a CESA endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species proposed in the Project's CEQA document may not necessarily satisfy mitigation required to obtain an ITP.

Luke Serna California Department of Parks and Recreation June 8, 2023 Page 5 of 15

**Mitigation Measure #1:** CDPR should fully avoid impacts to least Bell's vireo by working outside of the least Bell's vireo nesting season for the duration of the Project. No ground-disturbing activities, including staging, as well as disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation should occur during the least Bell's vireo breeding season from March 15 through July 15 to avoid take of least Bell's vireo birds, nestlings, or their eggs.

**Mitigation Measure #2:** If construction activities must occur during the least Bell's vireo breeding season during the Project, one year prior to Project-related ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal, CDPR should perform protocol surveys for least Bell's vireo where suitable habitat occurs within 500 feet of the Project site. CDPR should also establish and map the territory boundaries of least Bell's vireo within 500 feet of the Project direct footprint. Surveys should adhere to the USFWS 2001 Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2001). Per protocol guidelines, a final survey report (including negative findings) should be provided to USFWS and CDFW within 45 calendar days following the completion of the survey effort.

Mitigation Measure #3: If least Bell's vireo is present, CDPR should prepare an Avoidance Plan in coordination with USFWS and CDFW. The Avoidance Plan should include territory boundaries, noise level monitoring and restrictions during the breeding season, surveys by a qualified biologist, and Project construction lighting requirements. The Avoidance Plan should include Best Management Practices for Project lighting consistent with National Park Service lighting guidance – Outdoor Lighting in National Parks: Lessons Learned and Best Practices. An Avoidance Plan should be prepared prior to any ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal.

**Mitigation Measure #4:** If least Bell's vireo is not present, CDPR should commence work, and qualified biologists should survey weekly for least Bell's vireo, so as to be aware of use of nearby or adjacent habitat. If least Bell's vireo is found to have come near to the Project site, CDPR should stop work and consult with USFWS and CDFW. Protocol surveys should be conducted each year prior to implementation to ensure no least Bell's vireo presence.

**Mitigation Measure #5:** If impacts to least Bell's vireo cannot be avoided, CDPR should consult CDFW and USFWS to obtain take authorization. Appropriate take authorization should be obtained from CDFW and USFWS prior to any ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal.

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**Issue:** The Project may impact streams.

**Specific impacts:** The Project may impact streams during grading and earthwork. In addition, the Project may alter the conveyance of runoff and sheet flow by installing new paved areas and permanent structures to capture runoff.

Why impacts would occur: According to page 114 in the section 3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality, "Construction of the Project would involve earth disturbing activities such as grading and excavations that have the potential during precipitation events to increase erosion or introduce petroleum hydrocarbons and/or lead from impacted shallow soils into the storm drain system or Los Angeles River...". The Project could impact streams temporarily during Project construction and permanently after the Project is completed.

Temporary impacts on streams could occur during Project construction. The Project would include substantial grading and balancing of fill on site. This could result in soil erosion and earth movement. As a result, the Project could deposit materials such as sediment and fine particles into a stream. Therefore, the Project could impact streams by depositing, permitting to pass into, or placing where it can pass into the waterway any substance or material deleterious to fish, plant life, mammals, or bird life, including, but not limited to gasoline and oil, as well as sediment.

Permanent impacts on streams could occur after the Project is completed by altering how runoff is captured and conveyed through the Project site. On page 115 the document specifies that "...stormwater that falls on the Project site would sheet flow into the wetland for treatment and use." The Project would install features that would modify how water is captured and conveyed across the Project site compared to baseline (i.e., no Project).

**Evidence impact would be significant:** CDFW exercises its regulatory authority as provided by Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. to conserve fish and wildlife resources which includes rivers, streams, or lakes and associated natural communities. Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify CDFW prior to beginning any activity that may do one or more of the following:

- Divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake;
- Change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake;

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- Use material from any river, stream, or lake; or,
- Deposit or dispose of material into any river, stream, or lake.

CDFW requires a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement when a project activity may substantially adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

The Project may impact streams both during Project construction and for the Project's lifetime. The MND does not provide measures to mitigate for potentially significant impacts on streams. Accordingly, the Project has a substantial adverse direct, indirect, and cumulative effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on fish and wildlife resources, including rivers, streams, or lakes and associated natural communities identified by CDFW.

## Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure(s):

**Recommendation #2:** CDFW's issuance of an LSA Agreement for a project that is subject to CEQA will require CEQA compliance actions by CDFW as a Responsible Agency. As a Responsible Agency, CDFW may consider the CEQA document from the lead agency/project applicant for the Project. To minimize additional requirements by CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. and/or under CEQA, a project's CEQA document should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring, and reporting commitments for issuance of the LSA Agreement. To compensate for any on- and off-site impacts to aquatic and riparian resources, additional mitigation conditioned in any LSA Agreement may include the following: erosion and pollution control measures; avoidance of resources; protective measures for downstream resources; on-and/or off-site habitat creation; enhancement or restoration; and/or protection and management of mitigation lands in perpetuity.

**Mitigation Measure #6:** CDPR should notify CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code 1602. Please visit CDFW's <u>Lake and Streambed Alteration Program</u> webpage for more information (CDFW 2023b).

**Mitigation Measure #7:** The Project Applicant's notification to CDFW should provide the following information at minimum:

- A stream delineation in accordance with the USFWS wetland definition adopted by CDFW (Cowardin et al. 1979);
- Linear feet and/or acreage of streams and associated natural communities that would be permanently and/or temporarily impacted by

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- the Project. Plant community names should be provided based on vegetation association and/or alliance per the <u>Manual of California Vegetation</u>, second edition (Sawyer et al. 2008);
- 3) A discussion as to whether impacts on streams within the Project site would impact those streams immediately outside of the Project site where there is hydrologic connectivity. Potential impacts such as changes to drainage pattern, runoff, and sedimentation should be discussed; and
- 4) A hydrological evaluation of the 100-year storm event to provide information on how water and sediment is conveyed through the Project site. Additionally, the hydrological evaluation should assess a sufficient range of storm events (e.g., 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, and 2-year frequency storm events) to evaluate water and sediment transport under pre-Project and post-Project conditions.

#### **Additional Recommendations**

**B5** 

**B6** 

**Recommendation #3:** CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database (e.g., CNDDB) which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations [Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)]. Information on special status species should be submitted to the CNDDB by completing and submitting CNDDB Field Survey Forms. Information on special status native plant populations and sensitive natural communities, the Combined Rapid Assessment and Relevé Form should be completed and submitted to CDFW's Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (CDFW 2023c).

**Recommendation #4**: CDFW recommends CDPR revise update the Project's proposed Biological Resources Mitigation Measures and condition the environmental document to include mitigation measures recommended in this letter. CDFW provides comments to assist CDPR in developing mitigation measures that are specific, detailed (i.e., responsible party, timing, specific actions, location), enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other legally-binding instruments [CEQA Guidelines, § 15126.4(a)(2)], and clear for a measure to be fully enforceable and implemented successfully via a mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program (CEQA Guidelines, § 15097; Pub. Resources Code, § 21081.6). CDPR is welcome to coordinate with CDFW to further review and refine the Project's mitigation measures. Per Public Resources Code section 21081.6(a)(1), CDFW has provided CDPR with a summary of our suggested mitigation measures and recommendations in the form of an

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attached Draft Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan (MMRP; Attachment A).

## **Filing Fees**

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

#### Conclusion

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Project to assist the CDPR in adequately analyzing and minimizing/mitigating impacts to biological resources. CDFW requests an opportunity to review and comment on any response that the CDPR has to our comments and to receive notification of any forthcoming hearing date(s) for the Project [CEQA Guidelines, § 15073(e)]. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Christian Romberger, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (562) 292-6365 or by email at christian.romberger@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

**B8** 

DocuSigned by:

B6F58CFF24724F5

Erinn Wilson-Olgin Environmental Program Manager I

ec: CDFW

Victoria Tang – Seal Beach – <u>Victoria.Tang@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Steve Gibson – Seal Beach – <u>Steve.Gibson@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Ruby Kwan-Davis – Seal Beach – <u>Ruby.Kwan-Davis@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Felicia Silva – Seal Beach – <u>Felicia.Silva@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Julisa Portugal – Seal Beach – <u>Julisa.Portugal@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Andrew Aiken – Seal Beach – <u>Andrew.Aiken@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

Cindy Hailey – San Diego – <u>Cindy.Hailey@wildlife.ca.gov</u>

CEQA Program Coordinator – Sacramento –

CEQACommentLetters@wildlife.ca.gov

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State Clearinghouse - <a href="mailto:state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov">state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov</a>

#### References:

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## Attachment A: Draft Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan

CDFW recommends the following language to be incorporated into the Project's environmental document.

Biological Resources (BIO)			
Mitig	ation Measure (MM) or Recommendation (REC)	Timing	Responsible Party
REC-1-Discuss the Projects potential impact to least Bell's vireo	CDPR shall obtain appropriate take authorization from CDFW under CESA which may include a Restoration Management Permit (RMP), Incidental Take Permit (ITP), or a Consistency Determination in certain circumstances, among other options [Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080.1, 2081, subds. (a), (b), and (c)]. Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to the project and mitigation measures may be required to obtain an ITP. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that CDFW issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an RMP or ITP for the Project unless the Project's CEQA document addresses all the Project's impact on CESA endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species. The Project's CEQA document should also specify a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an RMP or ITP. It is important that the take proposed to be authorized by CDFW's RMP or ITP be described in detail in the Project's CEQA document. Biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for an RMP or ITP. However, it is worth	Prior to finalizing CEQA document	California Department of Parks and Recreation

**B**9

	noting that mitigation for the Project's impact on a CESA endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species proposed in the Project's CEQA document may not necessarily satisfy mitigation required to obtain an ITP.		
REC-2-Fish	To minimize additional requirements by CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq. and/or under CEQA, the Project's CEQA document should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring, and reporting commitments for issuance of the LSA Agreement.	Prior to	California
and Game		finalizing	Department of
Code section		CEQA	Parks and
1602		document	Recreation
REC-3- Submitting Data for Sensitive and Special Status Species and Natural Communities	CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database [i.e., CNDDB] which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations [Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)]. Information on special status species should be submitted to the CNDDB by completing and submitting CNDDB Field Survey Forms. Information on special status native plant populations and sensitive natural communities, the Combined Rapid Assessment and Relevé Form should be completed and submitted to CDFW's Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program.	Prior to finalizing CEQA document	California Department of Parks and Recreation
REC-4-	CDPR shall condition the environmental document to include mitigation measures recommended in CDFW's comment letter	Prior to	California
Mitigation and		finalizing	Department of
Monitoring		CEQA	Parks and
Reporting Plan		document	Recreation
MM-BIO-1-	CDPR shall fully avoid impacts to least Bell's vireo by working outside of the least Bell's vireo nesting season	Prior to any	California
Impacts on		Project-	Department of

least Bell's Vireo – Avoid Impacts	for the duration of the Project. No ground-disturbing activities, including staging, as well as disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation should occur during the least Bell's vireo breeding season from March 15 through September 15 to avoid take of least Bell's vireo birds, nestlings, or their eggs.	related ground disturbing activities	Parks and Recreation
MM-BIO-2- Impats on least Bell's vireo – Protocol Surveys	If construction activities must occur during the least Bell's vireo breeding season during the Project, one year prior to Project-related ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal, CDPR shall perform protocol surveys for least Bell's vireo where suitable habitat occurs within 500 feet of the Project site. CDPR should also establish and map the territory boundaries of least Bell's vireo within 500 feet of the Project direct footprint. Surveys should adhere to the USFWS 2001 Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2001). Per protocol guidelines, a final survey report (including negative findings) should be provided to USFWS and CDFW within 45 calendar days following the completion of the survey effort.	Prior to any Project- related ground disturbing activities	California Department of Parks and Recreation
MM-BIO-3- Impacts on least Bell's vireo – Avoidance Plan	If least Bell's vireo is present, CDPR shall prepare an Avoidance Plan in coordination with USFWS and CDFW. The Avoidance Plan should include territory boundaries, noise level monitoring and restrictions during the breeding season, surveys by a qualified biologist, and Project construction lighting requirements. The Avoidance Plan should include Best Management Practices for Project lighting consistent with National Park Service lighting guidance – Outdoor Lighting in National Parks: Lessons Learned and Best Practices. An Avoidance Plan should be prepared prior to any	Prior to any Project- related ground disturbing activities	California Department of Parks and Recreation

	ground disturbing activities and vegetation removal		
MM-BIO-4- Impacts to least Bell's vireo – Avoidance plan	ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal.  If least Bell's vireo is not present, CDPR should commence work, and qualified biologists should survey weekly for least Bell's vireo, so as to be aware of use of nearby or adjacent habitat. If least Bell's vireo is found to have come near to the project site, CDPR shall stop work and consult with USFWS and CDFW. Protocol Surveys shall be conducted each year prior to implementation to ensure no least Bell's vireo presence.	Prior to any Project- related ground disturbing activities	California Department of Parks and Recreation
MM-BIO-5- Impacts on least Bell's vireo – Take Authorization	If impacts to least Bell's vireo cannot be avoided, CDPR shall consult CDFW and USFWS to obtain take authorization. Appropriate take authorization should be obtained from CDFW and USFWS prior to any ground-disturbing activities and vegetation removal.	Prior to any Project- related ground disturbing activities	California Department of Parks and Recreation
MM-BIO-6-Fish and Game Code Section 1602 – Notify CDFW	CDPR shall notify CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code 1602. Please visit CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program webpage for more information (CDFW 2023).	Prior to finalizing CEQA document	California Department of Parks and Recreation
MM-BIO-7-Fish and Game Code Section 1602 – Notify CDFW	The Project Applicant's notification to CDFW shall provide the following information at minimum:  1) A stream delineation in accordance with the USFWS wetland definition adopted by CDFW (Cowardin et al. 1979);  2) Linear feet and/or acreage of streams and associated natural communities that would be permanently and/or temporarily impacted by the Project. Plant community names should be provided based on vegetation association and/or alliance per	Prior to finalizing CEQA document	California Department of Parks and Recreation

the Manual of California Vegetation, second edition	
(Sawyer et al. 2009);	
3) A discussion as to whether impacts on streams within	
the Project site would impact those streams	
immediately outside of the Project site where there is	
hydrologic connectivity. Potential impacts such as	
changes to drainage pattern, runoff, and	
sedimentation should be discussed; and	
4) A hydrological evaluation of the 100-year storm	
event to provide information on how water and	
sediment is conveyed through the Project site.	
Additionally, the hydrological evaluation should	
assess a sufficient range of storm events (e.g., 100,	
50, 25, 10, 5, and 2-year frequency storm events) to	
evaluate water and sediment transport under pre-	
Project and post-Project conditions.	
rioject and post rioject conditions.	

ph. 310-451-1500 info@healthebay.org fax 310-4961902 www.healthebay.org

Heal the Bay

June 8, 2023

ATTN: Luke Serna: Bowtie Wetland Demo California State Parks Southern Service Center 2797 Truxtun Road San Diego, CA 92106

Sent via email to: enviro@parks.ca.gov

# RE: INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED BOWTIE PARCEL **DEMONSTRATION WETLAND PROJECT**

To Luke Serna:

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 35 years of experience and 20,000 members dedicated to making the coastal waters and watersheds of Greater Los Angeles safe, healthy, and clean. We use science, education, community action, and advocacy to fulfill our mission. We would first like to recognize that we are on unceded Indigenous land. The scope of our work takes place across the lands of coastal Indigenous Peoples and Native Nations of the Tongva, Chumash, Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, and Kizh Nation tribes. We would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to elders past, present, and emerging.

On behalf of Heal the Bay, we respectfully submit the following comments on the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project (Project) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). The expected benefits of the Project are numerous, including improved biological resources, increased carbon sequestration, heat island reduction, remediation of hazardous materials, improved water quality, and access to recreation within an overburdened community. Additional amenities include pedestrian resting stations, observation areas, signage, waste collection/management, irrigation, habitat features, paving materials, hardscape design, drainage, access control, graffiti management, and lighting. Given the myriad benefits, Heal the Bay supports the Project, and we have identified a few opportunities to further minimize and/or mitigate potential negative impacts. If the following comments are addressed, we believe that the IS/MND will be sufficient to comply with environmental review requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

- We suggest that another biological resources survey be conducted, and any major site disturbance should be scheduled to start outside of bird nesting season.
- We request additional analysis to ensure appropriate flow sizing and soil excavation, as well as additional information on the proposed high-density polyethylene liner.
- The Project should address potential displacement through development of a formal and just relocation plan for the unhoused population in and along the Project site, and through the use of the "Greening in Place" plan to minimize potential for gentrification.
- Additional assessment should be conducted to ensure crew safety and minimize consumption of energy and production of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) during Project construction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Native Lands Digital. 2023. Available at: <a href="https://native-land.ca/">https://native-land.ca/</a>.

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info@healthebay.org www.healthebay.org

### Heal the Bay

C2

**C3** 

State Parks should strive to improve accessibility and transparency whenever feasible.

Another biological resources survey should be conducted, and any major site disturbance should be scheduled to start outside of bird nesting season.

This Project will provide multiple biological resources benefits including the creation of new habitat, removal of contaminants and invasive species, and increase of biodiversity potential. In the process of creating these new benefits, it is critical that we also protect existing biological resources to the extent feasible. The Biological Survey for the Project, conducted once in May of 2022, found 38 species of native and non-native plants, including the sensitive vegetation community of Gooding's willow - red willow riparian woodland and forest, and 43 species of animals (mostly birds). However, the single Biological Survey conducted does not fully capture different seasons, or rare and nocturnal species. We request that another survey be conducted before any work is done, to include a focused insect survey, which has not yet been performed. In addition, no critical habitat was identified, but some special status species have potential to forage or nest in the area. BIO1-BIO3 mitigation measures are therefore appropriate, and we further request, as part of the BIO-4 mitigation measure for nesting birds, that major site disturbance should be scheduled (or started) outside of bird nesting season to the extent feasible.

We request additional analysis to ensure appropriate flow sizing and soil excavation, as well as additional information on the proposed high-density polyethylene liner.

Water quality remediation under the Project will address bacteria, copper, and zinc contamination, supporting compliance with the Los Angeles Regional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit, and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be in place to control pollution discharges during construction. Establishing and maintaining native habitat will reduce the potential for soil erosion compared to existing site conditions, and groundwater, currently contaminated with PCE and TCE, is not expected to be encountered during construction or used for the Project. Overall, this project will improve surface water quality and remove soil contamination.

The project targets dry-weather MS4 discharges. We request a comparison to normal dry-weather flows for this drainage area to ensure appropriate flow sizing. We also request an assessment of the maximum wet weather flows for this drainage area to identify how much wet weather flow could be captured by the Project. Given that no additional discharge permit will be required for this Project, aside from the Construction General Permit during project construction, it appears that treated water, as well as any stormwater overflow, will be discharged to the LA River through the same stormdrain from which the water will be diverted. We request that State Parks confirm this, or else disclose if there will be an alternative discharge location.

Given that Taylor Yard is within the San Fernando Valley Superfund Site Area 4 boundary, we have remaining concerns that surface soil contamination not removed during construction may be mobilized. We request that additional documentation be provided to verify that removing two feet of topsoil is sufficient to remove contamination on site. We understand that a liner will limit percolation, and thus limit potential mobilization, simultaneously improving surface water retention. We request additional information on the proposed high-density polyethylene liner, as well as full disclosure, if used, of any potential for this liner to break down, which may leach chemicals or produce microplastics.

ph. 310-451-1500 fax 310-4961902

The Project should address potential displacement through development of a formal and just relocation plan for the unhoused population in and along the Project site, and through the use of the "Greening in Place" plan to minimize potential for gentrification.

CEQA is an incredibly important public process, but is currently insufficient to address gentrification associated with increased access to open space. Frogtown, a community located directly across the river from the Project location, has experienced significant gentrification over the last decade, and this public amenity has the potential to accelerate it. We request that this project follow the "Greening in Place" plan.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the Initial Study does not acknowledge the unhoused population in the area, and how they might be displaced by the Project. We request a formal and just relocation plan for folks who live in and along the Project site.

Additional assessment should be conducted to ensure crew safety, and to minimize consumption of energy and production of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) during Project construction.

This project supports LA City's Green New Deal (Sustainability pLAn 2019) by creating beneficial use of stormwater and wetland ecosystems that would end up sequestering GHGs rather than emitting them. The main consumption of energy and production of GHG emissions will occur during construction, with the use of diesel and gasoline tools. We request consideration of electric construction equipment and other zero-emission alternative tools.

Additionally, although the project site is not technically within a zone identified as a "high wildfire hazard area," Sepulveda Basin has had multiple wildfires in recent years, so the potential for this hazard should still be addressed. To ensure crew safety during Project construction, we request an evacuation plan be developed for the Project.

State Parks should strive to improve accessibility and transparency whenever feasible.

State Parks should use clear communication to ensure long-term project success.

We appreciate the efforts made to increase accessibility to this Project and the public review process, such as providing documents and announcements in both Spanish and English. We encourage continued communication accessibility of this kind. In addition, considering the potential Tribal Resources at the location, as well as the proposed use of native vegetation, we are encouraged that there has been consultation with local Indigenous Nations, and recommend continued consultation throughout Project development, construction, and operation.

Although noise impacts are minor and not concerning for health reasons, we request transparent communication with local residents so they are aware of any activity that may create noise in their neighborhood. This includes construction activity Monday through Friday between 7 am and 9 pm, and on Saturdays between 8 am and 6 pm for the duration of Project construction, as well as operations and maintenance activities such as the use of an enclosed pump, minor maintenance with hand tools and small equipment, voices from public use, and a vacuum truck used once per month to remove settled solids from the treatment system.

C4

C5

C<sub>6</sub>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Audubon Center at Debs Park. 2020. Greening in Place. Available at: https://www.greeninginplace.com/

Heal the Bay

There should be a clear operations and maintenance plan in place for the Project.

The IS/MND does not include an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) plan, only stating, "Public access to the wetland demonstration Project site would generally be provided daily during daylight hours. Maintenance would consist of monthly treatment system inspection and removal of settled solids by vacuum truck as well as bi-monthly irrigation system inspection and landscape maintenance." We request a full O&M Plan be provided.

Amenities should be added to the Project plan to improve accessibility and safety.

Amenities such as seating and pedestrian resting stations will help to improve accessibility to this improved open space. We also request addition of water fountains and restrooms to increase access to drinking water and sanitation.

Proper signage is also an important amenity for a public space. The IS/MND does indicate that signage will be used at this location, but does not fully explain what the signage will include. We request that the signage incorporate Indigenous perspectives, plant species used on site with Indigenous cultural significance, etc. We highly encourage consultation with Indigenous Nations to create the signage content. Safety information should also be provided through signage including an evacuation plan in the event of a wildfire or liquefaction event.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project. Once again, given the myriad benefits, Heal the Bay supports this Project, and we believe that the IS/MND will be sufficient to comply with CEQA environmental review requirements if the preceding comments are addressed. If you have any questions concerning this comment letter, please contact Annelisa Moe via e-mail at <a href="mailto:amoe@healthebay.org">amoe@healthebay.org</a>, or by telephone at (310) 451-1500 X115.

Sincerely,

Annelisa Ehret Moe Water Quality Scientist

Heal the Bay

#### Name: James Kiehl

Public Comment and Questions from James Kiehl, 25-year Resident of Glassell Park and 30-year + member of the Nature Conservancy.

I have been an active member of the Glassell Park community for over 20 years involved with the Glassell Park Improvement Association. I have reviewed the Bowtie project's Removal Action Work Plan (RAW) documents and in general find the plan to be well thought out and see how it will improve infiltration of storm drain water into our local water table and improve the quality of this water and the water that goes on to the LA River. My questions deal with the ongoing water filtration costs (operating costs) after the system is built. I also question how trash and large items will be removed from the storm drains, both the Los Angeles city system and the County of LA Flood Control system. From years of helping with Friends of the LA River (FOLAR) clean-ups I know there is plenty of trash that goes from the storm drain system to the river. During one clean-up we recovered a full-sized Costco shopping cart that I personally took back to Costco. So sadly, trash is a real issue here. Can you please address these issues.

### Name: Alejandro Palomino

Hello.

D1

**D2** 

E1

**E4** 

Following are my comments on the MND plan on Bowtie parcel:

1- A full EIR shall be done on the same whole parcel at once.

2- the whole parcel shall be under the remediation plan and not doing "piece meal" on the parcel that would put the public's on health, safety and welfare in jeopardy.

3- a full bird, raptors, bat, and Least Bell's Vireo survey following the US Department of the Interior and CDFW on the whole parcel before any work is performed.

4- A series of workshops should be done to explain tax taxpayers the plan or plans so we can understand what's there, this plan was about 600 pages with lots of technical wording near to impossible to be digested by regular folks like myself, before any work is performed. In the past longtime residents living adjacent to Taylor Yard G1 and G2 as well as visitors were exposed to toxic and carcinogenic pollutants when trucks and semi trucks, machinery, etc drove easily above the 5 miles per hour supposedly not to be exceeded, creating huge clouds of toxicity dust, water tanks were supposed to spray water during the whole process of digging and transportation to suppress the huge clouds of dust created by all the activities: suppression did happen but partially only and mostly when people were able to direct our concerns to the

appropriate channels responsible. This and a lot of other similar issues were experienced at this parcel and other adjacent parcels along the LA River Flood Control Channel during, before and after the projects all under the oversight from DTSC who was also in charge of the remediation plans for those projects which has made us not to trust completely to the public agencies supposedly to guarantee the health, safety and welfare of residents and taxpayers.

Sincerely,
Alejandro Palomino
Frogtown Residents Opposing Gentrification | FROG
ELysian Valley Vecinos Unidos
Alliance of River Communities | ARC

### Name: Diamanda Villareal

Estoy de acuerdo de que se haga la limpieza del suelo contaminado. Esto va ayudar a que las nuevas plantas puedan crecer. Que pongan areas para que los jovenes esten con las patinetas o con las bicicletas. Tambien si pueden poner una area para las personas de la tercera edad para que hagan ejercicio. Una area para los perritos estaria bien. Una idea es que pongan puestos de venta de nieve, elotes, papitas, o perros calientes. Un puesto de flores, raspados, y paletas, para que la gente que trabajen en los puestos mantegan la area limpia. Si se puede poner un gimnasio, tambien es buena idea.

I agree that the contaminated soil should be cleaned up. This will help the new plants to grow. Establish areas for young people to be with skateboards or bicycles. Also, if they can put an area for the elderly to exercise. An area for the dogs would be nice. One idea is to put stalls selling ice cream, corn, chips, or hot dogs. A flower stall, snow cones, and popsicles, so that the people who work in the stalls keep the area clean. If you can put a gym, it is also a good idea.

### Name: Alejandro Palomino

G1

G2

i G3

I

G4

G5

G6

- 1. Parks are good. I don't oppose to the creation of more parks but we have other main issues Los Angeles or Angelinos are facing, such as water and homelessness. Unfortunately, homelessness, a lot of resources have been spent on it and they haven't produced any good results. But in terms of water, who, that the question I'm asking to 100 Acres Partnership, who decides that the residents of the communities adjacent to the site, we wanted a park.
- 2. We already have many parks around here, so taking into consideration the needs of Angelinos right now and main issues, I think a water reservoir should be more better than a park, like for example, Silver Lake water reservoir. Something like that, where we can secure some water but also can be open for a recreational area all around to the public. I believe that the agencies involved are not really focusing on the needs but the want of some individuals or entities.
- 3. So, I believe this site could be used in a lot better way than just a park because it's going to be another amenity for the newcomers that, and it will keep trickling the gentrification of our communities, unfortunately.
- 4. And then the process that has been taken it's a little bit cloudy. We don't, at the meetings, we are somehow prevented from making comments just because don't align with the plans of the agenda for this project. So, most of the people in our community have been ignored and that's bad because we are going to either affected in a good or bad way for the creation of all these projects, because we haven't been included like all included in the decision of what we want all these areas to be.
- 5. And also the pollution at this site is extremely high.
- 6. Unfortunately, in the past, people were allowed to enter all these sites with no restrictions. It is just yesterday there were people playing at the Bowtie. And I reported I don't know how many times to DTSC, to 100 acres Partnership, California State Parks that there's no --there is fully access to--open access to all these sites, so that shows the lack of interest to protect the health, safety and welfare of community members and public in general, so how can we trust all these agencies when they're failing to provide us with the very minimum of safety and health and how do you say, needs to all these parks.
- So, thank you for your time and that's my comment. I will submit a different one via email. Thank you.

# A. Responses to Comments from Miya Edmonson, California Department of Transportation, <u>District 7, letter dated June 2, 2023</u>

- A1. CDPR concurs with California Department of Transportation's determination that no significant impact to vehicle miles travelled levels would occur.
- A2. CDPR concurs with California Department of Transportation's determination that no impact would occur regarding potential hazards to a geometric design feature or through incompatible vehicular use.
- A3. CDPR concurs with California Department of Transportation's determination that existing access is sufficient to accommodate emergency vehicle/personnel access and potential impacts are expected to be less than significant.
- A4. CDPR shall obtain a California Department of Transportation permit should the Project require use of oversized-transport vehicles. CDPR shall limit construction traffic to off-peak period to the degree feasible. Construction traffic is not expected to cause issues on any State facilities and a construction traffic control plan detailing these issues for California Department of Transportation review is not anticipated to be needed.

# B. Responses to Comments from Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager I, South Coast Region, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, letter dated June 8, 2023

- B1. CDPR appreciates California Department of Fish and Wildlife providing a summary of CDFW's role as a Trustee and Responsible Agency related to CEQA, California Fish and Game Code, and California Endangered Species Act. The project description, summary, and location included in the comment are accurate.
- B2. CDPR has incorporated additional measures into the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program to reduce potentially significant direct and indirect impacts to biological resources. These potential impacts and mitigation measures are included in Sections 3.4 (Biological Resources), 3.13 (Noise), and 4.0 (Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program) of the Final IS/MND and are discussed below in Responses B3 through B9 below.
- B3. Sections 3.4.2 (Biological Resources), 3.13.2 (Noise), and 4.0 (Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program) have been updated to analyze and mitigate potential construction noise impacts to least Bell's vireo or other special-status species that have the potential to occur in suitable habitat in the Los Angeles River bed adjacent to the Project site. As discussed in the Final IS/MND, Mitigation Measure BIO-4 has been updated and shall be implemented to reduce potentially significant noise impacts to least Bell's vireo or other special-status species to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure BIO-4 (Nesting Bird Surveys and Avoidance Measures) specifically requires the following:

To avoid impacts to or take of both common and/or special-status birds (e.g., least Bell's vireo), nestlings, or their eggs, and to the extent feasible, no ground-disturbing activities, including staging, as well as disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation should not occur during the recognized breeding season

from Feb 15 through September 15 (January 1 through August 15 for raptors) to avoid impacts to or take of common and/or special-status birds, nestlings, or their eggs.

If construction can't avoid the nesting season, a temporary sound attenuation barrier shall be placed along the western limits of construction to reduce potential construction noise levels in the bed of the adjacent Los Angeles River to below the 60 dBA level used by USFWS as a practical threshold above which substantial impacts to the least Bell's vireo may occur.

Prior to initial ground disturbance or vegetation removal (including construction of the sound attenuation barrier), the Applicant shall provide evidence to CDPR of the following. If initial site disturbance is scheduled to begin during the avian nesting season (February 15 through September 15; January 1 through August 15 for raptors), breeding and nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 3 days prior to the start of site disturbance. Should work be suspended or delayed for a period of greater than seven 7 days (during the nesting season), then the qualified biologist, at their discretion, shall complete an additional nesting bird survey to ensure that no additional nesting has occurred within or adjacent to the Project area. If construction activities carry over into a second nesting season(s), the surveys shall be completed annually until the proposed Project is complete. Surveys shall be conducted within 500 feet of all proposed Project activities.

The Applicant shall notify the USFWS and/or CDFW if endangered or threatened species are observed. If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, a qualified biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer around the nest, and no activities shall be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails; initial buffers for nesting raptors shall be 500 feet. A buffer of 0.25 mile shall be used for nesting peregrine falcon unless the line-of-sight from the edge of development is obscured as determined by a qualified ornithologist. The prescribed buffers for common species may be adjusted by the qualified biologist based on existing conditions around the nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of the species, location of nest in relation to the sound attenuation barrier, and other pertinent factors; for example, buffers for common passerines, often found to be habituated to human activity, may be adjusted down to 25 - 50 feet depending on the disturbance tolerance of each specific species. Buffer adjustments for listed and/or other special-status species shall be done in coordination with the USFWS and CDFW as applicable; nest locations within the areas protected by the sound attenuation barrier will only require notification to the USFWS and CDFW. The qualified biologist shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success or failure and to ensure that proposed Project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 additionally requires wildlife pre-construction clearance surveys and construction monitoring by a qualified biologist with experience with special-status species known to occur in the region, including least Bell's vireo, during all ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities.

B4. CDPR understands CDFW recommends submitting a notification for a Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA). CDPR conducted a supplemental review of the Project in relation to CDFW's SAA jurisdiction and notes the following:

- The entirety of the Project would be constructed and operated outside Waters of the State and associated riparian habitat;
- While the Project would connect to an existing stormwater drainage pipe with a terminus at the Los Angeles River potentially within CDFW's SAA jurisdiction, the connection to the Project would occur within the storm drain outside CDFW's SAA jurisdiction;
- The Project would not substantially alter the volume of stormwater flow entering the Los Angeles River (only a small overall volume is used for wetland and native habitat restoration and irrigation).
- The Project would result in water quality improvements to an existing Los Angeles River stormwater discharge by pre-treating 100% of stormwater during low-flow conditions and 5-10% of stormwater during high-flow conditions.
- The improvements in stormwater discharge quality will provide ecological benefits in the Los Angeles River.
- The Project involves and is purposed upon restoring wetland and native habitat.
- Water quality related requirements applicable to construction and operation of the Project are regulated pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act which are additionally protective of human and ecological health.
- The Project's consistency with applicable water quality standards and regulations are analyzed in Section 3.10 (Hydrology and Water Quality) which demonstrate the Project does not have the potential to result in a significant water quality impact.

CDPR is hopeful the above clarification demonstrates why the Project would not be subject to issuance of a CDFW SAA. Regardless, coordination with CDFW will continue to take place to determine the most appropriate route forward to ensure the protection of the LA River and associated biological resources.

- <u>B5.</u> Observations of special-status species during construction of the Project, if any, will be submitted by CDPR to the California Natural Diversity Database.
- B6. Please refer to responses to comments B1 through B5.
- B7. CDPR will provide payment of CDFW CEQA filing fees in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- B8. CDPR appreciated the opportunity to meet with CDFW on July 18, 2023 to discuss CDFW's comments on the IS/MND and will continue to notice CDFW in accordance with CEQA requirements.
- B9. Please refer to responses to comments B1 through B8.
- C. Responses to Comments from Annelisa Ehret Moe, Water Quality Scientist, Heal the Bay, letter dated June 8, 2023

- C1. CDPR appreciates Heal the Bay comments on the IS/MND. Please refer to responses to comments C2 through C7.
- C2. Numerous biological surveys have been conducted on and adjacent to the Project site as part of Project planning. Additional biological surveys are required by mitigation prior to Project construction. Surveys conducted to date have not identified threatened or endangered species on the Project site nor does the Project site occur within habitat with a high potential for sensitive insect species to occur. The Project will additionally result in rehabilitation of native habitat that would result in a net benefit to biological resources, including but not limited to insects. Please refer to Section 3.4 (Biological Resources) for additional details.
- C3. The Project is designed to treat 100% of dry weather flows. Much of this water would stay onsite and be used for irrigation of plantings. Any remaining water would flow back into the existing storm drain and out into the river. The Project does not include a new storm drain into the river. The project would manage a small amount of wet weather flows and most water during large storm events would bypass the system and flow back through the existing storm drain which would remain in place.

Multiple site characterization efforts have occurred over time that demonstrate concentrations of constituents of concern occur within the top two feet of site soil. Assessment and remediation of these soils is being closely coordinated with and approved by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

While HDPE can degrade in sunlight, the HDPE lines used for the Project would be in a buried condition and not be subject to UV degradation. HDPE is utilized for water pipelines all across the United States and is not known to leaching chemicals into the water or groundwater. The liner would additionally limit percolation into underlying groundwater.

- C4. TNC has implemented the following Greening in Place strategies regarding Community Engagement and Ownership and Design and Operations (with CDPR). As part of these efforts, TNC has incorporated the following:
  - Don't ignore the issue or dismiss people's concerns because they don't align with your mission or are outside of your area of expertise;
  - Do prioritize hiring people with local community knowledge/expertise/relationships;
  - Advocate for public agencies to address issues proactively;
  - Include in your budget funding to partner with other organizations with local expertise and ask for recommendations; and
  - Partner with locals and organizations to develop culturally relevant programming and services.

During a site visit with SELAH Neighborhood Homeless Coalition, CDPR, TNC and a staff member from Councilmember Hernandez's office on April 4, 2023, attendees walked the site and noted that no unhoused community members are currently living on the site. There are people living near the site and in partnership with SELAH, TNC and CDPR plan to share information about remediation and construction on-site. SELAH

constantly does outreach to community members near the Project site to connect folks to housing services among other services in the area, in coordination with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) whom CDPR and TNC have met with before.

City of Los Angeles Council District 1 and the Bureau of Engineering are partnering on a housing project for unhoused community members called Northeast New Beginnings on 499 N. San Fernando Road, LA CA 90031. TNC and CDPR are hopeful that people living near the Project site will be interested and welcomed into these housing facilities over the next few months.

TNC participates as part of the Los Angeles Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing Collaborative (LA ROSAH) collaborative to advance policies and strategies that prevent displacement in vulnerable communities related to urban greening investments and to create models for accessible, community-driven parks/open space and affordable housing joint development, including housing production and preservation.

The Taylor Yard Equity Strategy (TYES) aims at addressing gentrification and displacement issues for all of Taylor Yard. The 100 Acre Partnership is an effort of the City of Los Angeles, MRCA, and CDPR. Sarai participated in a strategy session earlier this year that brought together several agencies, organizations, and community organizations together.

The LA Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing (LA ROSAH) Collaborative was selected by the City of Los Angeles to facilitate a community-driven process to develop a community Taylor Yard Equity Strategy (TYES). TYES will undertake a vital community engagement process to uplift equitable community development priorities in light of the major public infrastructure investments around the Taylor Yard and LA River area, centering the most impacted and marginalized voices.

A TYES staff member will attend TNC community workshop on native plants to give announcements about upcoming opportunities to engage in TYES and TNC staff have met with TYES to discuss ways for TNC to further connect community members with TYES staff.

- C5. A site safety plan, including an evacuation route, shall be developed prior to Project construction. Section 3.8 (Greenhouse Gas Emissions) demonstrates that the Project's greenhouse gas emissions would be below the applicable threshold of significance and no mitigation is necessary. CDPR concurs with Heal the Bay that the native habitat restoration would sequester carbon and provide a net climate change benefit compared to baseline environmental conditions.
- C6. CDPR and TNC have actively built relationships with community members, local community-based organizations, neighborhood councils, agencies, and elected officials in an effort to learn about local needs and priorities, incorporate feedback wherever possible, and to maintain and increase transparency regarding the Project.

Mujeres de la Tierra engaged with local communities around the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project from August 2019 to March 2020. In their final report (https://20f486d3-c035-4003-ac30-d76e47f4eb2f.filesusr.com/ugd/7c9145\_4f84fb53509741c5bcdc753e447d9705.pdf) Detailing community

feedback, they concluded that the five key themes that should guide future nature-based investments in the area include:

- Nature-based investments are indigenous and thus, should be acknowledged and celebrated.
- Plan with the community as the intended audience and primary beneficiary.
- Address the needs of the community creatively, realistically, and honestly through projects.
- Neutralize future gentrification and displacement and recognize that all residents, including unhoused community members, have a right to access public spaces.
- Ensure businesses who implement projects hire locally and pay equitably.

TNC and CDPR have used Mujeres de la Tierra's findings to shape regular engagement with 4 Neighborhood Councils to listen and learn about local priorities as well as share transparent information regarding the Project.

TNC and CDPR have conducted outreach to Spanish speaking communities and provide all Project materials in English and Spanish.

There will be temporary restrooms available on site while the rest of the 18-acre Bowtie Parcel is being developed. Water fountains and restrooms are part of the 18-acre development park project.

CDPR and TNC continue to cultivate partnerships with tribes and tribal organizations who have responded to our invitations to connect and collaborate. We defer to our partners as to whether they will want to participate in the creation of the signage, and whether they want specific information noted. The creation of the signage will include extensive community engagement.

CDPR and TNC are developing an operation and maintenance plan with design consultants that includes all elements of the Project (plantings, stormwater facilities, wetland, etc.).

### D. Responses to Comments from James Kiehl

D1. The Project will divert water from the storm drain and improve water quality by filtering the water through an underground treatment train and aboveground wetland. There is a trash screen that will capture large debris and then the treatment train will filter out smaller pollutants and sediment. Treated water will either remain in the wetland or flow back into the storm drain and the Los Angeles River. Water beyond the capacity of the project's system will bypass the diversion and continue to flow, as it does now, into the Los Angeles River.

D2. Addressing trash, through ongoing maintenance, is an important consideration for this Project. Trash filters and a treatment train for the storm drain will be included as part of the Project. This is a Los Angeles County Flood Control district storm drain, and it would be regularly cleaned out at least a few times a year.

### E. Responses to Comments from Alejandro Palomino

E1. We appreciate the comment that an EIR be completed for the entire parcel and agree that completing comprehensive analysis of the entire parcel is necessary. Throughout the planning process, we have made every effort to remain consistent with requirements and guidelines set forth in programmatic documentation including the USACE's Integrated Feasibility Study which provides the framework for the restoration of the Los Angeles River. From this document, CDPR has developed projects which will provide for habitat restoration as well as provide additional public benefit including new visitor use opportunities. We have utilized a thorough process to study the Project footprint and will implement established and effective avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures to ensure that impact to the Project site and any potential impact as a result of construction and operation will remain less-than-significant. Please refer to the IS/MND including the mitigation measures for the details of what will be implemented.

While the entire Bowtie Parcel will ultimately be a contiguous publicly accessible state park, there are two individual projects happening that will provide separate features and benefits to help meet the overall improvement of the Los Angeles River. As a result, mitigation and remediation efforts will likely differ based on the features to be built for each project. There will be thorough environmental analyses for the entire G1 parcel. This CEQA IS/MND is for the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project and CDPR is currently preparing CEQA/NEPA compliance for the development of the remaining G1 parcel.

- E2. We understand your concern over the remediation of the G1 parcel being done in a segmented or "piece meal" fashion. The two projects occurring within the G1 parcel will both be subject to hazardous waste remediation and oversight by the Department of Toxic Substances Control. The implementation of the removal action at the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project site will improve environmental quality and ensure the health and safety of the public. The removal action is being performed according to all required health and safety guidelines. Remediating the northern end of the Bowtie Parcel first will allow the Wetland Demonstration Project to proceed, thus resulting in the area remaining for future cleanup smaller and the action itself consequently less disruptive.
- E3. Multiple biological surveys were completed onsite and they are described in the CEQA documentation as well as the Biological Resources Technical Report. Surveys included observations of migratory birds, small mammals, and above-ground amphibian and reptiles. Additional surveys for other portions of the Bowtie Parcel will be conducted as part of the future CEQA/NEPA environmental review.
- CDPR and TNC have been closely collaborating with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), regarding avoidance/minimization measures for least Bell's vireo. Rather than conducting protocol-level surveys for Bell's vireo, CDPR has collaborated closely with CDFW to implement additional mitigation measures to the Project. These additional measures can be found in the Final IS/MND, and include the installation of a temporary sound barrier if the breeding/nesting season cannot be avoided, wildlife preconstruction surveys (including those for least Bell's vireo), biological monitoring, and worker environmental awareness training.
- E4. Many meetings and conversations related to the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project and the associated cleanup have been conducted at Neighborhood Council meetings, coordinated community events, and by DTSC during the public comment period. Future meetings regarding the redevelopment and cleanup plans for the larger remainder of the Bowtie Parcel will be scheduled as that project planning

process proceeds. Environmental documentation has been and will be prepared to reduce the amount of technical verbiage and ensure that as wide a range of the public can understand potential impacts of the project and how they will be mitigated. Additionally, public review required under CEQA for future project development will give the public the opportunity to provide input.

DTSC oversees the cleanup process; they do not direct it and they do not implement it. Dust control/mitigation on the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project site is a priority to the Project proponents and they have assured DTSC and community members they intend to implement robust and demonstrable control measures during cleanup and construction. Documents will continue to be made available to the public, including the dust monitoring plan, transportation plan, and the construction stormwater pollution protection plan. These plans will be submitted to DTSC for review in advance of the commencement of remediation or Project construction.

### F. Responses to Comments from Diamanda Villareal

Thank you for your comment expressing support for the remediation of the soil on the Project site. The Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project is a 3-acre portion of the 18-acre Bowtie Parcel owned by CDPR. The Project is a habitat enhancement, stormwater management and public access project. The majority of the 3-acre Project footprint will be comprised of a wetland and native habitat. There will be trails and overlooks provided for the public to utilize. Due to the limited space on this 3-acre portion of the site, there will not be room for business stalls, exercise equipment, or a gym. However, dogs will likely be provided some level of access to the G1 parcel. CDPR may incorporate some of the other suggestions into the larger Bowtie Parcel provided there is a public support for their inclusion.

Please contact Sarai Jimenez at sarai.jimenez@tnc.org or (213) 787-9418 for more information about the project design.

### G Responses to Comments from Alejandro Palomino

- G1. Over the years many community members advocated for the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) to acquire and develop portions of the former Taylor Yard to create public parks. In 2000 the "Coalition for a State Park at Taylor Yard" formed in opposition to proposed warehouse development. As a result, CDPR purchased, designed, and developed Rio De Los Angeles State Park. When the Bowtie property became available in 2003, the State purchased it as well with the intent of park development to occurring at a later date. The Bowtie is envisioned as naturalized open space for passive recreation in the general plan for Rio del Los Angeles State park. In a survey of more than 1000 people for the Bowtie Conceptual Design in 2021, community members overwhelmingly noted their desires to view wildlife.
- G2. The mission of CDPR is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. In partnership with the CDPR, The Nature Conservancy is developing a multi-benefit stormwater management and habitat enhancement demonstration project along the Los Angeles River on a portion of the Bowtie Parcel which is owned by CDPR. The project will enhance habitat, improve water quality, and provide public access. The

project will receive water from a storm drain that now runs underneath the property, move the water through a wetland planted with native plants, retain some water on-site, and release the remaining treated/cleaned water into the river. The Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project will be a public amenity for the community to enjoy and the increase in habitat will also have many benefits for wildlife.

According to the CalEnviroScreen4.0 the communities surrounding the project area are within the 70th to 100th percentile of those disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution. There are 5.75 acres of park space within a half-mile of the undeveloped Bowtie Parcel's entrance; this equates to only 1.13 acre of park space per 1,000 residents. The existing park space which exists within a half-mile radius consists of two local parks, Glenhurst Park and Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park. Glenhurst Park is a small 0.39-acre neighborhood pocket park on the northeast side of the Los Angeles River which provides a small open grassy area and a play structure for children. Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park is a 5.36-acre neighborhood park located on the southwest side of the Los Angeles River which contains a skate park, grassy open area, picnic tables, natural habitat, stormwater retention features, and access to the river. Unfortunately, this riverfront park is virtually inaccessible to the 65% of the residents in this half-mile radius who live on the northeast side of the river. While technically within a half-mile radius, residents of the northeast neighborhoods would actually have to walk much farther than half-a-mile across along a very busy road, over a bridge, and through dangerous intersections to reach Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park.

Currently there is no safe way to access the riverfront within a half-mile on the northeast side of the river, while the residents on the southeast side of the river currently have access to a continuous bike path which runs alongside the river's edge. If we expand the distance to 1.0 mile from the proposed park entrance, the amount of park space increases but so does the population it serves and this only marginally increases the park acres/1,000 residents ratio.

- G3. The Taylor Yard Equity Strategy (TYES) aims at addressing gentrification and displacement issues for all of Taylor Yard. TYES will undertake a vital community engagement process to uplift equitable community development priorities in light of the major public infrastructure investments around the Taylor Yard and LA River area, centering the most impacted and marginalized voices.
- G4. Both CDPR and TNC staff have made their contact information widely available to the public. Staff regularly attend four separate monthly Neighborhood Council Board meetings to share updates about the Bowtie. At events hosted by CDPR and TNC, the public is welcome to ask questions and express their feedback. For more information please visit: <a href="https://www.100acrepartnership.org/about-4">https://www.100acrepartnership.org/about-4</a>.
- G5. Numerous site investigations have been completed over the years to understand the site conditions for the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project. For more information please visit: <a href="https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\_report?global\_id=60001919">https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\_report?global\_id=60001919</a>.
- G6. The State Park Facilities and Maintenance Program are currently working to purchase materials and secure fencing contracts. Due to CDPR contracting requirements the work will likely occur in phases. CDPR has already started repairing and replacing damaged fencing along the perimeter of the parcel adjacent to the rail corridor and river. CDPR is in the process of finalizing a contract to fence and gate the

entry at Casitas Ave. This new fencing is also timely in anticipation of upcoming site remediation and construction work on Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project early next year.

# 1.7 OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

This Initial Study (IS) is an informational document intended to inform the lead agency, other responsible or interested agencies, and the general public of potential environmental effects of the proposed Project. The environmental review process has been established to enable public agencies to evaluate potential environmental consequences and to examine and implement methods of eliminating or reducing any potentially significant adverse impacts. This document is intended to aid California State Parks CDPR in determining the appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document needed to support agency approvals, permits, and consultations. These permits, approvals, and consultations are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1 Agency Permits and Environmental Review Requirements** 

Agency	Permits and Other Approvals
California Department of Parks and Recreation	California Environmental Quality Act Lead Agency; Adopt Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)
California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Approval of Removal Action Workplan
Regional Water Quality Control Board	Stormwater NPDES Permit, General Construction Order
Los Angeles County	Flood Control and Construction Permits
City of Los Angeles Building Permit	Building and U Permits
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Approval of treated stormwater for irrigation
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Right of Entry/Encroachment Permit

# 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

# 2.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Project involves redeveloping and restoring the northwest portion of a former rail yard into a publicly accessible urban greenspace and wetland that serves as habitat for native plants and animals. The new habitat would consist of uplands with a constructed wetland maintained through the use of treated dryweather flow and treated stormwater. The Project is expected to divert and treat dry-weather flow and stormwater prior to its entry to the Los Angeles River. The drainage area is approximate 2,800 acres and would provide a substantial source of water, this area is depicted in Figure 1. The drainage area encompasses portions of both the City of Los Angeles and Glendale. The Project's stormwater treatment components include a diversion structure from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's storm drain, pre-treatment units, a pump station, and a constructed wetland. The treated water would be used to irrigate the new habitat and water that isn't able to be used would passively overflow into an existing outfall into the Los Angeles River.

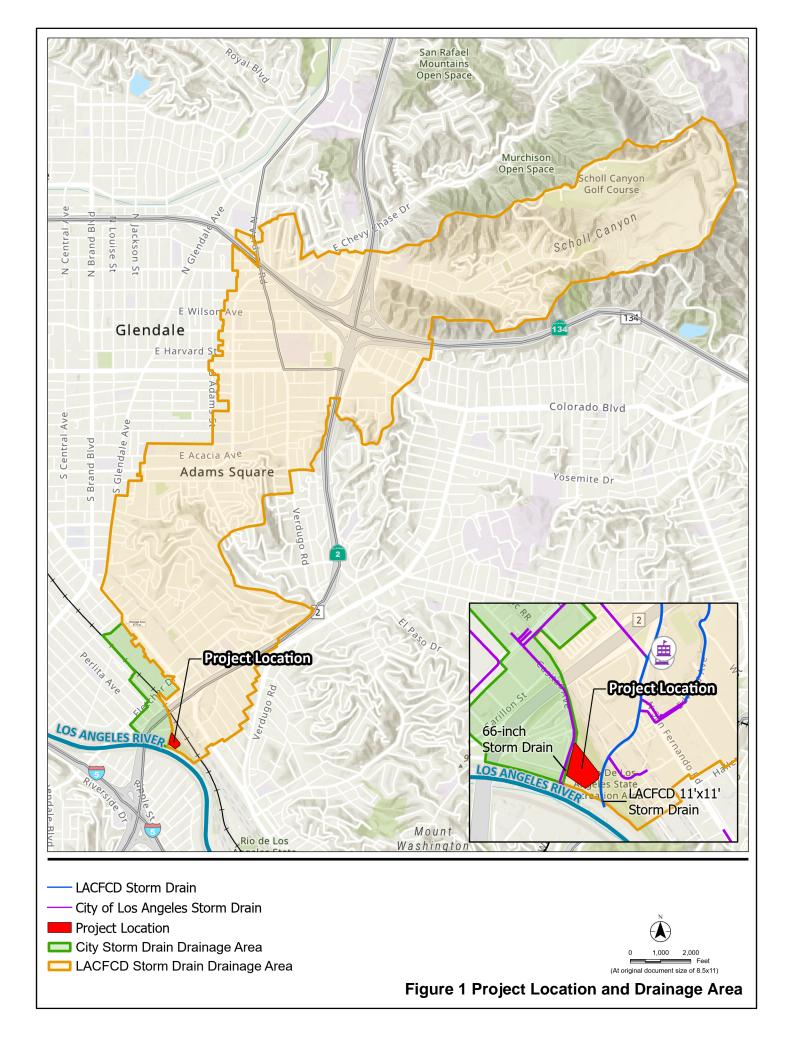
The Project Area was a part of the Taylor Yard rail yard complex, the former freight classification yard (1925-1973) of Southern Pacific Railroad. Taylor Yard is comprised of several parcels and the Bowtie parcel was previously referred to as the G1 parcel and may sometimes be referred to as such in reference documents. The potential to restore the natural resources of 57 acres on the Los Angeles River in the Glendale Narrows was one of the key considerations of CDPR to purchase the land of the Taylor Yard rail yard complex.

The 247-acre Taylor Yard rail yard complex was historically divided into ten parcels, some of which were further subdivided for sale purposes, and two of which – Parcels D and G-1 – were purchased by CDPR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park. The 40-acre Parcel D, acquired in 2001, is located between an active rail line and San Fernando Road; and the approximately 18-acre Parcel G-1, acquired in 2003, is located between the river and an industrial development. Formerly part of a 247-acre closed freight switching facility, these and several other parcels in the facility were vacant for two decades, as rail yard functions shifted offsite.

The Los Angeles River has become a focal point for open space acquisition by many groups within the densely urbanized neighborhoods of northeast Los Angeles to create parklands, open space, bikeways, and recreational opportunities for the betterment of ecological, social, and economic prosperity for the surrounding communities. Determined to address the imbalances in open space provision, communities banded together to resist a proposed industrial complex and instead offered a vision for the coexistence of habitat restoration and active recreation opportunity. This led to the development of a unique partnership between CDPR, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), and the City of Los Angeles, known as the 100 Acre Partnership.

The 100 Acre Partnership is a joint agreement between City and State agencies to collaborate on revitalizing 100 acres of the former Taylor Yard rail yard complex into a contiguous public green space along the Los Angeles River. This partnership consists of:

- Rio de Los Angeles State Park (former D Parcel): A 40-acre State Park that opened in 2007 and co-managed by the City of Los Angeles and California State Parks CDPR. Rio de Los Angeles State Park inspired the vision to revitalize the 100 acres of Taylor Yard into green space.
- The Bowtie (G-1 Parcel): The Bowtie is considered part of Rio de Los Angeles State Park
  unit. G-1 is an approximately 18-acre parcel owned by California State Parks CDPR. The
  Bowtie consists of two separate projects:
  - The Demonstration Project (proposed Project and subject of this IS/MND) is located on an approximate 3.2-acre portion of the approximately 18-acre Bowtie parcel and includes redeveloping the northern portion of a former rail yard into a publicly accessible urban greenspace that includes a constructed wetland maintained through the use and treatment of dry-weather flow and stormwater.
  - The Bowtie Park Development Project is a comprehensive design for natural habitat, passive recreation, and water quality enhancement opportunities. The proposed greenspace would include habitat restoration and enhancement; viewing opportunities for local wildlife; walking, jogging, and biking trails; shaded picnic areas; historical, cultural, and environmental programming; and unstructured play areas.
- The G-2 Parcel: A 42-acre parcel owned by MRCA and 30 acres owned by the City of Los Angeles. This project is currently in preliminary planning and currently has no conceptual development plans.
- Paseo Del Rio: A 100 Acre Partnership collaborative project which would provide approximately one mile of walking trail and greenway that would run along the river and across both the Bowtie and G-2 parcels.



# 2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.2.1 Current Site Conditions

The Project site is located at the northern tip of the former Southern Pacific Railroad Taylor Yard; the Project footprint occupies the northeastern bank of the Bowtie Parcel of the Los Angeles River. The Project, which encompasses approximately 3.2 acres of post-industrial landscape with both bare earth and some concrete debris, is in a Disadvantaged Communities area designated by CalEPA. They will be referred to as Overburdened Communities throughout this document. As described earlier, shallow soil has been shown to contain concentrations of lead and petroleum hydrocarbons above background levels.

# 2.2.2 Surrounding Land Uses

The Project is immediately adjacent to the Los Angeles River and industrial land uses/commercial areas (Park and Y Co Inc, Leafs Properties LP, Rexford Industrial, Extra Space Properties, and Superline Inc). Railroad tracks that border the east of the Parcel are active for Amtrak, Metrolink, and freight trains. Areas of residential development including some Overburdened Communities within the City of Los Angeles near Atwater Village and Elysian Valley are located adjacent to the industrial/commercial land uses surrounding the Project site.

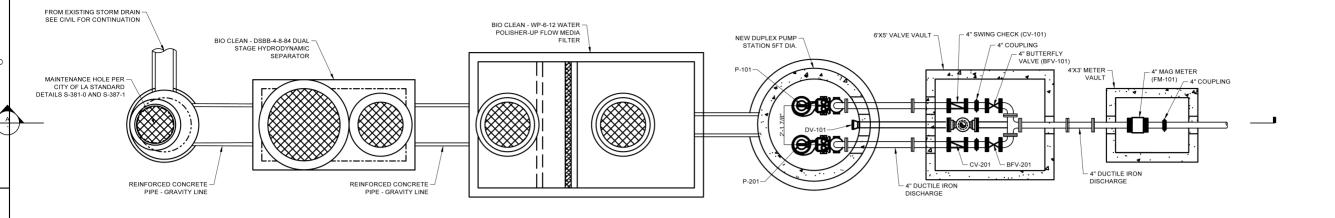
# 2.3 PROJECT COMPONENTS

The Project involves the following:

- A constructed wetland to provide treatment for all flows less than 5 cubic feet per second (cfs). The
  wetland would provide treatment and storage to sustain habitat and is sized to hold and retain
  129,800 cubic feet of surface water and contain an additional 20,000 cubic feet of water storage in
  the pore space between rocks located in the wetland.
- Excavation and offsite disposal to address hazardous substances from rail operations described in the Removal Action Workplan (Appendix E).
- Diversion from an existing 11-foot by 11-foot Los Angeles County owned storm drain.
- A pump station to bring dry-weather flow and stormwater to the treatment system.
- A stormwater treatment system comprised of hydrodynamic separators and a filter to remove solids and other constituents of concern from diverted dry-weather flow and stormwater. A Hydrodynamic separator utilizes the velocity of the water and swirl separation to remove debris and large sediments from the incoming stormwater. The filter utilizes media to separate smaller sediments from the water. The combination of these two treatment technologies will limit the amount of debris and sediment entering the wetland providing improved water quality.
- A discharge pipeline and an overflow structure to control water into and out of the wetland and to control the water level.

- Stormwater and low-flow would be diverted from the existing County of Los Angeles storm drain via gravity into a below-grade treatment system and pump station. The pump station would pump the water into the wetland. The water would travel through the wetland for further treatment and discharge via gravity into the storm drain and ultimately into the Los Angeles River. A portion of the water will be utilized for irrigation of native vegetation and to support fauna. The remainder will be discharged at a much higher water quality into the Los Angeles River.
- Habitat enhancement that involves the planting of native plants and other habitat features and enhancement measures throughout the Project's upland, riparian, and wetland areas.

A process flow diagram and site layout plan are illustrated below in Figures 2 and 3, respectively. Figure 2 uses the term wet-weather flows which refer to stormwater flows.



PLAN SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"

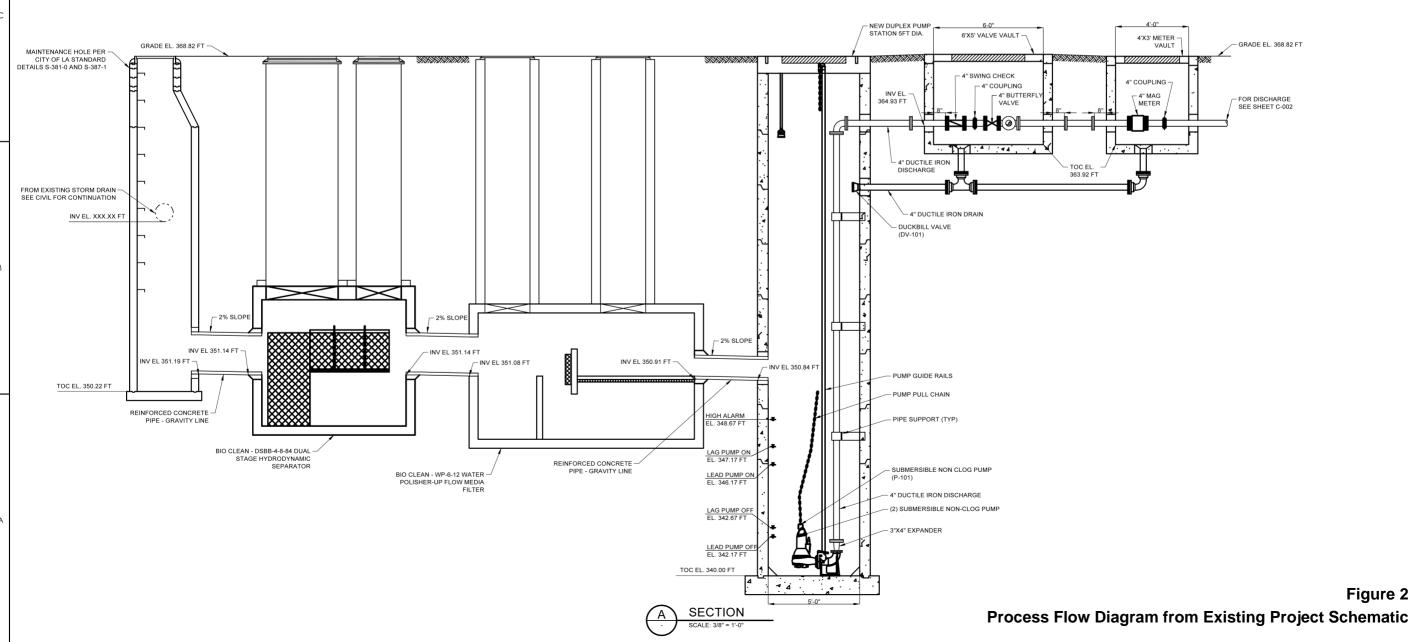




Figure 3 Site Layout Plan

# 2.4 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

# 2.4.1 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation

An environmental assessment was performed to determine site environmental quality during the early Project planning phase as this property was once a part of a railyard and adjacent to historic industry and a transportation corridor. Results of site testing confirmed the presence of urban contaminants (primarily lead, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and petroleum hydrocarbons) in several samples of shallow soil collected within the Project site. Contaminant concentrations were high enough to warrant removal of shallow soil prior to the development of the demonstration wetlands and ancillary facilities. A Removal Action Workplan (RAW) that details the results of the environmental assessment and proposed soil remediation component of the Project was prepared and submitted to California Department of Toxic Substances Control consistent with California Health and Safety Code Section 25323.1 (Amicus, 2023). The RAW, which is included with this IS as Appendix E recommends removal of the shallow soil across the entire Project footprint to a depth of two feet below ground surface (bgs).

Shallow soil would be removed using conventional excavation equipment (i.e., grader, loader, and excavator) and either directly loaded into trucks or stockpiled for a short time to facilitate profiling prior to transport to an offsite receiving facility for recycling or disposal. Removing the top two feet of shallow soil would result in approximately 10,547 cubic yards of soil being excavated and requiring an estimated 904 truck trips at 14 cubic yards of bulk uncompacted soil to transport the soil offsite. This can be disposed of at a landfill for daily cover or another location. The remaining excavation necessary to construct the wetland, pump station, and site amenities would involve excavating approximately 7,565 cubic yards of soil, placing approximately 3,911 cubic yards of native soil back on the site, and removing from the site approximately 4,166 cubic yards of soil requiring an estimated 357 truck trips. This is clean soil that can be used as backfill offsite or disposed of by the Contractor. A liner consisting of high-density polyethylene would be installed under the constructed wetland feature to improve water retention. An additional estimate of 260 cubic yards of rip-rap and granular backfill would need to be transported onto the site via an estimated 23 truck trips. This material would be used as subbase material and as part of the riffle areas in the wetland.

# 2.4.2 Storm Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation

The Project would divert dry-weather flow and stormwater runoff from an existing 11-foot by 11-foot storm drain to a pre-treatment unit located onsite. The storm drain enters the southeast corner of the Project site from the boundary of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks and follows an alignment along the southern boundary of the Project site for approximately 800 feet to its outfall into the Los Angeles River. The connection between the existing storm drains and proposed pre-treatment unit would be accomplished by installing a 24-inch diameter pipeline to collect the water and transport it to the pretreatment facilities.

The Project's dry-weather flow and stormwater treatment facilities would include a diversion structure from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's storm drain, a hydrodynamic separator, and a filter. The pretreatment system is designed to remove settleable solids, most bacteria, and up to 60% of the dissolved pollutants.

# 2.4.3 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation

The Project would redevelop the northern, approximately 3.2-acre portion of the historic Taylor Yard with creation of a wandering waterway, and accompanying wetland, riparian, and upland habitat comprised of native plants historically occurring in Valley Foothill riparian and freshwater marsh habitats of the Los Angeles River Basin, per the restoration objectives of the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project (LARERP) (Figure 3). Additional habitat features that provide cover and nesting sites for small native mammal, reptiles, birds, and native bees would also be installed.

### 2.4.4 Amenities

The Project would incorporate durable site features and amenities to enhance the human experience. These amenities would provide space for resting, seating, gathering, education, learning, observation of the natural environment and contemplation. Amenities would include the following:

- 1. Seating and Pedestrian Resting Stations: Regular spaces for stopping and resting, contemplation and observation would contribute to making the user experience enjoyable, comfortable, and relaxing. The Project would include casual seating (boulders, stumps etc.) to allow for a quick stop along a path, as well as benches or similar seating to allow for longer duration resting or observation.
- 2. Observation Areas: The design includes areas to connect people to nature. Observation areas would extend pedestrian areas into the natural habitat space without trampling or disturbing the habitat. Observation areas would utilize elevation changes to extend walkways and viewing stations above and over wetland and planted areas to allow users a space to observe, but not disturb the habitat.
- Signage: Themed informational signage to provide consistent messaging and user guidance are important to the user experience and provides another way to connect people to nature. Signage with consistent icons, and symbology would begin at the site entrance and continue throughout all the Project areas.
- 4. Waste Collection & Management: Wildlife-proof waste collection stations would be placed at key locations (park entrance, gathering spaces, observation locations) for users to dispose of trash in bins and minimize trash ending up on the ground. Signage would also be included to remind users of the importance of keeping trash, plastic, and other non-natural materials out of the site to ensure the longevity and health of these spaces.
- 5. Irrigation: The Project would use treated dry-weather flow water and stormwater for planting irrigation. Supplemental irrigation would likely be required during the anticipated two-year plant and habitat establishment period.
- **6. Habitat Features:** Natural plant foliage, flowers, fruit, and branches provide both food and shelter to many native vertebrate and invertebrate animals. Wildlife seeks a variety of spaces for habitat,

including spaces for nesting, burrowing, and general protective cover. Habitat structures features would primarily consist of small, protected spaces made of natural materials (rock) to create habitat spaces for small native mammals, reptiles, birds, and native bees. Habitat structures would be designed and located within the riparian, transitional, and upland zones to encourage and promote native fauna occupying the site.

- 7. Paving Materials & Hardscape Design: ADA compliant pedestrian access would be incorporated into the Project design. The majority of hard surfaces on the Project would be comprised of decomposed granite with a binder to prevent wind erosion. The below-grade vault structures will have hatch or maintenance hold lids to prevent access. The majority of the site will be landscaped with native California plants. The entire site is sloped into the wetlands meaning that the majority of rainwater that falls onsite will be collected in the wetlands where it will either be used for irrigation or allowed to flow into the LA river. A small amount of the rainwater will percolate into the soil.
- **8. Drainage:** The site is sloped to collect all stormwater that falls onsite within the wetland. A small amount will soak into and percolate through the soils. The stormwater will be either used for irrigation or discharged to the LA river with improved water quality.
- **9. Access Control Devices:** Bollards including removal bollards, and simple gates placed at pedestrian and maintenance pathway entrances would be installed to prevent unwanted access by vehicles into the site and protected habitat spaces.
- **10. Graffiti Management:** Anti-graffiti coatings and similar deterrents may be applied to signage and other identified hardscape features.
- 11. Lighting: If determined to be needed as part of final Project design, exterior lighting (bollard lights and overhead photovoltaic lights) installed on the Project site would be of low intensity/glare, minimum height, and if overhead, shielded and hooded to direct light downward. The number and intensity of lighting fixtures would be limited to that necessary to promote safety and security for the public and maintenance personnel and adhere to applicable code requirements.

# 2.4.5 Construction Schedule

Table 2 summarizes the Project's construction duration by phase which would occur sequentially.

**Table 2 Construction Phases and Approximate Durations** 

Construction Phase	Approximate Duration
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation/RAW Implementation	1.5 months
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	3 months
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	6 months
Amenities	3 months

# 2.5 PROJECT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Public access to the wetland demonstration Project site would generally be provided daily during daylight hours. Maintenance would consist of monthly treatment system inspection and removal of settled solids by vacuum truck as well as bi-monthly irrigation system inspection and landscape maintenance.

# 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, ANALYSIS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This Project is evaluated based upon its effect on twenty (20) major categories of environmental factors and mandatory findings of significance. The environmental factors checked below would potentially be significantly affected by the proposed Project, as indicated by the resource checklists in this IS/MND. However, as described in the following subsections, would be reduced to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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

A detailed analysis of environmental impacts is presented for each resource area (listed above) utilizing the model Environmental Checklist Form found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(f). Impacts to the environment for construction and operation of the project were assessed and described, and the level of significance of impacts measured against criteria established by regulation, accepted standards, or other definable criteria. The use of a MND is only permissible if all potentially significant environmental impacts assessed in the IS are rendered less than significant with Incorporated of mitigation measures.

Each environmental resource area was reviewed by analyzing a series of questions (i.e., Initial Study Checklist) regarding level of impact posed by the Project. Substantiation is provided to justify each determination. One of four following conclusions was then provided as a determination of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

**No Impact**. A finding of no impact was made when it is clear from the analysis that the Project would not affect the environment.

**Less than Significant Impact**. A finding of a less than significant impact is made when it was clear from the analysis that the Project would cause no substantial adverse change in the environment and no mitigation is required.

**Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated**. A finding of a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated was made when it was clear from the analysis that the Project would cause no

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

substantial adverse change in the environment when mitigation measures are successfully implemented pursuant with a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

**Potentially Significant Impact**. A finding of a potentially significant impact would have been made when the analysis concluded that the Project could have a substantially adverse change in the environment for one or more of the environmental resources assessed in the checklist. In this case, typically preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) would be required.

# 3.1 **AESTHETICS**

	AESTHETICS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Exc	cept as provided in Public Resources Code Section 20	199:			
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				$\boxtimes$
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?				$\boxtimes$
c)	In non-urbanized areas, would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. (Public Views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the Project is in an urbanized area, the potential of the project to conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				$\boxtimes$
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			$\boxtimes$	

### 3.1.1 Environmental Setting

The Project is located within a concrete post-industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River. The parcel was previously part of Taylor Yard, a service railway station and classification yard. The adjacent property to the east contains active railroad tracks, while the remaining surrounding properties contain further industrial or residential land uses.

# 3.1.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

Under CEQA, a scenic vista is defined as a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly-valued landscape for the benefit of the general public. There are no designated scenic vistas located within or in proximity to the Project that would be affected by implementation. Project features, such as trails, green spaces, and drainage improvements are low-lying and close to existing ground level. Nearby vistas of note, such as the Verdugo Summit, would not be impacted by the Project.

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

### Finding: No Impact

The Project is not located within a state scenic highway, nor are any designated state scenic highways within the vicinity of the Project according to the Caltrans State Scenic Highway Program. No impact related to damaging scenic resources within a state scenic highway would occur from Project implementation.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project proposes to enhance current conditions of the Project area by increasing recreational public green space and suitable habitat for native wetland plant species. The Project would improve the visual character of the site with green space compared to the industrial character of existing conditions. No impact would occur.

d) Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

If determined to be needed as part of final Project design, exterior night time lighting installed on the Project site would be of low intensity/glare, minimum height, shielded, and hooded to direct light downward. The Project does not include high reaching or intense sources of light that have the potential to create substantial light or glare that could substantially affect day or nighttime views in the area. The number and intensity of lighting fixtures would be limited to that necessary to promote Project site safety and security for the public and maintenance personnel and adhere to applicable code requirements. Additionally, highly polished materials or highly reflective metal material or glass that would reflect light and create glare are not proposed. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

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

# 3.2.1 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within a highly industrialized area that has historically been utilized as a rail-related facility.

# 3.2.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site and the surrounding areas are highly developed. According to the 2018 State of California's Important Farmland Map, the Project is located in designated "urban and built up land". The Project site does not contain Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. No impact would occur.

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

# Finding: No Impact

Williamson Act contracts restrict land development of contract lands, typically limiting land use to agriculture, recreation, and open space, unless otherwise stated. The Project is not located on land contracted under the Williamson Act and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use. No impact would occur.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is not zoned as forest land or timberland, nor does it include any timberland resources. The Project would have no impact on forest land or timberland.

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

### Finding: No Impact

The Project site is not located within any forest land or land designated to the conservation of forest land. The Project would have no impact on forest land.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is entirely urbanized and not located within proximity to land zoned or utilized for farmland or forest land. The Project would not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest uses. No impact would occur.

# 3.3 AIR QUALITY

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

# 3.3.1 Environmental Setting

The Project is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). Regulatory oversight authority regarding air quality rests at the local, State, and federal levels with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), California Air Resources Board (CARB), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), respectively.

Ambient air quality standards, established by USEPA and CARB, specify allowable pollutant concentrations in ambient air over defined durations. The National Air Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) establish standards for six criteria pollutants: (O<sub>3</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), fine particular matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), airborne respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 10 microns (PM<sub>10</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and lead (Pb).

The USEPA and CARB determine the air quality attainment status of designated areas by comparing local ambient air quality measurements from state or local ambient air monitoring stations with the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) and NAAQS. These attainment designations are determined on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis. Consistent with federal requirements, an unclassifiable designation is treated as an attainment designation. Table 3 presents the federal and State attainment status for the SCAB. Attainment means that the ambient air quality meets the air quality standards and non-attainment means that the ambient air quality does not meet air quality standards.

**Table 3 Attainment Status of South Coast Air Basin** 

Pollutant	State Designation	Federal Designation
Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )	Non-Attainment	Non-Attainment (Extreme)
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	Non-Attainment	Attainment
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	Non-Attainment	Non-Attainment (Serious)
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassifiable/ Attainment

Pollutant	State Designation	Federal Designation
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassifiable/ Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Attainment	Attainment
Lead (Pb)	Attainment	Non-Attainment (Partial)
Hydrogen Sulfide (H <sub>2</sub> S)	Attainment	*
Sulfates	Attainment	*
0 0010MB 0010		

Source: SCAQMD, 2018

Notes: (\*) = Not Identified/ No Status.

As shown in Table 3, the Project site is located in an area designated nonattainment for both the federal and state standards for O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the state standard for PM<sub>10</sub>, and the federal standard for lead. Because the SCAB currently exceeds several state and federal ambient air quality standards, the SCAQMD is required to implement strategies to reduce pollutant levels to recognized acceptable standards.

The 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) was adopted by SCAQMD on December 2, 2022 to lead the SCAB into compliance with the NAAQS. The 2022 AQMP accounts for projected population growth, predicted future emissions in energy and transportation demand, and determined control strategies for the eventual achievement of NAAQS attainment designation. These control strategies involve a combination of regulatory and incentive approaches via partnerships at all levels of government. The 2022 AQMP includes policies that are consistent with the SCAQMD and specify review according to the recommendations of SCAQMD guidelines. Other policies are aimed at reducing transportation emissions, emissions from major stationary sources, and environmental justice communities.

### 3.3.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

The SCAQMD has adopted regional and localized significance thresholds (LSTs) to determine the significance of a project's potential air quality impacts. Separate thresholds of significance have been adopted for the construction and operation phases of projects. The LSTs were developed by the SCAQMD to assist lead agencies in analyzing localized air quality impacts from projects. LST look-up tables for one, two, and five acre proposed projects emitting CO, nitrogen oxides (NOx), PM<sub>2.5</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub> were prepared for easy reference according to source receptor area. The LST methodology and associated mass rates are not applicable to mobile sources travelling over the roadways. It should be noted that SCAQMD does not require compliance with LSTs for new construction projects; LSTs are a voluntary approach to be implemented at the discretion of local agencies (SCAQMD, 2008a).

Table 4 below presents the regional significance thresholds and LSTs applicable to the proposed Project and used for purposes of this analysis.

Table 4 SCAQMD Air Quality Significance Thresholds (Mass Daily Thresholds)

Regional Thresholds (lbs/day)	voc	NOx	SOx	со	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Lead (Pb)
Construction	75	100	150	550	150	55	3
Operation	55	55	150	550	150	55	3
Localized Thresholds (lbs/day) <sup>1</sup>	voc	NOx	sox	со	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Lead (Pb)
Construction	n/a	126	n/a	3,016	80	28	n/a
Operation	n/a	126	n/a	3,016	20	7	n/a

Source: SCAQMD Air Quality Significance (Mass Daily) Thresholds, 2015 SCAQMD Mass Rate LST Lookup Tables, Appendix C, 2008a

Notes:

1. Localized significance thresholds are from the SCAQMD lookup tables for Source Area 1 assuming a two-acre project site and a distance to the nearest sensitive receptor of 200 meters.

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

### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Projects in compliance with SCAQMD rules and regulations and with emissions below the SCAQMD mass emissions thresholds of significance presented in Table 4 would not be expected to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Proposed Project construction and operation emissions were calculated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) version 2016.3.1 (CalEEMod, 2016). CalEEMod is a statewide land use emissions computer model designed to provide a uniform platform for government agencies, land use planning, and environmental professionals to quantify potential criteria air pollutant emissions associated with both construction and operations from a variety of land use projects.

The model quantifies direct emissions from construction and operations including vehicle use, off-road equipment, fugitive dust, off-gas from asphalt and landscaping maintenance. Default data (i.e., emission factors, trip lengths, meteorology, source inventory, etc.) have been provided by the various California air districts to account for local requirements and conditions. The model is an accurate and comprehensive tool for quantifying air quality impacts from land use projects throughout California.

The Project would result in emissions of criteria air pollutants during construction primarily from off-road equipment and on-road vehicle exhaust and fugitive dust from grading/soil disturbing activities. Operation phase emissions of criteria air pollutants are limited to vehicle exhaust associated with public use and site maintenance and indirect emissions associated with water, electricity, and waste management requirements. The Project does not include a source of potential lead emissions.

Estimated Project construction and operation emissions are summarized below in Tables 5 and 6, respectively. Detailed emissions estimates and assumptions are provided in Appendix A (CalEEMod Output).

Table 5 Project Construction Emissions in Comparison to SCAQMD Significance Criteria

Component	voc	NOx	SOx	СО	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Peak Day Construction Emissions	2	23	<1	19	8	4
Regional Thresholds Construction	75	100	150	550	150	55
Localized Thresholds Construction	n/a	126	n/a	3,016	80	28
Exceeds Thresholds?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 6 Project Operation Emissions in Comparison to SCAQMD Significance Criteria

Component	voc	NOx	SOx	СО	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Peak Day Operation Emissions	<1	<1	<1	1	<1	<1
Regional Thresholds Operation	75	100	150	550	150	55
Localized Thresholds Operation	n/a	126	n/a	3,016	20	7
Exceeds Thresholds?	No	No	No	No	No	No

As shown in Tables 5 and 6, Project construction and operation emissions are below the applicable SCAQMD regional and localized mass emissions thresholds of significance. The Project would additionally be subject to compliance with SCAQMD Rule 403 which includes implementing required best available control measures to reduce fugitive dust emissions during proposed soil disturbing activities at the Project site during construction.

Considering Project mass emissions are below the thresholds of significance and the Project would be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the 2022 AQMP and impacts would be less than significant.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Emissions below the SCAQMD regional mass emissions thresholds of significance presented in Table 4 would not be expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standard. As shown in Tables 5 and 6, Project construction and operation emissions are below the applicable SCAQMD regional and localized mass emissions thresholds of significance. Considering Project mass emissions are below the thresholds of significance, the Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standard and impacts would be less than significant.

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

## **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Sensitive receptors are defined as populations that are more susceptible to the effects of pollution than the population at large. The SCAQMD identifies the following as sensitive receptors: residences, schools, daycare centers, playgrounds, and medical facilities. The nearest sensitive receptors to the Project site are residential land uses more than 100 meters to the west. Projects that are below the SCAQMD LSTs presented in Table 4 would not be expected to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

As shown in Tables 5 and 6, Project construction and operation emissions are below the applicable SCAQMD localized mass emissions thresholds of significance established by SCAQMD to screen projects potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Considering localized Project mass emissions are below the thresholds of significance, the Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations and impacts would be less than significant.

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

#### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project design includes two in-situ treatment systems to decrease the amount of solids and odorcausing materials entering the wetlands. These would be collected in below grade vaults where they can be removed by maintenance personnel. The vaults would be secured with locking hatches to prevent the escape of fugitive odor. Potential odor impacts would therefore be less than significant.

## 3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or regulated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				$\boxtimes$
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

## 3.4.1 Environmental Setting

## 3.4.1.1 Existing Site Conditions

The proposed Project is located in the City of Los Angeles, California, between the communities of Glassell Park and Elysian Valley, approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the I-5 and Glendale Fwy intersection. Specifically, the Project is located at the northern end of the Bowtie Parcel, a partial concrete, post-industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River.

The Project is surrounded by industrial and residential land uses in the north and east, with a few concentrated commercial areas in the vicinity; railroad tracks bordering the east of the Parcel are active for Amtrak, Metrolink and freight trains. The proposed Project is located approximately 335 ft to 380 ft above sea level.

## 3.4.1.2 Baseline Data Collection Methodology

Baseline data was collected within accessible portions of the proposed Project area and within a surrounding 300-foot buffer zone. This approximate 24-acre area is defined as the Biological Study Area (BSA). Below is a summary of the baseline data collection methodology; additional details are presented in the Biological Resources Technical Report prepared for the proposed Project (refer to Appendix B).

#### Literature Review

A literature search focused on the BSA was conducted prior to the field survey. The BSA is located within the USGS Venice, California, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. A search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was conducted in the BSA and a surrounding 10-mile buffer area to determine special-status plants, wildlife, and vegetation communities that have been documented within the vicinity of the BSA (CDFW 2022a). The database included portions of the following quadrangles surrounding the BSA:

- Burbank
- Hollywood
- Whittier
- Pasadena

- Inglewood
- South Gate
- Mt Wilson
- El Monte

Stantec also obtained a list of federally listed species and species that are proposed or are candidates for federal listing with the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Project area, using the Information for Planning and Consultation tool on June 22, 2022. Additional data regarding the potential occurrence of special-status species and policies relating to these special-status natural resources were gathered from the following sources:

- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022b)
- Special Animals List (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022c)
- State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2022d)
- California Sensitive Natural Communities (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2021)
- Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (California Native Plant Society, 2022)
- Consortium of California Herbaria (Consortium of California Herbaria, 2022)

## Site Reconnaissance and Wildlife Surveys

Stantec conducted a habitat assessment and reconnaissance-level surveys to document the environmental conditions present within the BSA. The primary goal of these initial surveys was to identify and assess habitat that may be capable of supporting special-status plant or wildlife species and determine the potential need for additional focused surveys for special-status resources. Biologists recorded all incidental plant and wildlife observations

The survey was conducted on May 26, 2022, during a season and time of day when resident and migratory birds would be expected to be present and exhibiting normal activity, small mammals would be active and detectable visually or by sign, and above-ground amphibian and reptile movement would generally be detectable. However, it should be noted that some wildlife species and individuals may have been difficult to detect due to their elusive nature, cryptic morphology, or nocturnal behavior. The survey was conducted during daylight hours when temperatures were such that reptiles and other wildlife would be active (i.e., between 65-95 degrees Fahrenheit).

The BSA was investigated on foot (where accessible) by experienced field biologists walking throughout publicly accessible areas at an average pace of approximately one mile per hour while visually scanning for wildlife and their sign and listening to wildlife songs and calls. Biologists paused as necessary to listen for wildlife or to identify, record, or enumerate any observed species. Species present were identified and recorded through direct visual observation, sound, or their sign (e.g., scat, tracks, etc.). Species identifications conform to the most up-to-date field guides and technical literature.

## **Vegetation Mapping**

Vegetation descriptions and nomenclature are based on the second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation* (MCVII) (Sawyer et al. 2009), where applicable, and have been defined to the alliance level. Vegetation maps were prepared by recording tentative vegetation type boundaries over recent aerial photograph base maps using the ESRI Collector for ArcGIS app on an Apple iPad coupled with a Bad Elf GNSS Surveyor sub-meter external global positioning system (GPS) unit. Mapping was further refined in the office using ESRI ArcGIS (version 10.7) with aerial photograph base maps with an accuracy of 1 foot. Most boundaries shown on the maps are accurate within approximately 3 feet; however, boundaries between some vegetation types are less precise due to difficulties in interpreting aerial imagery and accessing stands of vegetation.

#### **Aquatic Resources**

A formal jurisdictional waters delineation per US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) guidelines was not conducted as part of this assessment. The BSA was evaluated for potential waters subject to jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code (FGC), California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) regulations (Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 401 and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Waste Discharge Requirement), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) CWA Section 404 regulations. Prior to conducting the field assessment, Stantec reviewed current and historic aerial imagery, topographic maps, soil maps (USDA, 2020), local and state hydric soils lists, and the National Wetlands Inventory (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020a) to evaluate the potential active channels and wetland features that occur within the BSA. During the field assessment, these resulting hydrologic features were reconciled and noted and later mapped via aerial imagery. Field data was further manipulated in the office using GIS.

## Vegetation Communities and Observed Plant Species

As defined in MCVII, a vegetation alliance is "a category of vegetation classification which describes repeating patterns of plants across a landscape. Each alliance is defined by plant species composition, and reflects the effects of local climate, soil, water, disturbance, and other environmental factors" (Sawyer et al. 2009).

Within the BSA, Stantec biologists mapped three plant communities defined by Sawyer et al. (2009), and three land cover types. These are summarized in Table 7, and depicted in Figure 3 included in Appendix B

Table 7 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types Occurring within the Biological Study
Area

Vegetation Community/Land Cover Type	Habitat Type	Acreage within BSA
Fountain grass swards	Upland	2.88
Gooding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest	Riverine	2.67
Ornamental non-native	Upland	0.77
California buckwheat scrub (Planted)	Upland	0.42
Disturbed/Developed	Upland	16.85
Open water	Riverine	0.66
	Total	24.25

## **Vegetation Communities**

## Pennisetum setaceum - Pennisetum ciliare Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance; Fountain grass swards

Vegetation characteristic of the *Pennisetum setaceum – Pennisetum ciliare* herbaceous seminatural alliance was mapped adjacent to the concrete river embankment and adjacent to the railroad tracks. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is *Pennisetum* spp. > 50% relative cover in herbaceous layer and combined with other non-native plants > 90% relative cover. In the BSA, this alliance is dominated by crimson fountaingrass (*Pennisetum setaceum*). Other species that occur occasionally are Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) and coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*).

## Salix gooddingii - Salix laevigata Forest & Woodland Alliance; Gooding's willow -red willow riparian woodland and forest Aquatic Resources

Vegetation characteristic of the *Salix gooddingii* – *Salix laevigata* forest and woodland alliance was mapped within the LA River in the southern portion of the BSA. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is *Salix gooddingii* and/or *Salix laevigata* > 50% relative cover in the tree canopy. This alliance is considered a state-sensitive vegetation community and has a State Rarity Rank of S3 (Sawyer et al. 2009). In the BSA, this alliance is dominated by red willow (*Salix laevigata*) in the tree canopy, which is an open canopy. Shrub layer is sparse to absent. In the understory, there is a variety of wetland and riparian

plants, including cattail (*Typhus* sp.), bulrushes (*Schoenoplectus* sp.), and spotted ladysthumb (*Persicaria maculosa*).

#### Eriogonum fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance; California buckwheat scrub (Planted)

Vegetation characteristic of the *Eriogonum fasiculatum* shrubland alliance was mapped adjacent to the concrete canal embankment just south of the Project site within the BSA. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) > 50% relative cover in the shrub canopy; other shrubs, if present, < 50% relative cover. In the BSA, California buckwheat dominates the shrub canopy. Other shrubs include California sage (*Artemisia californica*), bush sunflower (*Encelia californica*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). Shrubs are less than < 2 m in height and shrub canopy is continuous. The herbaceous layer is variable and may be grassy. Non-native Crimson fountaingrass and Mexican fan palms also occur within this area. Within the BSA, this alliance transitions into the fountain grass swards herbaceous semi-natural alliance. Due to presence, height, maturity and density of native plant species observed only in this area, where they were intermixed with the surrounding non-native plant species, this alliance appears to have been planted or seeded within approximately the last five years.

## Land Cover Types

## **Ornamental Non-Native**

This land cover type was mapped on the edges and throughout central portions of the BSA. It consists of various ornamental and non-native plants such as climbing fig (*Ficus pumila*), Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), common fig (*Ficus carica*), retama (*Parkinsonia aculeata*), and acacias (*Acacia* sp.) commonly occurring in the tree layer, and star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) and crimson fountaingrass commonly occurring in the herbaceous layer.

## Disturbed/Developed

This landcover type was mapped where there was compacted soil, gravel, and concrete cover, including within the Project area and the concrete embankment of the LA River.

#### **Open Water**

This landcover type was mapped for portions of open water areas of the LA River.

## Plant Species Observed

Plants observed during the May 26th, 2022, reconnaissance-level surveys were recorded; however, a focused, floristic-level survey was not conducted. The reconnaissance-level surveys resulted in the documentation of 38 species of native and non-native plants within the BSA, a detailed list of which is provided in Table 8.

## Table 8 Plant Species Observed in the Biological Study Area

DEAE CAF  To graveolens gard  To maculatum pois	SHEW FAMILY  zilian pepper tree*  RROT FAMILY  den celery*  son hemlock*  ifornia sagebrush  ote brush  efat  thistle*  h sunflower
CEAE CAF  graveolens gard m maculatum pois	RROT FAMILY  den celery* son hemlock*  ifornia sagebrush  ote brush  efat  thistle*
graveolens gard m maculatum pois	den celery* son hemlock* ifornia sagebrush ote brush efat • thistle*
m maculatum pois	son hemlock* ifornia sagebrush ote brush efat thistle*
<u>'</u>	ifornia sagebrush  ote brush  efat  thistle*
isia californica Cali	ote brush efat thistle*
	efat · thistle*
aris pilularis coyo	thistle*
aris salicifolia mule	
urea solstitialis star	h sunflower
a californica busi	
on canadensis hors	seweed
otheca grandiflora tele	graph weed
ca serriola prici	kly lettuce*
othrix saxatilis cliff	aster
lognaphalium californicum Cali	ifornia cudweed
apiana whit	te sage
us oleraceus com	nmon sow thistle*
ium strumarium roug	gh cockleburr
SICACEAE CAE	BBAGE FAMILY
ica nigra blac	ck mustard*
feldia incana sho	rt podded mustard*
ORBIACEAE SPU	JRGE FAMILY
s communis cast	tor bean*
CEAE PEA	A FAMILY
pon glaber dee	rweed
tus officinalis yello	ow sweetclover*
reta reta	ıma*
ellia schaffneri Sch	affner's acacia*
CEAE FIG	FAMILY
pumila clim	abing fig*
carica com	nmon fig*
RACEAE PRI	MROSE FAMILY
gia peploides float	ting water primrose*

Scientific Name	Common Name
POLYGONACEAE	BUCKWHEAT FAMILY
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat
Persicaria maculosa	spotted ladysthumb*
SALICACEAE	WILLOW FAMILY
Salix lasiolepis	red willow
SOLANACEAE	POTATO FAMILY
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco*
ARECACEAE	PALM FAMILY
Washingtonia robusta	Mexican fan palm*
CYPERACEAE	SEDGE FAMILY
Cyperus eragrostis	tall flat sedge
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush
Schoenoplectus americanus	American three-square bulrush
POACEAE	GRASS FAMILY
Arundo donax	giant reed*
Pennisetum setaceum	crimson fountaingrass*
Polypogon monspeliensis	rabbitsfoot grass*
TYPHACEAE	CATTAIL FAMILY
Typha sp.	cattail sp.

<sup>\*</sup> Non-native Species

#### 3.4.1.3 Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

There are no potential jurisdictional features within the proposed Project area so there would be no impacts to jurisdictional features. Adjacent (southwest) to the proposed Project area and within the BSA is the Los Angeles River (Figure 4). The proposed Project area is located in the upland area adjacent to the concrete banks that line the LA River channel. The LA River is considered to be WOTUS and under the jurisdiction of the USACE up to the OHWM, and waters of the state under jurisdiction of the RWQCB. The river channel up to the top of the concrete banks and within any adjacent riparian zone vegetation is considered to be under the jurisdiction of the CDFW.

#### 3.4.1.4 Common Wildlife

This section describes the common wildlife observed during the reconnaissance survey and those wildlife species expected to occur within the BSA based on habitat characteristics, previous studies, and species known to occur in the region.

#### Terrestrial Invertebrates

As in all ecological systems, invertebrates inhabiting the BSA play a crucial role in a number of biological processes. They serve as the primary or secondary food sources for a variety of bird, reptile, and mammal predators; they provide important pollination vectors for numerous plant species; they act as components in controlling pest populations; and they support the naturally occurring maintenance of an area by consuming detritus and contributing to necessary soil nutrients. Though heavily urbanized, habitat conditions within the BSA provide a suite of microhabitat conditions favorable for a wide variety of terrestrial insects and other invertebrates that are known to adapt to such disturbance. A focused insect survey was not performed within the BSA for this Project; however, a variety of common insects were observed during the reconnaissance survey, including the non-native honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), cabbage butterfly (*Pieris rapae*), and Argentine ant (*Linepithema humile*), and the native flame skimmer dragonfly (*Libellula saturata*), cloudless sulphur butterfly (*Phoebis sennae*), and water strider (Gerridae family). Focused insect surveys were performed within the LA River and in other upland areas near the Bowtie Parcel for TNC in 2014 and 2015. These insect surveys found 102 different families of insects (TNC 2016).

#### Fish

Fish observed in the L.A. River during the survey were all non-native and included common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and an unknown bass species (Centrarchidae family) that could not be identified because it was being consumed by a great blue heron at the time of observation. Although not observed during the survey, other non-native fish species observed during previous surveys and known to occur in the Glendale Narrows portion of the LA River include fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*), black bullhead (*Ameriurus melas*), amazon sailfin catfish (*Pteroplichthys pardalis*), mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*), green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and tilapia (*Oreochromis* sp.) (TNC 2016). No native fish species historically occupying the Glendale Narrows portion of the LA River remain in the river, based on results from recently performed fish surveys (TNC 2016).

## **Amphibians**

Amphibians typically require a source of standing or flowing water to lay their egg masses and to complete their life cycle. However, some terrestrial amphibian species can survive in drier areas by remaining in moist environments found beneath leaf litter and fallen logs, or by burrowing into the soil. These amphibian species are highly cryptic and often difficult to detect.

The only amphibian observed during the reconnaissance survey was the western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*); however, the survey was performed during the day when frogs are typically inactive and are not calling. Therefore, it is not unexpected that other amphibian species were not observed during the reconnaissance survey.

Other amphibians known to occur within the LA River watershed include Pacific chorus frog (*Pseudacris regilla*), California tree frog (*Pseudacris cadaverina*) and non-native American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*). Focused surveys for amphibians performed in 2015 for TNC's LA River Study recorded western toad, as well as Pacific chorus frog and American bullfrog in the river near the BSA (TNC 2016).

#### Reptiles

The number and type of reptile species that may occur at a given site is related to a number of biotic and abiotic features. These include the diversity of plant communities, substrates, soil types, and presence of refugia such as rock piles, boulders, and native debris. Many reptile species, even if present, are difficult to detect because they are cryptic and their behavioral characteristics (e.g., foraging, thermoregulatory behavior, fossorial nature, camouflage) limit their ability to be observed during most surveys. Furthermore, many species are only active within relatively narrow thermal limits, avoiding both cold and hot conditions, and most species take refuge in microhabitats that are not directly visible to the casual observer, such as rodent burrows, in crevices, under rocks and boards, and in dense vegetation, where they are protected from unsuitable environmental conditions and predators (USACE and CDFG, 2010). In some cases, they are only observed when flushed from their refugia. Weather conditions during the survey were favorable for reptile activity.

The only reptile observed during the site reconnaissance was the western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*); however, the reconnaissance survey was within a relatively small area, of short duration, and was not focused on reptiles. Other species of reptile known to occur within the LA watershed include the native western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*), side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), western whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), striped racer (*Masticophis lateralis*), gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*), california king snake (*Lampropeltis californiae*), and western rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus*) and the non-native red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*).

Focused surveys for reptiles performed in 2015 for TNC's LA River Study (TNC 2016), which included 12 daytime surveys and one night survey, recorded western fence lizards, as well as side-blotched lizards and southern alligator lizards within the Bowtie Parcel, and red-eared slider turtles in the LA River corridor. Side-blotched lizards were not found in other areas outside of the Bowtie Parcel during the reptile surveys.

#### **Birds**

Birds were identified by sight and were observed throughout the BSA. Birds observed were the native mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*), black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), California gull (*Larus californicus*), osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), and black-necked stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*). Upland bird species observed included killdeer (*Charadrius vocieferus*), hermit thrush (*Catharus guttatus*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), , American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), , song sparrow (*Mesospiza melodia*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*), , cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronata*), yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) and mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and the non-native rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), scaley-breasted munia (*Lonchura punctulata*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), and European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).

Focused bird surveys for TNC's LA River Study were performed for several months in 2015 at Marsh Park, which is across the river south of the Bowtie Parcel. Most of the same common bird species were observed during TNC surveys compared to the Stantec reconnaissance surveys. Other bird species recorded during TNC's LA River Study included hooded oriole (*Oriolus xanthornus*), ruby-crowned kinglet (*Corthylio calendula*), orange-crowned warbler (*Leiothlypis celata*), black-chinned hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), and brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) (TNC 2016). Because many of the bird species found in the LA River corridor are migratory and the LA River is within the Pacific Flyway avian migratory corridor, bird species diversity near the Bowtie Parcel is remarkably high, and the bird species present in the BSA will change throughout the year.

#### Mammals

Generally, the distribution of mammals on a given site is associated with the presence of factors such as access to perennial water, topographical and structural components (e.g., rock piles, vegetation) that provide cover and support prey base, and the presence of suitable soils for fossorial mammals (e.g., friable soils).

Terrestrial mammal species observed during the surveys included ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) and cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus* sp.). Other mammals not observed during the reconnaissance survey that are tolerant of urban spaces and known to occur in the LA region include raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), opossum (*Deidelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and coyotes (*Canis latrans*). Most of these species were observed or photographed (using trail cameras) near the Bowtie Parcel during TNC LA River Study (TNC 2016). While bats were not detected within focused surveys in the BSA, species such as Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*, Brazilian free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*), California myotis (*Myotis californicus*), canyon bat (*Parastrellus hesperus*), and big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) are known to occur within the LA River corridor.

All wildlife species observed within the BSA are summarized in Table 9.

Table 9 Wildlife Species Observed in the BSA

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Status
INVERTEBRATES		
Apis mellifera	honey bee	non-native
Gerridae family	water strider	native
Libellula saturata	flame skimmer dragonfly	native
Phoebis sennae	cloudless sulphur butterfly	native
Pieris rapae	cabbage white butterfly	non-native
FISH		
Cyprinus carpio	common carp	non-native
Centrarchidae family	unknown bass	non-native

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Status	
AMPHIBIANS			
Anaxyrus boreas	western toad	native	
REPTILES			
Sceleporous occidentalis	western fence lizard	native	
BIRDS			
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	native	
Anas platyrhynchos	mallard duck	native	
Ardea alba	great egret	native	
Ardea herodias	great blue heron	native	
Branta canadensis	Canada goose	native	
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird	native	
Catharus guttatus	hermit thrush	native	
Charadrius vociferus	killdeer	native	
Columba livia	rock pigeon	non-native	
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow	native	
Corvus corax	common raven	native	
Egretta thula	snowy egret	native	
Geothlypis trichas	common yellowthroat	native	
Haemorhous mexicanus	house finch	native	
Himantopus mexicanus	black-necked stilt	native	
Hirundo rustica	barn swallow	native	
Larus californicus	California gull	native	
Lonchura punctulata	scaley-breasted munia	non-native	
Mesospiza melodia	song sparrow	native	
Mimus polyglottus	northern mockingbird	native	
Nycticorax	black-crowned night heron	native	
Pandion haliaetus	osprey	native	
Passer domesticus	house sparrow	non-native	
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	cliff swallow	native	
Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe	native	
Selasphorus sasin	Allen's hummingbird	native	
Setophaga coronata	yellow-rumped warbler	native	
Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	native	
Spinus psaltria	lesser goldfinch	native	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Status
Sturnus vulgaris	European starling	non-native
Stelgidopteryx serripennis	northern rough-winged swallow	native
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove	native
MAMMALS		
Otospermophilus beecheyi	ground squirrel	native
Sylvilagus sp.	cottontail rabbit	native

## 3.4.1.5 Special-Status Natural Communities and Critical Habitat

#### Special-Status Natural Communities

Special-status natural communities are defined by CDFW (2020) as, "...communities that are of limited distribution statewide or within a county or region and are often vulnerable to environmental effects of projects." All vegetation within the state is ranked with an "S" rank; however, only those that are of special concern (S1-S3 rank) are evaluated under CEQA.

One vegetation community identified within the BSA is listed as sensitive: Gooding's willow - red willow riparian woodland and forest. This community has a state rank of S3/Vulnerable; vulnerable in the state due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation from the state. No sensitive communities occur within the proposed Project area.

## **CRITICAL HABITAT**

Critical habitat is defined by the USFWS (United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2020b) as, "...a term defined and used in the Endangered Species Act. It is specific geographic areas that contain features essential to the conservation of an endangered or threatened species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may also include areas that are not currently occupied by the species but will be needed for its recovery." There is no designated Critical Habitat within the BSA.

#### Special-Status Wildlife

Special-status taxa include those listed as threatened or endangered under the FESA or California Endangered Species Act, taxa proposed for such listing, SSC, and other taxa that have been identified by USFWS, CDFW, or local jurisdictions as unique or rare that have the potential to occur within the BSA.

The CNDDB was queried for occurrences of special-status wildlife taxa within a 10-mile radius of the BSA Table 10 summarizes the special-status wildlife taxa known to occur regionally and their potential for occurrence in the BSA. Each of the taxa identified in the database reviews/searches were assessed for its potential to occur within the BSA based on the following criteria:

- Present: Taxa (or sign) were observed in the BSA or in the same watershed (aquatic taxa only)
  during the most recent surveys, or a population has been acknowledged by CDFW, USFWS, or
  local experts.
- **High**: Habitat (including soils) for the taxa occurs onsite, and a known occurrence occurs within the BSA or adjacent areas (within 5 miles of the BSA) within the past 20 years; however, these taxa were not detected during the most recent surveys.
- Moderate: Habitat (including soils) for the taxa occurs onsite, and a known regional record occurs
  within the database search, but not within 5 miles of the BSA or within the past 20 years; or a
  known occurrence occurs within 5 miles of the BSA and within the past 20 years and marginal or
  limited amounts of habitat occurs onsite; or the taxa's range includes the geographic area and
  suitable habitat exists.
- **Low**: Limited habitat for the taxa occurs within the BSA and no known occurrences were found within the database search and the taxa's range includes the geographic area.
- Not Likely to Occur: The environmental conditions associated with taxa presence do not occur
  within the BSA.

While many of the species listed in Table 10 have potential to occur within the BSA, they are not expected to occur within the Project area due to the lack of suitable habitat.

Table 10 Known and Potential Occurrences of Special-Status Wildlife Taxa within the Biological Study Area

Т	axa	Ctatura	Habitat Toma	0	Occuments Batantial		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential		
	INVERTEBRATES						
Bombus crotchii	Crotch's bumble bee	SC, S1S2	Coastal California east to the sierra-cascade crest and south into Mexico. Food plant genera include Antirrhinum, Phacelia, Clarkia, Dendromecon, Eschscholzia, and Eriogonum.	The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is less than a mile away from the BSA from 2020, and there are multiple occurrences within 5 miles within the past 20 years. California buckwheat ( <i>Eriognum fasciculatum</i> ), a food plant for the species occurs within the BSA, but there is none within the Project area.	High		
Danaus plexippus	monarch butterfly	CAN	Winter roost sites extend along the coast from northern Mendocino to Baja California, Mexico. Roosts located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress), with nectar and water sources nearby. Food plant genus Asclepias.	No suitable habitat for food or roosting occurs within the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur		
Eugnosta busckana	Busck's gallmoth	SH	Coastal scrub dune habitat.	Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is 7.4 miles from the BSA from 1929.	Not Likely to Occur		

Ta	аха	Status	Hebitet Ture	Commonto	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Glyptostoma gabrielense	San Gabriel chestnut snail	S2	Microhabitats with sufficient moisture in rocky hills and mountains at relatively low elevations. Historic range includes the San Gabriel Mountain Range within the city of Pasadena, Millard Canyon, Mt. Lowe and the Dominguez Hills.	Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is 1 mile from the BSA from 1944. There are three occurrences from 2020 between 9 and 10 miles from the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur
Gonidea angulata	western ridged mussel	S1S2	Prefers constant water flow and stable stream bottoms such as sand and gravel bars in areas of slow-loving water. Streams with wide floodplains and ample sand and gravel.	The portion of the BSA that contains the LA River has suitable habitat for this species, and the nearest recorded occurrence was within the BSA in 1993. However, the species was not observed on site during the field survey. It is not expected to occur within the Project area due to lack of suitable habitat.	High
		AN	1PHIBIANS		
Rana muscosa	southern mountain yellow-legged frog	FE, SE, WL, S1	Occur in the Sierra Nevada range of California. Inhabit lakes, ponds, marshes, meadows, and streams at elevations typically ranging from 1,370 to 3,660 meters.	The elevation of the BSA is lower than the elevation where this species typically occurs. The nearest occurrence is 8 miles from the BSA from 1936.	Not Likely to Occur

T	axa	015155	Hall Mad Town	0	O
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Spea hammondii	western spadefoot toad	SSC, S3	Occurs in the Central Valley and adjacent foothills and the non-desert areas of Southern California and Baja California. Grassland habitats and valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Vernal pools and other temporary rain pools, cattle tanks, and occasionally pools of intermittent streams are essential for breeding and egg-laying. Burrows in loose soils during dry season.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the LA River portion of the BSA. Two occurrences have been recorded within five miles, but both are from 1921, over 90 years ago.	Low
Taricha torosa	Coast Range newt	SSC, S4	Species of Special Concern status extends only to populations found from Monterey County to San Diego, excluding a population in the southern Sierra Nevada mountains. Southern populations tend to use permanent streams for breeding, and in southern California are also limited by the availability of rocky canyons with clear, cold water (Thomson, 2016).	Although a portion of the LA River is included in the BSA, the type of river and water quality is not suitable for this species. So, no suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The closest occurrence is 8 miles north northeast of the BSA from 2003.	Not Likely to Occur
		R	EPTILES		

Таха		Status	Habitat Toma	Comments	Occurrence Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Anniella stebbinsi	Southern California legless lizard	SSC, S3	Generally south of the transverse range, extending to northwestern Baja California; occurs in sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation; disjunct populations in the Tehachapi and Piute mountains in Kern County; variety of habitats; generally in moist, loose soil; they prefer soils with a high moisture content.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the LA River within the BSA. Five species occurrences occur within five miles within the past ten years. This species was not observed during the field survey.	Moderate
Arizona elegans occidentalis	California glossy snake	SSC, S2	Occurs in grasslands, fields, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral from the central San Joaquin Valley south to the Tehachapi Mountains and along the base of the Coast Range mountains farther south to San Quintin, Baja California. It prefers loose soil that allows for burrowing.	Suitable habitat doesn't occur within the BSA. No occurrences within a 5-mile radius of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur

Т	axa	Otatus	Habitat Toma	0	Occurrence Potential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	
Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	SSC, S3	Ranges widely along the west coast of the U.S. down into the Baja California peninsula. Variety of aquatic water bodies; Needs upland area for nesting habitat; Soils need to be loose enough to allow for nest excavation.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. However, no occurrences within 5 miles or within 20 years have been recorded.	Low
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	SSC, S3S4	Primarily in sandy soil in open areas, especially sandy washes and floodplains, in many plant communities. Requires open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and an abundant supply of ants or other insects. Occurs west of the deserts from northern Baja California north to Shasta County below 2,400 meters (8,000 feet) elevation.	Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. Only one occurrence occurs within 5 miles of the BSA and that is from 1974.	Not Likely to Occur
		•	BIRDS		
Accipter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	WL, S4	Uses a variety of habitats, including mixed and deciduous forests, open woodlands, riparian woodlands, open pinyon woodlands, and forests. Can be found in city habitats and suburban areas.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs in the LA River corridor, but habitat is disturbed. This species was observed in the LA River corridor during the survey.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging

Ta	axa	Ctatura	Habitat Toma	0	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Accipiter striatus	sharp-shinned hawk	WL, S4	Forages in openings at edges of woodlands, hedgerows, brushy pastures, and shorelines, especially where migrating birds are found. Typically nests in dense, small-tree stands of conifers, which are cool, moist, well shaded, with little ground-cover, and near water.	Marginally suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird approximately in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park, approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022 and one occurrence at the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA from 2022.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged blackbird	SSC	Breeds in marshes, brushy swamps, hayfields; forages also in cultivated land and along edges of water. Breeds most commonly in freshwater marsh, but also in wooded or brushy swamps, rank weedy fields, hayfields, upper edges of salt marsh.	Suitable habitat occurs in river corridor, but habitat is disturbed within the Los Angeles River corridor. There are numerous occurrences near the BSA on eBird, including at the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park across the Los Angeles River from the BSA in 2022, and the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA in January 2023.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging

Ta	axa	Ctatus	Habitat Toma	0	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Aimophila ruficeps canescens	southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	WL, \$3	Breeding habitat includes vegetated scrubland on hillsides and canyons, coastal sage scrub, coastal bluff scrub, low-growing serpentine chaparral, and along the edges of tall chaparral habitats.	Marginally suitable breeding and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence 5 miles from the BSA from 2014.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	SSC, BCC, S3	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Owls are found in microhabitats highly altered by humans, including flood risk management and irrigation basins, dikes, banks, abandoned fields surrounded by agriculture, and road cuts and margins. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	Marginally suitable breeding and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There are occurrences recorded from within the BSA, and five miles from the BSA, but both are from over 90 years ago.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging

Т	axa	01.515.5	Halifad Toma	0	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Ardea alba	great egret	SA, S4	Fresh and saline emergent wetlands, along the margins of estuaries, lakes, and slow-moving streams, on mudflats and salt ponds, and in irrigated croplands and pastures. Nests in large trees and roosts in trees.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the LA River corridor during the survey.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Ardea herodias	great blue heron	SA, S4	Shallow estuaries, fresh and saline emergent wetlands, riverine and rocky marine shores, croplands, pastures, and in mountains above foothills. Usually nests in colonies.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the LA River corridor during the survey.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	ST, S3	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	No suitable habitat for nesting or foraging occurs within the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting /Not Likely to Occur for Foraging

Т	axa	Ctatura	Hobitet Trus	0	Occurrence Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	- Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Calypte costae	Costa's hummingbird	SA, BCC, S4	Primary habitats are desert wash, edges of desert riparian and valley foothill riparian, coastal scrub, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, lower-elevation chaparral, and palm oasis.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. There are occurrences recorded on eBird at Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park approximately 0.6 miles west of the BSA in 2022 and in the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile south of the BSA in 2016.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Chaetura vauxi	Vaux's swift	SSC, BCC, S2S3	Open sky over forest, lakes, and rivers. Often feeds low over water, especially in morning and evening or during unsettled weather. Nests in coniferous and mixed forest.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There are occurrences recorded on eBird at Rio do Los Angeles State Park approximately 0.6 miles south of the BSA and at the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park approximately 0.6 miles west of the BSA in 2022.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Coturnicops noveboracensis	yellow rail	SSC, BCC, S1S2	Summer resident in eastern Sierra Nevada in Mono County. Freshwater marshlands.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA for nesting or foraging.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Not Likely to Occur for Foraging

т	axa	Otatus	Habitat Toma	0	Occuments Detential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Elanus leucurus	white-tailed kite	FP, S3S4	Open groves, river valleys, marshes, and grasslands. Occurs in lowlands of California west of the Sierra Nevada range and the southeast deserts. It is found in the Central Valley and along the entire California coast.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird at the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA in 1999.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	FE, SE, S1	Rare and local breeder in extensive riparian areas of dense willows or (rarely) tamarisk, usually with standing water, in the southwestern U.S.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat occurs and suitable foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There are two occurrences from within the site and within five miles of the site, but they are from over 90 years ago.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Egretta thula	snowy egret	SA, S4	Coastal estuaries, fresh and saline emergent wetlands, ponds, slow-moving rivers, irrigation ditches, and wet fields. Dense marshes are required for nesting. Also nests in low trees.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the LA River corridor during the survey.	Low for Nesting/High for Foraging

Т	Таха		Halife of Tana	•	G
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Falco peregrinus anatum	American peregrine falcon	FP, S3S4	Coastal sage scrub communities that are associated with coastal dunes, perennial grasslands, annual grasslands, croplands, pastures, coast Douglasfir-hardwood forests, coastal oak woodlands, montane hardwood woodlands, closed-cone pine-cypress woodlands, chamise-red shank chaparral, and mixed-chaparral communities.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one recorded occurrence within 1 mile of the BSA from 2005.	Moderate/Moderate
Larus californicus	California gull	WL, BCC, S4	A fairly common nester at alkali and freshwater lacustrine habitats east of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades, and an abundant visitor to coastal and interior lowlands in nonbreeding season. Preferred habitats are sandy beaches, mudflats, rocky intertidal, and pelagic areas of marine and estuarine habitats, as well as fresh and saline emergent wetlands, lacustrine, riverine, and cropland habitats, landfill dumps, and open lawns in cities.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA river corridor. An occurrence was recorded in eBird from 2022 from the Bowtie Parcel and from 2022 in the Rio de Los Angeles State Park, approximately 0.6 miles from the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging

Т	axa	Status	Habitat Time	Commonto	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Nannopterum auritum	double-crested cormorant	WL, S4	Inland lakes, in fresh, salt and estuarine waters. Feeds mainly on fish, but also on crustaceans and amphibians.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA river corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the BSA. An occurrence was recorded in eBird from 2022, from the Bowtie Parcel hotspot (specific location not available).	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Nycticorax nycticorax	black-crowned night heron	SA, S4	Lowlands and foothills throughout most of California, including the Salton Sea and Colorado River areas. Nests in large colonies. Feeds along the margins of lacustrine, large riverine, and fresh and saline emergent habitats. Nests in densefoliaged trees; dense, fresh or brackish emergent wetlands; or dense shrubbery or vine tangles; usually near aquatic or emergent feeding areas.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. This species was observed within the river corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel during surveys.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/High for Foraging

Таха		Ctatus	Habitat Toma	0	Occumenta Botontial
Scientific Name	Common Name	- Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Pandion heliaetus	osprey	WL, S4	Forages in shallow inland waters along rivers, streams, marshes and reservoirs. Wintering and nonbreeding birds also feed ins shallow coastal marine habitats. Suitable nesting habitat includes power poles and towers, as well as large living and dead trees.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River corridor. This species was observed within the river corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel during surveys.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	American white pelican	SSC, BCC, S1S2	Forage in shallow inland waters, such as open areas in marshes and along lake or river edges; wintering and nonbreeding birds also feed in shallow coastal marine habitats.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are occurrences recorded on eBird in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022, in the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile south of the BSA from 2021, and in the Rio de Los Angeles State Park approximately 0.6 miles from the BSA from 2022.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/High for Foraging

Ta	axa	Ctatus	Hobitet Turne	Commonto	Occurrence Betential
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	WL, \$3\$4	Feeds in fresh emergent wetlands, shallow lacustrine waters, muddy ground of wet meadows, and irrigated or flooded pastures and croplands. Nests in dense, fresh emergent wetlands.	Marginally suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022, and one occurrence recorded in Frogtown approximately 1 mile downstream from the BSA from 2023.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT, SSC, S2	Obligate, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2500 feet in Southern California. Low, coastal sage scrub in arid washes and on mesas and slopes with California sagebrush (Artemisia californica) as a dominant or codominant species. Not all areas classified as coastal sage scrub are occupied.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. However, the only occurrences within 20 years are all from at least 9 miles from the BSA.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging

Таха		Ctatus	Unhitat Tuna	0	Occurrence Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Riparia riparia	bank swallow	ST, S2	Low areas along rivers, streams, ocean coasts, and reservoirs. Nesting habitat is vertical banks of fine textured soils, most commonly along streams and rivers. Forage in open areas and avoid places with tree cover.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA along the LA river. However, the BSA is outside of the breeding range of this species. The only recorded occurrence within 5 miles is from over 100 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	SSC, S3S4	Yellow warblers generally occupy riparian vegetation in close proximity to water along streams and in wet meadows. They can be found roosting and nesting in willows and cottonwoods in river corridors.	Suitable nesting habitat and foraging habitat occurs in vegetated sections of the Los Angeles River corridor. This species was observed in May 2022 by Stantec biologists within the Los Angeles River corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging

Taxa		Status	Hobitet Ture	Comments	Occuments Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	FE, SE, S2	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 feet. Often inhabits structurally diverse woodlands along watercourses including cottonwood-willow and oak woodlands and mulefat scrub. Nests placed along margins of bushes or on twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, Baccharis, or mesquite.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat and suitable foraging habitat occurs within the BSA along the LA River. All CNDDB occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA are from over 100 years ago. More recent occurrences, from 2013 and 2015, are 7 and 10 miles away from the BSA. There are two eBird records from locations within 0.25 miles of the BSA in 2021 and 2022.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
			MAMMALS		
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	SSC, S3	Desert, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts must protect bats form high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	No suitable habitat occurs within the site. All occurrences are from over 20 years ago and over 5 miles from the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur

Taxa		Ctatura	Habitat Toma	0	Occumenta Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	SSC, S3S4	Many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, bridges, trees, and tunnels. In California, most records are from rocky areas at low elevations.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. All occurrences within 5 miles are from over 20 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur
Lasionycteris noctivagans	silver-haired bat	S3S4	Coastal and montane forest. Forages over streams, ponds, and brushy areas, and requires follows of trees for roost habitat. Conifer and mixed conifer/hardwood forests. Roosts mainly in hollows or crevices of trees, but may also roost in rock crevices, mines, or caves. Forages over streams, ponds, and brushy areas.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. All occurrences within 5 miles are from over 20 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur

Taxa		Status Habitet Type	Habitat Toma	Community	O
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	S4	Forages over a wide range of habitats but prefers open habitats with access to water and trees for roosting. Typically solitary, roosting in the foliage of shrubs or coniferous and deciduous trees. Roosts are usually near the edge of a clearing.	Marginally suitable habitat. All occurrences within 5 miles are from over 20 years ago.	Low
Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	SSC, S3	Occurs in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties south to the Mexican border. Valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats below 600 m.	Untrimmed palm trees are present in the BSA, but outside of the Project area. There is an occurrence 1 mile from the BSA from 1984.	Moderate
Microtus californicus stephensi	south coast marsh vole	SSC, S1S2	Occurs in the area of tidal marshes in Los Angeles, Orange, and southern Ventura Counties.	No suitable habitat present within the BSA. No recorded occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur

Таха		Ctatus	Habitat Toma	0	Occumenta Betantial
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	SSC, S3S4	Inhabits most of southern California, with range extending northward along the coast to Monterey Co., and along the Coast Range to San Francisco Bay. Joshua tree, pinyon-juniper, mixed and chamise-redshank chaparral, sagebrush, and most desert habitats. Also found in other habitats.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA within the low quality coastal scrub. Two occurrences from 2006 were documented approximately 5 miles from the site.	Moderate
Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	SSC, S3	Limited distribution in California. Prefers rugged, rocky canyons, but will also roost in buildings, caves, and occasionally in holes in trees.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. Two occurrence 5 miles and 3 miles from the BSA were recorded in 1987 and 1985.	Not Likely to Occur
Onychomys torridus ramona	southern grasshopper mouse	SSC, S3	Low, semi-open, and open scrub habitats, including chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and low sagebrush.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA in the low quality coastal scrub. The only recorded occurrence is from over 100 years ago.	Low
Perognathus Iongimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	SSC, S3	The habitat of Los Angeles pocket mice includes lower elevation grassland, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal sage scrub.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA in the disturbed coastal scrub. The only recorded occurrence is from over 100 years ago.	Low

## Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

Taxa		Ctatus	Habitat Toma	0	O
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Taxidea taxus	American badger	SSC, S3	Most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Needs sufficient food, friable soils, and open and uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence within the site, but it has no date of when it was recorded.	Not Likely to Occur

State Rankings:

S1 = Critically Imperiled

S2 = Imperiled

S3 = Vulnerable

S4 = Apparently Secure

S5 = Secure

SH = Possibly Extirpated

SX = Presumed Extirpated

SC = State Candidate for Listing

SD = State Delisted

SA = CDFW Special Animal

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened

FP= Fully Protected

SSC = Species of Special Concern

WL = Watch List

Federal Rankings:

FE = Federally Endangered FT = Federally Threatened

FD = Federally Delisted

BCC = USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern

## **Bird Species Occurrence Potential:**

The first Occurrence Potential determination is based on nesting habitat and the second determination is based on foraging habitat.

BSA=Biological Study Area

CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database

#### 3.4.1.6 Special-Status Plants

Table 11 presents a list of special-status plants, including federally and state listed species and CRPR 1-4 species that are known to occur within 10 miles of the BSA (Appendix B, Figures 6 and 6a provide a depiction of known species locations).

Record searches of the CNDDB, the CNPS Online Inventory, and the Consortium of Critical Herbaria was performed for special-status plant taxa. Each of the taxa identified in the record searches was assessed for their potential to occur within the BSA based on the following criteria:

- **Present**: Taxa were observed within the BSA during recent botanical surveys or population has been acknowledged by CDFW, USFWS, or local experts.
- **High**: Both a documented recent record (within 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or immediate vicinity (approximately 5 miles) and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated with taxa presence occur within the BSA.
- Moderate: Both a documented recent record (within 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or
  the immediate vicinity (approximately 5 miles) and the environmental conditions associated with
  taxa presence are marginal or limited within the BSA, or the BSA is located within the known
  current distribution of the taxa and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated
  with taxa presence occur within the BSA.
- **Low**: A historical record (over 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or general vicinity (approximately 10 miles), and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated with taxa presence are marginal or limited within the BSA.
- Not Likely to Occur: The environmental conditions associated with taxa presence do not occur
  within the BSA.

While many of the species listed below in Table 11 have potential to occur within the BSA, they are not expected to occur within the Project area due to the lack of suitable habitat.

Table 11 Known and Potential Occurrences of Special Status Plant Taxa within the Biological Study Area

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Arenaria paludicola marsh sandwort	FE, SE, 1B.1, S1	Marshes and swamps (fresh water or brackish); sandy substrates; found in open habitats. Elevation range: 3-170 m.	March- August	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 7 miles southwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from over 120 years ago in 1900.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Astragalus brauntonii Braunton's milk- vetch	FE, 1B.1, S2	Chaparral, valley grasslands, coastal sage scrub, and closed-cone pine forest. Occurs in disturbed habitat and requires gravelly clay soils. Elevation range: 4-640 m.	January- August	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 7 miles west of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 80 years ago in 1930.
Astragalus tener var. titi coastal dunes milk- vetch	FE, SE 1B.1, S1	Coastal bluff scrub (sandy), coastal dunes, and coastal prairie (mesic). Often in vernally mesic areas. Elevation range: 1-50 m.	March-May	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 9 miles south southwest of the BSA; however, this observation was recorded 90 years ago in 1930.
Atriplex parishii Parish's brittlescale	1B.1, S1	Native to Central and Southern California often found in dry lake beds, playas, and ephemeral vernal pools. Saline and alkaline soils. Elevation range: 0-470 m.	June-October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 4.5 miles northwest of the BSA.
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii Davidson's saltscale	1B.2, S1	Coastal scrub, bluffs, Chenopod scrub, playas, and vernal pools from southern California to Baja California. Elevation range: 0-200 m.	April-October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 3 miles to the southwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 110 years ago.
Berberis nevinii Nevin's barberry	FE, SE, S1, 1B.1	Chaparral of inland canyons and foothills in southern California. It is also widely cultivated in gardens and parks. Elevation range: 40-2280 m.	March-June	Not Likely to Occur:  Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is a planted population approximately 3 miles west northwest of the BSA located in Griffith Park. It was not observed during the field survey and is not likely to occur.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis slender mariposa-lily	S2S3, 1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland, coastal scrub, and chaparral. Elevation range: 5-2540 m.	May-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are from within the past 20 years, presumed extant, and located 4 miles west northwest and 9 miles north northwest.
Calochortus plummerae Plummer's mariposa- lily	4.2, S4	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland. Granite and rocky substrates. Elevation range: 100-1,700 m.	May-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 and 9 miles north northeast of the BSA from within the past 30 years.
Calystegia felix lucky morning-glory	1B.1, S1	Historically associated with wetland and marshy places, but possibly in drier situations as well. Possibly silty loam and alkaline, meadows and seeps (sometimes alkaline), and riparian scrub (alluvial). Elevation range: 30-215 m.	March- September	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles west southwest and 7 miles southwest of the BSA from more than 120 years ago in 1899.
Centromadia parryi ssp. australis southern tarplant	1B.1, S2	Marshes and swamps (margins), valley and foothill grasslands (vernally mesic), and vernal pools; often in disturbed sites near the coast at marsh edges; also, in alkaline soils sometimes with saltgrass. Elevation range: 0-480 m.	May- November	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles and 8 miles northeast of the BSA from 1930 and 1950.
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis smooth tarplant	1B.1, S2	Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. Elevation range: 0-610 m.	April- September	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately five miles east northeast of the BSA from 1901.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina San Fernando Valley spineflower	FC, SE, 1B.1, S1	Annual; sandy areas in coastal scrub and native grasslands; Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Elevation range: 150-1220 m.	April-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is five miles northwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 110 years ago in 1890.
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi Parry's spineflower	1B.1, S2	Annual; Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation range: 275-1220 m.	April-June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are eight miles north northeast and 6 miles of the BSA; however, one observation is from more than 100 years ago in 1919 and the other observation does not have a date associated with it.
Dodechahema leptoceras slender-horned spineflower	FE, SE, 1B.1, S2	Annual. Chapparal, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Southern California. Elevation range: 200-760 m.	April-June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are 6 and 7 miles northeast and north of the BSA from 1920 and 1916.
Dudleya multicaulis many-stemmed dudleya	1B.2, S2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation range: 15-790 m.	April-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 3 miles west from 1925.
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii Los Angeles sunflower	1A, SH	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt and freshwater). Elevation range: 10-1,525 m.	August- October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 6 miles east of the BSA from 1901.
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula mesa horkelia	1B.1, S1	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Sandy or gravelly sites. Elevation range: 15- 1,645 m.	February-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recent recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles north northeast and 9 miles northeast of the BSA from 1906 and 1967.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri Coulter's goldfields	1B.1	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt), playas, and vernal pools; Usually found on alkaline soils in playas, sinks, and grasslands. Elevation range: 1-1,375 m.	February- June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 5 miles east northeast and 10 miles southwest of the BSA from 1882 and 1934.
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii Robinson's pepper- grass	<b>S</b> 3	Chaparral and coastal scrub. Elevation range: 5-885 m.	January-July	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles south southeast and 9 miles east northeast of the BSA from 1950 and 1994.
Malacothamnus davidsonii Davidson's bush- mallow	1B.2, S2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Elevation range: 185-1140 m.	June-January	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 8 miles north northwest and 9 miles northwest of the BSA from 2003 and 2015.
Nasturtium gambelii Gambel's water cress	FE, ST, 1B.1, S1	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish). Elevation range:5-330 m.	April-October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 7 miles southwest of the BSA from 1904.
Navarretia prostrata prostrate vernal pool navarretia	1B.2, <b>S</b> 2	Coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools, and meadows and seeps. Alkaline soils in grassland, or in vernal pools. Mesic, alkaline sites. Elevation range: 3-1,235 m.	April-June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is 3 miles southwest of the BSA from 1907.
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum white rabbit-tobacco	2B.2, S2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Elevation range: 0-2100 m.	(July) August- November (December)	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs with the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles west and 8 miles north of the BSA from 1907 and 1932.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Quercus dumosa Nuttall's scrub oak	1B.1, S3	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, and coastal scrub. Generally, on sandy soils near the coast; sometimes on clay loam. Elevation range: 15- 640 m.	February- May (May-August)	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles west from 1924 and 10 miles southwest from 2009.
Ribes divaricatum var. Parishii Parish's gooseberry	1A, SX	Riparian woodland. Elevation range: 65-300 m.	February- April	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the LA river in the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is 1 mile from the BSA from 1893.
Sidalcea neomexicana salt spring checkerbloom	2B.2, S2	Playas, chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, and alkali springs and marshes. Elevation range: 3-2,380 m.	March-June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are approximately 3 miles south and 9 miles southwest of the BSA from 1902 and 1922.
Spermolepis lateriflora western bristly scaleseed	2A, SH	Sonoran desert scrub. Elevation range: 60 – 1,500 m.	March-April	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 8 miles north of the BSA from 1930.
Symphyotrichum defoliatum San Bernardino aster	1B.2, S2	Meadows and seeps, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, marshes and swamps, and valley and foothill grassland. Vernally mesic grassland, near ditches, streams, and springs, and disturbed areas. Elevation range: 3-2,045 m.	July- November	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles west and 7 miles southwest of the BSA; however, these observations are from more than 110 years ago in 1893 and 1904.
Symphyotrichum greatae Greata's aster	1B.3, <b>S</b> 2	Broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and riparian woodland. Elevation range: 300-2010 m.	June-October	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are approximately 1 mile south and 9 miles north northeast of the BSA from 1932 and 1991.

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Thelypteris puberula var. sonorensis Sonoran maiden fern	2B.2, \$2	Meadows and seeps (seeps and streams) and riparian habitats. Elevation range: 50-610 m.	January- September	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 8 miles north northeast from the BSA from 1967.

### Status Codes

Federal Designation

FE = Federally Endangered

FC = Federal Candidate Species for Listing

CDFW State Designation

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened

State Ranking

S1 = Critically Imperiled

S2 = Imperiled

S3 = Vulnerable

S4 = Apparently Secure

S5 = Secure

SH = Possibly Extirpated

SX = Presumed Extirpated

CNPS CRPR Designation

1A = Plants considered by the CNPS to be extinct in California

1B = Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.

2A. Presumed extinct in California, extant and more common elsewhere

2B. Rare or endangered in California, more common elsewhere

3. Plants for which we need more information - Review list

4. Plants of limited distribution - Watch list

.1 = Seriously threatened in California (high

degree/immediacy of threat).

.2 = Fairly threatened in California (moderate

degree/immediacy of threat). BSA = Biological Study Area

m = meter

#### 3.4.1.7 Wildlife Movement

The BSA is located in a heavily developed area but contains localized portions of open space and riparian habitat along the LA River. The LA River was identified as a potential riparian habitat connection by the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project (Spencer et al. 2010). Although, degraded and disturbed in many parts, the LA River is still an important wildlife corridor for many riparian and wildlife species (USACE 2015). Numerous species of fish, amphibians, mammals, waterfowl, songbirds, raptors, and invertebrates use the LA River corridor for foraging and movement.

Within the BSA, the level of surrounding urban development, presence of physical barriers, and lack of native habitat outside of the LA River, would significantly constrain the passage of most large terrestrial wildlife known to occur in the region. Terrestrial wildlife corridors between the BSA and other areas of open space are extremely constrained by roadways, and commercial and residential development. However, wildlife movement between the river corridor and the BSA would be relatively unconstrained if existing fencing near the upper riverbank is removed or modified to allow for wildlife passage.

#### 3.4.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or regulated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

#### Finding: Less than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

# **Special-Status Plant Species**

Construction and operation of the proposed Project is not expected to result in direct or indirect impacts to listed or other special-status plants. The majority of special-status plants known to occur in the region have been determined to have no or a low potential to occur within the proposed Project site. No special-status plant species were observed within the proposed Project site. If any listed or other special-status plants are encountered during pre-construction surveys, they would be marked and avoided to the maximum extent possible.

If present, direct impacts to special-status plants include trampling or crushing from heavy equipment, vehicles, or foot traffic; alterations to the native seed bank due to soil compaction; and modifications to existing hydrological conditions. Indirect impacts could include the disruption of native seed banks through soil alterations, the accumulation of fugitive dust, increased erosion and sediment transport, and the colonization of non-native and invasive plant species. Excessive dust can decrease or limit plant survivorship by decreasing photosynthetic output, reducing transpiration, and adversely affecting reproductive success. Ground-disturbing activities that would occur during construction of the proposed Project can result in the proliferation and spread of non-native invasive plants to new areas. Because noxious weeds can permanently degrade rare plant and animal habitats, their proliferation could adversely affect sensitive plant species if they are present.

Typically, impacts to a small number of non-state or federally listed special-status plants (i.e., impacts to a few individuals), or impacts to a population where loss of a few occurrences would not adversely affect the range of the special-status plant species, are not typically considered significant under CEQA. Pursuant to coordination with the Lead Agency, if proposed Project activities result in the loss of more than 10 percent of the known individuals within the occurrence, or the special-status plant species has a CRPR of 1.B or list 2, these impacts would be considered significant.

A reconnaissance level survey for terrestrial and aquatic biological resources was conducted on May 26, 2022.

#### **Special-Status Invertebrates**

Surveys within the proposed Project site did not result in the detection of any special-status invertebrate species. While both Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) and western ridged mussel (*Gonidea angulata*) were determined to have a high potential to occur in the BSA, suitable habitat for these species do not occur within the proposed Project impact areas. If present, direct impacts could result from potential mechanical crushing during construction, fugitive dust, and general disturbance due to increased human activity. Proposed Project implementation may also result in permanent loss of habitat from the removal of debris piles or trampling of soft friable soils required for burrowing. Indirect impacts could include compaction of soils and the introduction of exotic plant species.

Operational impacts include increased human presence, the spread of noxious weeds due to the use of new or improved access roads, and increased perch sites for avian predators. Inspection and maintenance of the underground gen-tie lines could result in trampling or crushing of small invertebrates by vehicular or foot traffic, alterations in topography and hydrology, increased erosion and sedimentation, and the introduction of non-native, invasive plants due to increased human presence (e.g., weed seed traveling on vehicles).

## Special-Status Fish

Surveys within the proposed Project site did not result in the detection of any special-status fish species nor are there records of any special-status fish species in the general region.

## **Special-Status Amphibians**

Surveys within the proposed Project site did not result in the detection of any special-status amphibian species. Amphibian species known to occur in the general region of the proposed Project site were determined to have a low or no potential of occurrence. Construction activities associated with the proposed Project could result in the direct loss of sensitive amphibians should they occur. Given the ecology of these species and their cryptic nature, it is possible that a few individuals may occur in or near the proposed Project site. Direct impacts could result from potential mechanical crushing during construction, fugitive dust, and general disturbance due to increased human activity. Project implementation may also result in permanent loss of habitat from the removal of debris piles or trampling of soft, friable soils required for burrowing. Indirect impacts could include compaction of soils and the introduction of exotic plant species. However, the overall intent of the proposed Project is to create seasonal wetland and upland habitats, which

would provide suitable habitat for special-status amphibians that is currently absent from proposed Project areas.

Operational impacts include increased human presence and increased perch sites for avian predators. Inspection and maintenance of the Project could result in trampling or crushing of small invertebrates and amphibians by vehicular or foot traffic, alterations in topography and hydrology, increased erosion and sedimentation, and the introduction of non-native, invasive plants due to increased human presence.

## **Special-Status Reptiles**

During surveys conducted within the proposed Project areas, no special-status reptiles were observed in the proposed Project area. The majority of special-status reptiles known to occur in the region were determined to have a low or no potential to occur in the proposed Project site; one species, southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*), a CDFW Species of Special Concern, was determined to have a moderate potential to occur. The only reptile observed during the site reconnaissance was the common western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*). Impacts to special-status reptile species would be similar to those noted above for special-status amphibians.

## **Special-Status Birds**

Although observed within the larger BSA, no special-status birds were observed within the proposed Project site. Construction activities associated with the proposed Project could result in direct and indirect impacts to a variety of sensitive resident and migratory birds. However, direct impacts to listed species are not anticipated because nesting and/or foraging habitat for most listed birds is not present onsite.

If the proposed Project construction were to occur during the avian nesting season (generally considered to be between February 15 and September 15; although some raptors species may nest as early as January) indirect impacts to nesting birds could occur. Nesting birds are expected to occur adjacent to proposed Project areas and may forage within the proposed Project site. Direct impacts to special-status birds, should they occur, include ground-disturbing activities associated with construction, increased noise levels from heavy equipment, increased human presence, and exposure to fugitive dust. Construction during the breeding season could result in the displacement of breeding birds and the abandonment of active nests. Indirect impacts include human disturbance, the spread of noxious weeds, and disruption of breeding or foraging activity. Weed management could also affect nesting.

#### **Special-Status Mammals**

No special-status mammals are known to occur or have been observed on the proposed Project site. Most special-status mammals known to occur in the region were determined to have a low or no potential to occur in the proposed Project area. Western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*) and San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*), both CDFW Species of Special Concern, were determined to have a moderate potential to occur. Bat emergence surveys conducted within the proposed Project areas did not result in the detection of any bat species.

Construction activities associated with the proposed Project could result in direct and indirect impacts to a variety of listed and other special-status mammals should they occur. Direct impacts could include mortality from grading and vegetation removal activities, disturbance from noise and vibration, impacts from manmade sources of light, and increased traffic. Indirect impacts to mammals could include alteration of soils, such as compaction that could preclude burrowing, and the spread of exotic weeds.

As discussed in Section 3.13 (Noise) and shown in Appendix F (Construction Nosie Worksheet), unmitigated construction noise levels estimated to occur at the nearest suitable wildlife habitat in the adjacent Los Angeles River are estimated to exceed a 60 dBA threshold of significance for wildlife impacts. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 includes construction schedule limitations to avoid the breeding/nesting season of sensitive bird species or installation and maintenance of a temporary sound attenuation barrier during construction to reduce potentially significant noise impacts to wildlife to less than significant.

If construction and operation of the proposed Project were to impact special-status species, these impacts would be considered significant. Therefore, mitigation measures BIO-1 through BIO-4, which would require pre-construction clearance surveys prior to ground disturbance, relocation of wildlife found within proposed Project impact areas during pre-construction surveys, daily monitoring, implementation of environmental awareness training to educate proposed Project personnel regarding onsite plants and wildlife, implementation of site-wide best management practices (BMPs; i.e., restriction on open trenches and guidelines for refueling near drainage features), and nesting bird surveys and avoidance measures for active nests, and a temporary sound attenuation barrier should construction occur during the nesting season. These measures would be implemented to mitigate these potentially significant impacts. Implementation of these mitigation measures would ensure that potential impacts to special-status plant and wildlife species are reduced to a less than significant level during the construction phase, operations phase, and the decommissioning phase.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

BIO-1 Wildlife Pre-Construction Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring: Prior to ground disturbance or vegetation clearing within the proposed Project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct preconstruction clearance surveys for wildlife (no more than 7 days prior to site disturbing activities) where suitable habitat is present and directly impacted by construction activities within the Project site and a 500 foot buffer (where accessible). Wildlife found within the proposed Project site or in areas potentially affected by the proposed Project shall be relocated to the nearest suitable habitat that would not be affected by the proposed Project prior to the start of construction. Special-status species found within a proposed Project impact area shall be relocated by a qualified biologist to suitable habitat outside the impact area prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities that may impact those species; this activity may be subject to prior incidental take authorization if required. Nesting birds found within the proposed Project impact areas shall be subject to buffer requirements and additional conditions as detailed below in mitigation measure BIO-4.

A qualified biologist shall be onsite during all ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities throughout the construction phase; this qualified biologist shall have experience with special-status species known to occur in the region, including least Bell's vireo. The qualified biologist(s) shall have the right to halt all activities that are in violation of the special-status species protection measures. Work shall proceed

only after hazards to special-status species are removed, the species are allowed to leave, or are removed, and the species is no longer at risk. The qualified biologist(s) shall have a copy of all the compliance measures in their possession while work is being conducted onsite.

If required during pre-construction clearance surveys or required monitoring efforts, the qualified biologist(s) shall relocate common and special-status species that enter the proposed Project site; some special-status species may require specific permits prior to handling or have established protocols for relocation. Records of all detection, capture, and release shall be reported to CDFW and/or USFWS as appropriate. Should a federally or State listed species be discovered onsite, at any time, then activities shall be suspended, and the USFWS and/or CDFW contacted, as appropriate. Work shall not resume until coordination/consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW has been completed, and recommended measures/ requirements have been implemented to minimize harm/harassment to the species.

BIO-2 Environmental Awareness Training: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit proof to CDPR that all proposed Project personnel have attended an environmental awareness and compliance training program. The training program shall present the environmental regulations and applicable permit conditions that the proposed Project team shall comply with. The training program shall include applicable measures established for the proposed Project to minimize impacts to water quality and avoid sensitive resources, habitats, and species. Subsequent training events shall be scheduled to support the training of new personnel. Dated sign-in sheets for attendees at these meetings shall be maintained and submitted to CDPR. Copies of all training materials shall be maintained at the site for workers to reference and shall be provided in Spanish, as needed. A qualified biologist shall provide and document all trainings.

**BIO-3** Implement Best Management Practices: Implement Best Management Practices: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit grading plans and specifications to CDPR, which indicate that the proposed Project shall implement the following BMPs:

- Restrict non-essential equipment to the existing roadways and/or ruderal areas to avoid disturbance to native vegetation.
- All excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of 6 inches in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth dirt fill or wooden planks; escape ramps should be placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped wildlife. Any wildlife discovered shall be allowed to escape before construction activities are allowed to resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist holding the appropriate permits (if required).
- All staged equipment, staged materials (e.g., pipe) or any other construction products that could shelter small animals overnight or during periods of work inactivity, shall be inspected for wildlife prior to moving. All sections of pipe shall be visually checked for the presence of wildlife prior to

being removed from the Project site. If any sections of pipes are being stored onsite for any length of time, they shall be visually checked to ensure wildlife is absent and then all ends capped to prevent wildlife entry.

- Minimize mechanical disturbance of soils to reduce impact of habitat manipulation on small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.
- Removal or disturbance of vegetation shall be minimized to the greatest extent feasible.
- Installation and maintenance of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures as needed throughout the duration of work activities.
- Implementation of a 15 miles per hour (MPH) speed limit within all proposed Project areas.
- No vehicles or equipment shall be refueled, cleaned, or maintained (e.g., oil changed), nor shall other actions (e.g., washing of tools used for painting) that could result in the release of a hazardous substance, occur within 100 feet of a drainage or wetland unless a bermed and lined refueling area is constructed that would prevent the accidental spill of fuel, oil, or chemicals. Approved/designated areas should be in a location where a spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope that drains away from the water), unless a requested exception is granted or prior written approval obtained. Spill kits shall be maintained onsite in sufficient quantity to accommodate at least three complete vehicle tank failures of 50 gallons each; any spills or discharges shall be immediately contained, cleaned up, and properly disposed.
- The proposed Project area shall be kept clear of trash to avoid attracting scavengers/predators. All food and garbage shall be placed in sealed containers and regularly removed from the site. Following construction, any trash, debris, or rubbish remaining within the work limits shall be collected and hauled off to an appropriate facility.
- No rodent poisons or rodenticide shall be used to control rodents. These products, even used properly, can lead to secondary exposure to wildlife.
- All work shall be performed during daylight hours. No nighttime operations (including lighting) shall be authorized to complete the Project.
- Work limits, as defined on Project plans, shall be clearly delineated onsite (e.g., using orange snow fence, silt fence, lath and survey tape, etc.) prior to the start of any construction activities. No work shall occur outside of the approved work limits.
- Work shall be limited to the construction footprint, as outlined in the Project plans. Access routes, staging areas, and the total footprint of disturbance shall be limited to the minimum number/size necessary to complete the Project and avoid resource impacts. All routes of travel and work boundaries shall be configured to avoid unnecessary intrusions into surrounding habitat.
- Conditions set forth in any Project-related permits/approvals shall be observed and implemented as part of construction.

- No erosion control materials potentially harmful to fish and wildlife species, such as plastic mesh, mono-filament netting, or similar material shall be used. Erosion and sediment control devices, such as erosion control blankets, erosion control netting, and fiber rolls, shall be made of biodegradable loose-weave mesh that is not fused at the intersections of the weave (i.e., jute, coir/coconut fiber, or other natural fiber products without welded weaves) to avoid creating a wildlife entanglement hazard. In addition, weed-free products shall be used to minimize the spread of exotics.
- All equipment shall be cleaned of dirt and vegetative material prior to arrival at and departure from the Project site to minimize the opportunity for the spread of non-native species, including noxious weeds. All imported fill shall be clean/certified free of invasive species.
- Any non-native, weedy vegetation removed during the clearing and grading activities shall be collected, treated, and disposed of as recommended by the qualified biologist.

BIO-4 Nesting Bird Surveys and Avoidance Measures: To avoid impacts to or take of both common and/or special-status birds (e.g., least Bell's vireo), nestlings, or their eggs, and to the extent feasible, no ground-disturbing activities, including staging, as well as disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation should not occur during the recognized breeding season from Feb 15 through September 15 (January 1 through August 15 for raptors) to avoid impacts to or take of common and/or special-status birds, nestlings, or their eggs.

If construction can't avoid the nesting season, then a temporary sound attenuation barrier shall be placed along the western limits of construction to reduce potential construction noise levels in the bed of the adjacent Los Angeles River. The construction contractor shall be responsible for demonstrating the design of the temporary sound attenuation barrier achieves a minimum of a 15 decibel reduction in noise levels.

Prior to initial ground disturbance or vegetation removal (including construction of the sound attenuation barrier), the Applicant shall provide evidence to CDPR of the following. If initial site disturbance is scheduled to begin during the avian nesting season (February 15 through September 15; January 1 through August 15 for raptors), breeding and nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 3 days prior to the start of site disturbance. Should work be suspended or delayed for a period of greater than seven 7 days (during the nesting season), then the qualified biologist, at their discretion, shall complete an additional nesting bird survey to ensure that no additional nesting has occurred within or adjacent to the Project area. If construction activities carry over into a second nesting season(s), the surveys shall be completed annually until the proposed Project is complete. Surveys shall be conducted within 500 feet of all proposed Project activities.

The Applicant shall coordinate with notify USFWS and/or CDFW if endangered or threatened species are observed. If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, a qualified biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer around the nest, and no activities shall be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails; initial buffers for nesting raptors shall be 500 feet; a A buffer of 0.25 mile shall be used for nesting peregrine falcon unless the line-of-sight from the edge of development is obscured as determined by a qualified ornithologist. The prescribed buffers for

common species may be adjusted by the qualified biologist based on existing conditions around the nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of the species, location of nest in relation to the sound attenuation barrier, and other pertinent factors; for example, buffers for common passerines, often found to be habituated to human activity, may be adjusted down to 25 - 50 feet depending on the disturbance tolerance of each specific species. Buffer adjustments for listed and/or other special-status species shall be done in coordination with the USFWS and CDFW as applicable; nest locations within the areas protected by the sound attenuation barrier will only require notification to the USFWS and CDFW. The qualified biologist shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success or failure and to ensure that proposed Project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

No sensitive habitat communities would be temporarily or permanently impacted by proposed construction activities. All impacted habitat or land cover types consist of areas mapped as ornamental non-native, fountain grass swards, and disturbed/developed; refer to Table 12 below for a breakdown of Project related impacts.

Table 12 Impacts to Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types Occurring within the Proposed Project Area

Vegetation Community/Land Cover Type	Habitat Type	Acreage of Permanent Project Impacts (Project Site)	Acreage of Temporary Project Impacts (Proposed Location of Spoil Stockpiles)
Fountain grass swards	Upland	0.00	
Gooding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest	Riverine		
Ornamental non-native	Upland	0.39	0.29
California buckwheat scrub (Planted)	Upland		
Disturbed/Developed	Upland	2.77	0.74
Open water	Riverine		-
Total		3.16	1.03

Construction of the Project would remove non-native/invasive vegetation, alter soil conditions, and have the potential to result in the loss of native seed banks within portions of the BSA. Construction activities could also result in the spread of noxious weeds within the Project site and adjacent habitats. During operation and maintenance of the Project, impacts would occur during routine maintenance activities and could include trampling or crushing of native vegetation by foot traffic, alterations in topography and

hydrology, increased erosion and sedimentation, and the introduction of non-native, invasive plants due to increased human presence on foot or equipment.

Riparian habitats, including ephemeral and perennial streams, are biologically productive and diverse, and are the exclusive habitat of several threatened or endangered wildlife species and many other special-status species. Riparian and wetland habitats are highly productive ecosystems that also provide drinking water sources and foraging, nesting, and cover habitat for a diverse assemblage of wildlife species, both within the riparian habitats and adjacent upland habitats. Many wildlife species are wholly dependent on riparian habitats throughout their life cycles, and many others use riparian habitats only during certain seasons or life history phases. For example, certain mammals require drinking water or cool, shaded cover during summer but otherwise may live in upland habitats. Numerous amphibians breed in aquatic habitats but spend most of their lives in uplands.

If construction and operation of the proposed Project were to impact riparian or other sensitive natural communities as a result of being adjacent to these habitats, impacts would be considered significant. Therefore, mitigation measures BIO-1 through BIO-3, which would require daily monitoring, implementation of environmental awareness training to educate proposed Project personnel regarding onsite plants and wildlife, and implementation of site-wide BMPs would be implemented to mitigate these potentially significant impacts. Implementation of these mitigation measures would ensure that potential impacts to riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities are reduced to a less than significant level during the construction phase and operations phase.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

- BIO-1 Wildlife Pre-Construction Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring
- **BIO-2** Environmental Awareness Training
- **BIO-3** Implement Best Management Practices
- c) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

There are no potential jurisdictional features within the proposed Project area so there would be no impacts to jurisdictional features. Adjacent (southwest) to the proposed Project area and within the BSA is the Los Angeles River, however there are no proposed impacts to this feature.

The importance of intermittent, perennial, and ephemeral streams to wildlife in arid environments is well known. Ephemeral drainages, such as the desert washes and playas within the proposed Project site, provide unique habitat that is distinct from the surrounding uplands, providing more continuous vegetation cover and microtopographic diversity than the surrounding uplands. Ephemeral, perennial, and intermittent streams in the arid west provide important habitat for wildlife and are responsible for much of the biotic

diversity. They have higher moisture content and provide shade and cooler temperatures within the channel. In cases where the habitat is distinct in species composition, structure, or density, wash communities would provide habitat values not available in the adjacent uplands. Direct impacts to WOTUS, Waters of the State, and CDFW jurisdictional waters would include the removal of native vegetation, the discharge of fill, degradation of water quality, and increased erosion and sediment transport. Potential indirect impacts could include alterations to the existing topographical and hydrological conditions and the introduction of non-native and invasive plant species.

Proposed Project-related impacts to jurisdictional waters are not expected, however, if they were to occur, could be considered significant. As required by law, however, the Applicant would comply with state and federal regulations regarding conducting proposed Project activities in water courses and habitats under the jurisdiction of the CDFW, RWQCB, and USACE. In compliance with state and federal regulations, the Applicant would obtain permits pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and Fish and Game Code Section 1600 et seq. to the extent required by the Project. The RWQCB published new regulations governing the protection of wetlands and state waters on May 28, 2020.

Obtaining the required regulatory permits (if required), in conjunction with on-site monitoring (BIO-1), worker environmental awareness training (BIO-2) and best management practices (BIO-3) would ensure that potential impacts to jurisdictional features are reduced to a less than significant level during the construction phase, operations phase, and the decommissioning phase.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

- BIO-1 Wildlife Pre-Construction Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring
- **BIO-2** Environmental Awareness Training
- **BIO-3** Implement Best Management Practices
- d) Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

The proposed Project is located in a heavily developed area but contains localized portions of open space and riparian habitat along the LA River. The LA River was identified as a potential riparian habitat connection by the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project (Spencer et al. 2010). Although, degraded and disturbed in many parts, the LA River is still an important wildlife corridor for many riparian and wildlife species (United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2015). Numerous species of fish, amphibians, mammals, waterfowl, songbirds, raptors, and invertebrates use the LA River corridor for foraging and movement.

Within the proposed Project site, the level of surrounding urban development, presence of physical barriers, and lack of native habitat outside of the LA River, currently significantly constrain the passage of most large terrestrial wildlife known to occur in the region. Terrestrial wildlife corridors between the proposed Project site and other areas of open space are extremely constrained by roadways, and commercial and residential development. Construction of the proposed Project would result in a net gain in suitable habitat for various species known to occur in the region and may act as a refuge for species moving up and down the LA River Corridor. Given the current conditions at the proposed Project site, construction and operation of the proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts to wildlife movement.

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

#### **Finding: No Impact**

The proposed Project would not conflict with the Conservation and Natural Resources Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan or the Conservation and Open Space Elements of the City of Los Angeles General Plan. There are no trees present on the Project site that are protected by ordinance. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance, and there would be no impact during the construction and operations phase.

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

# **Finding: No Impact**

All applicable adopted habitat conservation plans, natural community conservation plans, or other conservation plans have been reviewed for consistency with the proposed Project, and no conflict with the provisions of an adopted or otherwise approved local conservation plan was identified. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with any conservation plan, and there would be no impact during the construction and operations phase.

## 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	CULTURAL and TRIBAL RESOURCES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?		$\boxtimes$		
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?		$\boxtimes$		
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				

#### 3.5.1 Environmental Setting

A summary of the cultural setting is provided below to place the Project area within relevant temporal and ethnographic settings. These settings inform expectations of the types of resources that could be encountered and provide context for which cultural resources might be assessed for significance.

#### 3.5.1.1 Prehistoric Overview

The chronology of southern California is typically divided into three general time periods: The Early Holocene (9,600 B.C. to 5,600 B.C.), the Middle Holocene (5,600 B.C. to 1,650 B.C.), and the Late Holocene (1,650 B.C. to A.D. 1769). This chronology is characterized in the archaeological record by the presence of particular artifacts and other practices that indicate specific technologies, economies, and trade networks.

Early Holocene (9,600 B.C to 5,600 B.C)

It is not certain when humans first came to California; however, human occupation in southern California is well documented by roughly 9,600 B.C. During the Early Holocene, the climate of southern California became much warmer and more arid. Human populations were made up of small hunter-gatherer groups, residing mainly in coastal or inland desert areas, and began exploiting a wider range of plant and animal resources (Byrd and Raab 2007).

Middle Holocene (5,600 B.C. to 1,650 B.C.)

During the Middle Holocene, there is evidence of a shift toward a more diverse economy, and subsistence systems focused on plant foods and foraging. The first confirmed evidence of human occupation in the Los Angeles area is associated with the Millingstone cultures that appeared in California around 6,000 to 5,000 B.C. (Byrd and Raab 2007; Wallace 1955; Warren 1968). Millingstone cultures were characterized by the collection and processing of plant foods, such as acorns, and the hunting of a wider variety of game animals (Byrd and Raab 2007; Wallace 1955). They also established more permanent settlements that were located primarily on the coast and in the vicinity of areas with an abundance of resources. Early Millingstone occupations are typically identified by the presence of handstones and millingstones, while those

Millingstone occupations dating later than approximately 3,000 B.C. contain a mortar and pestle complex as well, signifying the exploitation of acorns in the region.

Late Holocene (1,650 B.C. to A.D. 1769)

During the Late Holocene, many aspects of Millingstone culture persisted, but several socioeconomic changes occurred (Erlandson 1994; Wallace 1955; Warren 1968). The native populations of southern California were becoming less mobile. Smaller and more sedentary villages with satellite resource gathering camps became more common. An increasing population made it necessary to exploit more terrestrial and marine resources (Erlandson 1994). The exploitation of larger, higher-ranked food sources may have led to a shift in subsistence strategies, where there was more of a focus on acquiring greater amounts of smaller resources, such as shellfish and small-seeded plants (Byrd and Raab 2007). The Late Holocene also marks a period in which more specialized labor began to emerge, trading networks became an increasingly important means by which both utilitarian and non-utilitarian materials were acquired, and travel routes were extended. Trade during this period reached its zenith as asphaltum (tar), seashells, and steatite were traded from Catalina Island (Pimu or Pimugna) and coastal southern California to the Great Basin. The bow and arrow were introduced sometime after A.D. 500, replacing the dart and atlatl (Byrd and Raab 2007).

In Los Angeles, Orange, western Riverside, and southwestern San Bernardino Counties, the introduction of cremation, elaborate burial practices with grave goods, pottery, and small triangular arrow points are thought to have resulted from Takic migration to the coast from inland desert regions. This Takic or Numic Tradition was formerly referred to as the "Shoshonean wedge" or "Shoshonean intrusion" (Warren 1968). This terminology, used originally to describe an Uto-Aztecan language group, is generally no longer employed to avoid confusion with ethnohistoric and modern Shoshonean groups who spoke Numic languages (Heizer 1978:5; Shipley 1978:88, 90).

## 3.5.1.2 Ethnographic Overview

The Project area is in the territory known to have been occupied by the Gabrielino (also known as Tongva). The Gabrielino were one of several Takic-speaking groups in Southern California at the time of Spanish contact. The term "Gabrielino" came from the period of missionization with Mission San Gabriel Archangel, established in 1771.

#### Gabrielino/Tongva

The Gabrielino occupied the southern Channel Islands, the Los Angeles basin, much of Orange County, and extended as far east as the western San Bernardino Valley. They established villages located along rivers and at the mouths of canyons. Populations ranged from 50 to 200 inhabitants. Residential structures within the villages were domed, circular, and made from thatched tule or other available wood. Gabrielino society was organized by kinship groups, with each group composed of several related families who together owned hunting and gathering territories. Settlement patterns varied according to the availability of floral and faunal resources (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991).

The Gabrielino were fisher/ hunter-gatherers that exploited a wide array of marine and terrestrial game as well as acorns, Islay, pinion nut, and a wide array of seeds, roots, and other plant materials (Bean and

Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991). The Gabrielino utilized plank canoes (te'aat), dugout canoes, nets, shellfish hooks, harpoons, and traps to exploit a wide array of deep-sea fish, marine mammals, and shellfish. They hunted large game with bow and arrow, and used traps, nets and throwing sticks for small game. Plant processing was done with groundstone milling equipment, baskets, and seed beaters. The Gabrielino had a wide array of decorative and ceremonial objects made from steatite, brownware ceramics, bone, shell, asphaltum, and wood.

By the late 18th century, Gabrielino had significantly dwindled due to introduced European diseases and dietary deficiencies. Gabrielino communities disintegrated as families were taken to the missions (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991). However, current descendants of the Gabrielino are preserving Gabrielino culture. Of the Gabrielino groups or tribes, none are federally registered; however, the state does recognize several groups of Gabrielino descent. The nearest Gabrielino villages to the Project according to McCawley include Maungna, near Rancho Los Felis, and Haahamonga, near present-day Glendale (tongvapeople.org N.D.)

### 3.5.1.3 Historic-era Overview

The first European to visit California was Spanish maritime explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542. Cabrillo was sent north by the Viceroy of New Spain (Mexico) to look for the Northwest Passage. Cabrillo visited San Diego Bay, Catalina Island, San Pedro Bay, and the northern Channel Islands. The English adventurer Francis Drake visited the Miwok Native American group at Drake's Bay or Bodega Bay in 1579. Sebastian Vizcaíno explored the coast as far north as Monterey in 1602. He reported that Monterey was an excellent location for a port (Castillo 1978). Vizcaíno also named San Diego Bay to commemorate Saint Didacus. The name began to appear on European maps of the New World by 1624 (Gudde 1998:332). The historic era is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

Spanish Mission Period (1769–1821)

The return of Spanish presence in California was marked by the 1769 Serra-Portola Expedition, led by Junipero Serra along with Gaspar de Portola. Serra had led the expedition under the authorization of Jose de Galvez, the Visitador of New Spain. Serra was granted leadership of this expeditions because of the military's deep history of abusing the native people they were supposed to be protecting. Serra had experienced how the miliary abuse impeded, or often prevented, the Spanish Franciscans' missionization efforts (Hackel 2013; Sandos 2004; Treutlein 1968; Weber 2009). Shortly thereafter, Spain began to establish a system of pueblos, presidios, ranchos, and missions along the California coast to bolster Spanish settlement. The missionaries established a system of 21 missions along El Camino Real and enacted the practice of missionization or forced removal and "cultural education" of native people. The Missions of San Gabriel and San Fernando were founded in 1771 and 1797, respectively. Twelve families from the already missionized native peoples of what is now Sonora and Sinaloa were brought in to establish the Pueblo de Los Angeles in 1781, near the Los Angeles River in what is now downtown Los Angeles. They were given land tools for successful agricultural production, allowing a higher rate of profitability (Jones 2018; Starr 2015).

The Gabrielino were forcefully integrated into Mission San Gabriel. The Gabrielino worked as farmers or craftsmen or grazing herds in the valley. Integration devastated the Native American groups through the introduction of diseases to which they had no immunity and through the loss of traditional lifestyles. The Spanish period began a decline in 1821, when Mexico gained independence from Spain and subsequently secularized the missions (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991).

## Mexican Rancho Period (1821-1848)

During the Spanish and subsequent Mexican periods, ranchos were a concession-granting system that awarded many military officers with large tracts of land for settlement and raising livestock. In 1821, the Mexican government began moving toward closing elosed the missions, and former mission lands were granted to retired soldiers and other Mexican citizens. Much of the land along the coast and in the interior valleys became part of Mexican ranchos used primarily as cattle ranches (Robinson 1948). In 1833, the government required land be set aside for each Native American family. But the requirement was quickly brushed aside by Californios who, with the help of those in power, acquired the church lands as grants. Native peoples were forced to work on the rancheros.

The ranchos established land-use patterns still used today. Rancho boundaries became the basis for California's land survey system and are found on modern maps and land titles. The rancheros (rancho owners) patterned themselves after the landed gentry of New Spain, primarily raising cattle or sheep (Robinson 1948).

The Project area is within a portion of land known as Rancho Cañada de Los Nogales, meaning "canyon of the walnut trees." It was established in 1844, when it was granted to José Maria Aguilar by Governor Manuel Micheltorena (Hoffman 1862). Aguilar was a Los Angeles official. His son, Cristobal Aguilar, would later become mayor of Los Angeles (Chaves 1999). In 1853, the land was sold to Lewis C. Granger, a lawyer native to Ohio who came to Los Angeles only three years prior. Granger traded the Rancho in 1854, to J.D. Hunter in exchange for Hunter's home. Granger then bought 2,700 acres of Rancho San Rafael along the Los Angeles River from Verdugos. J. D. Hunter came to California from Kentucky in 1847. He was a Captain of Company B in the Iowa Volunteers, known as the Mormon Battalion. Hunter was discharged soon after he came to California and then posted at the San Luis Rey Mission after being appointed a U.S. Indian agent for Southern California. Prior to his arrival in Los Angeles, he resided in a Mormon settlement of San Bernardino until its abandonment. In Los Angeles he became a brick manufacture. Hunter owned portions of the adjacent Ranchos and sold Rancho Cañada de Los Nogales in 1882 to local developers (Vurtinus 1979).

#### American Period (1848–Present)

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican-American War (1846–1848), marks the beginning of the American period. In 1850, California became the 31st state in the American Union. In the late nineteenth century, droughts decimated the cattle industry in Southern California, which resulted in the purchase of many of the ranchos by American investors (Cleland 1941). The Los Angeles & San Pedro Railroad was completed in 1869. It was the first railway built in Southern California (Hoyt 1953; Robinson 1978).

On February 18, 1850, the County of Los Angeles was established as one of the 27 original counties in California. The City of Los Angeles grew exponentially in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The urban downtown sprawled outward incorporating much of the San Fernando Valley, major portions of the Los Angeles Basin, and parts of the Rancho Palos Verdes peninsula (Fogelson 1993:226–227). After World War II, when much of the Los Angeles Basin began to develop into dense residences and commercial areas for a burgeoning post-war economy. The Los Angeles basin has become a center for intensive and large-scale industry, logistics and warehousing, and petroleum development. Continued growth led to the formation of new communities and counties, including Orange County, which broke away from Los Angeles County on March 11, 1889.

## 3.5.1.4 Historic Overview of the Taylor Yard

The Project area is located within the northwestern portion of the historic Taylor Yard, one of several Southern Pacific Railroad yards that were situated along the Los Angeles River.

The first Southern Pacific Railroad line to Los Angeles was completed in 1876, connecting the city to San Francisco via the Glendale Narrows. The original rail alignment ran adjacent to San Fernando Road into downtown Los Angeles. The company's first passenger station, freight depot, and classification yard, known as River Station, was located at North Spring Street, north of West College Street, within present-day Chinatown (now the site of the Los Angeles State Historic Park). The classification yard could originally hold as many as 225 freight cars. It was later relocated in the early 1900s almost 2.5-miles north of River Station and then expanded in the 1910s to ten tracks totaling 21,000 feet spread across both sides of the main line. In 1914, flooding along the Los Angeles River greatly damaged the Southern Pacific train yard. Following the 1914 floods, Southern Pacific began a major overhaul of their classification yard, building a new earthen levee along the river's east bank. 900,000 yards of earth was imported onto the site to level the ground between the Pacific Fruit Facility and the main line, before adding 47,000 feet of track (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

A rapid increase in Los Angeles rail traffic after World War I motivated Southern Pacific to make a number of operational changes. In 1925, the company relocated its entire Los Angeles freight handling operations from River Station to Taylor Yard. The new classification yard was named after its previous owner, J. Hartley Taylor—an influential Los Angeles businessman and owner of the Taylor Grocery and Taylor Milling Company. Taylor had purchased the land in the 1890s, establishing a farm at the site that later included a grocery store as well as mill and grain storage facilities (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

Taylor Yard originally extended approximately 2-miles on the east bank of the Los Angeles River between Arvia Street and the present-day Glendale Freeway. The northern portion of the yard was originally occupied by approximately 15 tracks which widened out to around 20 tracks south of Division Street. There were also a number of warehouses and operation buildings located between Division Street and Elm Street, adjacent to the river. It was at Taylor Yard where Southern Pacific introduced several modern railroad infrastructure advancements, the most notable of which was the "hump-based" classification system. The system operated using small switch locomotives that shoved strings of freight cars to the top of an artificially created eight-foot-high hillock or "hump that were then allowed to roll down the opposite side to prearranged tracks. The hump at Taylor Yard was located west of Macon Street. The small switch locomotives were

manned by car riders who used brake wheels to slow their descent. The cars were then rolled into a "classification bowl," where they were assembled into "consists" (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

Despite the Great Depression, Southern Pacific continued to expand and improve Taylor Yard in the 1930s. The railroad constructed a new roundhouse, for maintenance and repair of the steam locomotives, and divisional shop facility. Due to the efforts to build up the levee after the 1914 flood, the site sat above the river's natural flood plain. Flooding in 1938 mostly spared the yard; however, because of the 1938 flood, the city soon embarked on one of its largest infrastructure projects, the channelization of the Los Angeles River. The riverbank to the west of Taylor Yard was subsequently reconfigured within a permanent channel and encased with concrete by the mid-1950s. The fill material used to construct the channel was placed on undeveloped portions of the north end of Taylor Yard. Following World War II, Los Angeles emerged as the West Coast's primary manufacturing center and leader of the defense and aerospace industries in the United States.

The resulting growth in local industries and transition from steam to diesel-electric rail engines spurred Southern Pacific to upgrade Taylor Yard beginning in 1949. The company expanded to twenty-five receiving tracks, upgraded the hump to include pneumatically controlled retarders, and expanded the roundhouse and engine repair facilities to maintain the newer, larger, and heavier locomotives (Bevil and Dallas 2004). Included in the 1949 modernization, the old Taylor Yard office was replaced with a new structure near Fletcher Avenue at the yard's north end, in what is now called the Bowtie section (Mullaly and Petty 2002).

Southern Pacific began to slowly phase out operations at Taylor Yard after the completion of a modern automated freight classification yard at West Colton in 1973. For 12 years, Taylor Yard was used for engine and car repair before finally closing the yard in 1985. Southern Pacific prepared the northern portion of Taylor Yard for sale, demolishing buildings, and structures as well as remediating contaminated soil. Southern Pacific was sold to Union Pacific in 1996 in parcels for other development (Mullaly and Petty 2002). The parcel that Union Pacific sold was to Los Angeles for the Metrolink. It was this sale that launched the extensive public effort to reserve the bulk of Taylor Yard for public use as a park and greenspace. A total of 40 acres of the former yard were subsequently acquired by the California Department of Parks and Recreation in December 2001.

# 3.5.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as identified in Section 15064.5?

#### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

Stantec conducted a cultural resources Phase I study on behalf of The Nature Conservancy to evaluate potential cultural resources impacts associated with the Project. The study attached as Appendix C included a records search, review of historical United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps and aerial imagery, and an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the Project site.

The Project site makes up the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel (APN: 5442-002-914, 5442-002-825), which was historically part of the Taylor Yard, a Southern Pacific Railroad service railway station and

classification yard. Southern Pacific occupied Taylor Yard from 1925 through 1985, after which time almost all the buildings and structures related to the site's railroad use were demolished.

The Phase I study revealed that the historical features of Taylor Yard remain within the APE, including building foundations, a railroad sign, and an isolated railroad spike. These remains are likely potential contributors to a proposed Taylor Yard Historic District, the boundary of which extends beyond that of the Project area. No other historic-era cultural resources were identified, and no prehistoric-era cultural resources were identified during the survey.

Taylor Yard is being evaluated by CDPR for its potential eligibility for listing in the CRHR or NRHP. It is seemingly important to local regional history and contained several pieces of infrastructure that may have been critical to the development of the Los Angeles basin. A full investigation and evaluation of Taylor Yard has yet to determine its historical significance. With further research it may be determined that the newly recorded site, R220803-74-01 which would be partially demolished as part of the Project, may have a significant historical association with the yard. Whether the components of the site are associated with any facilities that characterized the yard's technological achievements or primary operations is unknown. However, they do exemplify ongoing developments within the yard during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The native sediment of the general area consists of unconsolidated alluvial sediments along the Los Angeles River. The background research, historical maps, and aerial images of the Project area indicate extensive ground disturbance starting as early as 1914 and well into the 1940s. The Project area was entirely paved, and buildings had been constructed by the 1960s, and were demolished by 1988. The entire Project area is highly disturbed and has been mechanically altered several times throughout the 20th-century, which has significantly undermined the integrity of the R220803-74-01.

The built-environment remains observed on the surface and the site's history suggest potential for presence of buried historic-era features related to the Taylor Yard as no soil remediation occurred in these areas. The built-environment remains should not affect the Project in terms of construction and design planning. For purposes of the CEQA analysis, Taylor Yard is conservatively assumed eligible for listing in the CRHR.

Given that the construction work has the potential to significantly impact buried archaeological components associated with Taylor Yard, the Project could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Mitigation Measures CR-1, CR-2, and CR-3 presented below shall be required to reduce potential impacts to historical resources to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

**CR-1 Worker Environmental Awareness Program:** Prior to construction activities, a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (qualified archaeologist) shall conduct cultural resources Worker environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training for all construction personnel. Construction personnel shall be informed of the proposed procedures for treating cultural resources that may be encountered during construction activities.

**CR-2** Archaeological Monitoring During Construction: A qualified archaeological monitor (working under the direct supervision of a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional

Qualifications Standards for archaeology) shall be present to monitor all ground-disturbing activities associated with the Project.

The archaeological monitor shall be empowered to redirect construction activity in the event that archaeological resources are encountered, for the purposes of documenting the resource for evaluation by a qualified archaeologist. The archaeological monitor shall keep daily logs and provide updates to TNC upon request. After monitoring has been completed, the qualified archaeologist shall prepare a monitoring report that details the results of monitoring, which shall be submitted to TNC and CDPR for review prior to final submittal to the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton.

**CR-3 Protection of Encountered Archaeological Resources:** If a potentially significant archaeological resource is encountered, it shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist in coordination with a CDPR cultural resources specialist. If the resource is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance, site capping (burial), creation of conservation easements, and/or data recovery shall be implemented in accordance with Secretary of the Interior's Standards to bring the potential impact to that resource to levels less than significant.

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

#### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

Please refer to the response to question a) above.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The potential to disturb any human remains is low because the majority of the Project site has been previously disturbed. In the event human remains are encountered during construction, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that no further work shall continue at the location of the find until the County Coroner has made all the necessary findings as to the origin and distribution of such remains pursuant to Public Code Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified within 24 hours of the discovery, and within two working days of notification of the discovery shall make such a determination. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are or are believed to be Native American, the County Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the most likely descended from the deceased Native American. The descendants shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the County Construction Engineer, the treatment and disposition of the human remains. Considering the previously disturbed nature of the Project site and regulatory requirement related to discovery of human remains summarized above, potential impacts would be less than significant.

## 3.6 ENERGY RESOURCES

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

### 3.6.1 Environmental Setting

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is the electricity provider for the Project area, including the proposed Project site, providing power to 1.5 million customers in Los Angeles and the Owens Valley. Renewable energy accounts for 30 percent of the LADWP's power resources, including biomass, geothermal, small hydroelectric, solar power and wind. The remaining power resources include natural gas, nuclear power, large hydroelectric, coal and other sources. LADWP electrical power resources produce a total capacity of over 7,8800 megawatts. The typical residential customer uses about 500 kilowatt hours per month, with business and industry consuming about 70 percent of the electricity in the City (LADWP, 2020).

First established in 2002 under Senate Bill 1078, California Renewable Portfolio Standards require retail sellers of electric services including LADWP to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources to 33 percent by 2020 and 50 percent by 2030.

## 3.6.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project would include the use of fuels such as gasoline and diesel in conventional off-road construction equipment and on-road vehicles during the construction phase. The Project would additionally include the use of electricity associated with operating the dry-weather flow and stormwater treatment system as well as gasoline and/or diesel fuel associated with vehicles and handheld equipment for facility maintenance activities. The use of these energy resources would be minor in nature compared to the availability of resources and the Project does not include a component that would result potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during Project construction or operation. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Electricity necessary to operate the Project would be provided by LADWP. LADWP is subject to the State of California's Renewable Portfolio Standard related to the provision of renewable energy resources. The Project would not include the generation of energy resources and would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	GEOLOGY AND SOILS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Directly or indirectly cause substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
	i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				
	ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?			$\boxtimes$	
	iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			$\boxtimes$	
	iv. Landslides?			$\boxtimes$	
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				
c)	Be located on strata or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?				
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				
f)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?		$\boxtimes$		

## 3.7.1 Environmental Setting

The Project property is located near the eastern edge of the channelized Los Angeles River in an area colloquially known as the Glendale Narrows, a relatively steep-sided portion of the river's alluvial plain bordered by the Elysian Hills to the west and the Repetto Hills to the east. As described by previous studies that are further discussed in Appendix E (Removal Action Work Plan), the valley fill is relatively coarse near its contact with underlying bedrock; sediments encountered during the various site investigations are finergrained, with interbedded silty sand and fine-grained sand the most prevalent sediment type in the shallow subsurface.

Unconfined groundwater was encountered during previous site studies at approximately 33 feet below ground surface; the direction of groundwater flow in the study area was determined to be to the south-southeast, similar to the trend of the valley and the flow direction of the Los Angeles River.

The nearest known geological fault, the Raymond Fault, is located approximately 0.75 miles north of the Project site (City of Los Angeles, 2023a). The Project site is located within a liquefaction zone City of Los Angeles, 2023b). The Project site is not located within a landslide zone (City of Los Angeles, 2023c).

# 3.7.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

- a) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - I. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
  - II. Strong seismic ground shaking?
  - III. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
  - IV. Landslides?

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project site is not located within a Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. The City of Los Angeles is within a seismically active region and the Raymond Fault is located approximately 0.75 miles north of the Project site. A rupture of the Raymond or other regional fault could cause ground shaking at the Project site. Liquefaction occurs when groundwater is forced out of the pores of soil as it subsides. This excess water momentarily liquefies the soil, causing an almost complete loss of strength. If this layer is at the surface, its effect is much like that of quicksand for any structure located on it. If the liquefied layer is in the subsurface, the material above it may slide laterally depending on the confinement of the unstable mass. According to the City of Los Angeles GeoHub, the Project site is within a liquefaction area but is not located within landslide zone.

The Project is limited to construction and operation of a green open space with native habitat and does not include habitable structures. The Project would be constructed in accordance with building code specifications required by the City of Los Angeles. Compliance with these requirements would reduce potential adverse impacts from an earthquake and liquefaction to less than significant. The Project site is not subject landslide hazards. Therefore, Project impacts from seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction or landslides would be less than significant.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

Construction of the Project includes activities such as grading that have the potential to result in substantial soil erosion and loss of topsoil. However, soil disturbances during construction would be managed through the preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), as required by State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, as amended. SWPPPs must include a range of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce soil erosion such as minimizing soil disturbances, temporary soil stabilizers, temporary sediment control, wind erosion control, tracking control, non-stormwater management, waste management and materials pollution that substantially reduce the potential for soil erosion. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 which includes best management practices to reduce soil erosion would be implemented during construction to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Operation of the Project includes establishing and maintaining native habitat that would reduce the potential for soil erosion compared to existing site conditions that consists of bare and exposed soil surfaces. These measures and design features would reduce the potential for substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil impacts to less than significant during Project operation.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

## **BIO-3** Implement Best Management Practices

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

#### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Please refer to the response to question 3.7.2(a).

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

### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Expansive soils are typically associated with fine-grained clayey soils that have the potential to shrink and swell with repeated changes in the moisture content. While expansive soils could be present at the Project site, the Project does not include the construction and operation of habitable structures. Additionally, adherence to the City of Los Angeles Building and Grading Codes are expected to be sufficient to reduce impacts from expansive soil-related hazards to less than significant.

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

#### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project does not include the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. No impact would occur.

f) Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

Appendix D includes the results of a paleontological resource investigation conducted for the Project. The paleontological resource investigation consisted of a museum records search from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County of the Project area and vicinity, as well as a review of the results of geotechnical studies conducted on the site (Geotek 2021, Converse Consultants 2022), the most recent geologic mapping, and relevant scientific literature. This research was used to assign paleontological potential rankings of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) to the geologic units present in the Project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface. The results of this assessment indicate that the surface of the Project area consists of alluvial fan sediments with low-to-high paleontological potential, increasing with depth, likely underlain by the Puente Formation, with high paleontological potential, at an undetermined depth.

Currently available Project plans do not include complete specifications for depth or type of ground disturbance but do include stormwater vaults buried at depths of up to 33 feet below grade. Ground disturbance that occurs into geologic units with high paleontological potential may encounter paleontological resources. Younger surficial sediments (alluvium, lacustrine, eolian, etc.) generally have low potential to preserve fossil resources due to their age. However, sediments increase in age with depth and these surficial sediments often overly older units that have higher paleontological potential. Due to the presence of surficial alluvium (sand) sediments and lack of fossil localities recorded at shallow depths near the Project site, paleontological resources are not expected to be encountered in excavations into surficial sediments. For purposes of this analysis, it was assumed that depths of 10 feet below ground surface is a conservatively reasonable threshold from low to high potential sediments and impacts to paleontological resources could be potentially significant. Because proposed excavations extend beyond the 10 foot depth threshold for high potential sediments, impacts to paleontological resources are potentially significant. Mitigation Measures GEO-1 through GEO-3 shall be implemented during Project construction to reduce potential paleontological resources impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

## **Mitigation Measures**

**GEO-1 Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan:** A paleontologist meeting professional standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) shall be retained as the Project paleontologist to oversee all aspects of paleontological mitigation, including the development and implementation of a

Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PMMP) tailored to the Project plans that provides for paleontological monitoring of earthwork and ground disturbing activities into undisturbed geologic units with high paleontological potential to be conducted by a paleontological monitor meeting industry standards (Murphey et al. 2019). The PMMP should also include provisions for a Workers' Environmental Awareness Program training that communicates requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of paleontological resources during construction, to be delivered by the paleontological monitor to the construction crew prior to the onset of ground disturbance. As the Project is on CDPR lands, a permit shall be required from CDPR for this work.

**GEO-2 Paleontological Monitoring During Construction:** Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor for ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area. The Project paleontologist may reduce the frequency of monitoring should subsurface conditions indicate low paleontological potential.

**GEO-3 Management of Paleontological Resources:** Should a potential paleontological resource be identified in the Project area, whether by the monitor or a member of the construction crew, work shall halt in a safe radius around the find (usually 50 feet) until the Project paleontologist can assess the find and, if significant, salvage the fossil for laboratory preparation and curation at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Based on the findings of the paleontological resources investigation and the implementation of the above mitigation activities, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated.

## 3.8 GREENHOUSE GASES

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

#### 3.8.1 Environmental Setting

Global warming is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth's surface. The effects of increased greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere may contribute to global warming. The major Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) are carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), methane ( $CH_4$ ), nitrous oxide ( $N_2O$ ), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride ( $SF_6$ ).

GHGs in the atmosphere absorb solar radiation reflected by the earth, which leads to warming of the atmosphere. GHGs also radiate energy both upwards toward space and downward to the surface of the earth. The downward direction of GHGs radiation is commonly called the "greenhouse effect."

Most GHGs can be produced through biogenic (natural) and anthropogenic (human-caused) processes. Biogenic sources include the combustion of biological material in forest fires, fermentation, decomposition or processing of biologically based materials. Some of the main sources of GHG due to human activity are the burning of fossil fuels, agricultural activities, and the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in refrigeration and fire suppression systems.

Global Warming Potential (GWP) is a measure of how much a GHG contributes to global warming relative to the heat contributed by a similar mass of  $CO_2$ .  $CH_4$  and  $N_2O$  have GWP of 21 and 310 times that of  $CO_2$ , respectively. For this analysis, GHGs other than  $CO_2$  were scaled to a single factor to determine the equivalent amount of  $CO_2$  ( $CO_2$ ) for each gas. For  $CO_2$ , the scaling factor is 1.0. The scaling factors for  $CH_4$  and  $N_2O$  are 21 and 310, respectively.

#### 3.8.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

a) Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Construction activities associated with the Project would require the operation of on-road vehicles and conventional off-road construction equipment that would emit GHGs in the form of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O from engine exhaust. Operation phase emissions of GHGs would be primarily limited to exhaust from on-road

vehicles associated with visitor use and maintenance personnel as well as indirect emissions from utility use.

SCAQMD has proposed a "bright-line" screening level threshold of 10,000 metric tons/year CO<sub>2</sub>e for industrial land use types. Projects that do not exceed the bright-line threshold would have a nominal, and therefore, less than significant impact on GHG emissions. SCAQMD's guidelines for analyzing a project's GHG impacts is to amortize project emissions over a 30-year period, add them to annual operation phase emissions and compare the emissions to the 10,000 metric tons/year CO<sub>2</sub>e threshold of significance level to determine significance (SCAQMD, 2008b).

GHG emissions for the Project were estimated using the CalEEMod. Detailed GHG emissions estimates for the Project are included in Appendix A (Project Emissions Estimates). Table 13, below, presents a summary of the estimated total GHG emissions that would result from Project implementation.

**Table 13 Total Estimated Project GHG Emissions** 

Desired Phase	Total Metric Tons
Project Phase	CO <sub>2</sub> e
Construction Emissions (total)	516
Construction Emissions (amortized over 30 years)	17
Operation Emissions (annually) <sup>1</sup>	50
Total Project Emissions	67
Interim SCAQMD Threshold	10,000
Project Emissions Exceed SCAQMD Threshold?	No

As shown above in Table 13, the Project would result in a total estimated 67 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year when construction emissions are amortized over 30 years and added to operation phase emissions in accordance with SCAQMD guidance. The 67 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions is below the 10,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e significance threshold, and therefore, the Project would not generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that would have a substantial adverse effect on the environment. This impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are warranted.

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

#### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

The State Legislature enacted AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, signed on September 27, 2006, to further the goals of Executive Order S-3-05 (Health and Safety Code, S38500 et seq.). AB 32 requires CARB to adopt Statewide GHG emissions limits to achieve Statewide GHG emissions levels at the same levels they were atmospherically in 1990 by the year 2020. A longer-range goal requires an 80% reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2050. CARB adopted the 2020 Statewide target and mandatory reporting requirements in December 2007 and a Statewide scoping plan in December 2008 (the AB 32 Scoping Plan). SB 32, signed on September 8, 2016, expands on the mandate of AB 32 requiring CARB to ensure that State GHG emissions are reduced to 40 percent below the 1990 emission level by year 2030. Section 38566 is added to the current Health and Safety Code, which states "the State

board shall ensure that Statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40 percent below the Statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit no later than December 31, 2030".

The Project does not include stationary sources of GHG emissions and is not subject to compliance with AB 32's cap-and-trade program. In 2019, the City adopted the Sustainable City pLAn, "L.A.'s Green New Deal," which is the first four-year update since the Sustainable City pLAn was first released in 2015. The Sustainable City pLAn is a comprehensive and actionable directive from Mayor Eric Garcetti to improve the environmental, economic and equitable conditions in the City, which would be used as a tool for Mayor Garcetti to manage the City and establish visions, goals and metrics for City departments. A key principle of the Sustainable City pLAn includes a commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement and to act urgently with a scientifically-driven strategy for achieving a zero carbon grid, zero carbon transportation, zero carbon buildings, zero waste and zero wasted water. In addition, the Sustainable City pLAn accelerates targets for the use of renewable energy and reduction of municipal GHG emissions. Importantly, the Sustainable City pLAn accelerates the City's emission reduction targets – described as the 2019 Green New Deal Pathway – which calls for cutting GHGs to 50 percent below 1990 levels by 2025; 73 percent below 1990 levels by 2035; and becoming carbon neutral by 2050. By following the 2019 Green New Deal Pathway, the City would cut an additional 30 percent in GHG emissions above the goals established in the 2015 Sustainable City pLAn and ensures that the City stays within its carbon budget between now and 2050.

The proposed Project consists of beneficial reuse of stormwater to create and sustain wetlands and upland vegetation that would sequester carbon. Construction of the Project would not cause GHG emissions in excess of applicable thresholds. In addition to Project implementation being compatible with the overall GHG reduction goals of the 2019 Sustainable City pLAn, it would further be compatible with other aspects of the Sustainable City pLAn related to environmental justice, local water, and urban ecosystems and resilience goals (City of Los Angeles, 2019).

Considering the above, as well as fact that the Project's GHG emissions would be below SCAQMD's thresholds of significance, the Project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

# 3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

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

#### 3.9.1 Environmental Setting

Site investigation and response actions at Taylor Yard were historically initiated and managed by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company. Following their merger with UPRR in 1996, UPRR became the party responsible for directing response activity; reports and correspondence were subsequently addressed to them. The oldest document posted to the DTSC Envirostor portal is the "Site Investigation Report" by Environmental Resources Management (ERM). It is important to note that the Envirostor portal containing the oldest project-property documentation is that created for UPRR Parcel G-2; documentation up to the 2003 acquisition of the G-1 Bowtie Parcel by CDPR addresses both G-1 and G-2 in their pre-divided state. More recent project-property documentation is loaded to the Envirostor portal for "G-1."

ERM conducted site assessment and remediation work for UPRR to prepare G-1 for acquisition by CDPR. As documented in the August 2003 "Soil Excavation and Preliminary Endangerment Assessment Workplan" and the November 2003 "Removal Action Workplan" ERM advanced borings and collected soil samples for the purposes of pre-sale G-1 characterization. This site assessment informed the 2003 RAW.

which proposed excavation and removal of soil in four specific sub-areas of which one, referred to by ERM as Area 1, was located near the northern tip of the TNC Demonstration Project. The basis for the excavation in Area 1 was the presence of arsenic in soil in excess of background levels. ERM identifies no feature or use in the vicinity of Area 1 or the Demonstration Project boundaries as a perceived source of contamination.

More recent episodes of site characterization have been completed by Leighton and Associates (Leighton) and Weston Solutions (Weston). Leighton's 2015 sampling points were distributed across the G-1 parcel; seven sampling locations were near the Project footprint but none were actually advanced on the Project property itself. Weston's work, conducted under a USEPA Brownfield Grant, focused exclusively on the Project area; their findings are documented in the 2020 Final Phase I/II Investigation Targeted Brownfield Assessment report.

Data gap sampling was conducted on March 9 and 10, 2022 in accordance with the Amicus October 2021 "Final Work Plan for Data Gap Soil Sampling." As described in the workplan, the sampling plan was designed to evaluate the interval between the Weston surficial samples and five feet below grade. Citadel EHS (Citadel) implemented the workplan, collecting samples adjacent to each prior Weston sampling location at depths of two, four and five feet below ground surface.

Both the 2020 Weston and 2015 Leighton investigations describe the detection of hydrocarbon compounds and lead in near-surface soil at concentrations exceeding natural background levels and, in some of their samples, at concentrations exceeding regulatory agency (RWQCB and EPA) screening levels. Results of analysis of the 2022 Citadel sampling event show no concentrations of target analytes above the conservative regulatory residential screening levels at any interval tested (two, four or five feet below ground surface).

Concentrations and distribution of hydrocarbons and lead appear to be consistent with deposition from an aerial source, likely by-products of fuel combustion (diesel and leaded gasoline by highway traffic, diesel and coal by railroad engines). Results of analysis showed the lower boundary of contamination in areas identified by Weston to contain elevated concentrations of contaminants of concern as between ground surface and two feet bgs. The physical nature of the contaminants (solids) and the nature of their deposition suggest that concentrations likely attenuate rapidly with depth and in the locations detected do not exceed conservative screening levels uniformly from ground sur-face to the two-foot Citadel sampling horizon.

### 3.9.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Some materials associated with construction are considered hazardous because they are flammable and/or may contain toxic compounds, such as volatile organic compounds and heavy metals. Project construction would use gasoline, diesel fuel, hydraulic oils, and similar materials that may include hazardous characteristics. All hazardous materials and wastes associated with the proposed Project construction

would be handled, transported, and disposed of in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines. Safety Data Sheets would be made available at the construction-site for all workers as required by OSHA.

No acutely hazardous materials would be stored or used on location or at staging yards during construction. Acutely hazardous wastes are wastes that would cause death, disabling personal injury, or serious illness if exposed. These wastes are more hazardous than ordinary hazardous wastes. Minor spills or releases of ordinarily (as opposed to acutely) hazardous materials could occur due to improper handling and/or storage practices of hazardous materials during construction activities.

The proposed Project would disturb more than one-acre of land, therefore a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) would be prepared and implemented for Project construction, as required by the Construction General Permit Order (SWRCB Order No. 2009-009-DWQ). The SWPPP shall contain Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address material handling and hazardous material management, as required by the Construction General Permit. BMPs identified in the proposed Project SWPPP would be implemented during Project construction to minimize the risk of an accidental release of hazardous materials and to provide the necessary information for emergency response.

As described in Section 3.9.1, results of site testing confirmed the presence of common urban contaminants (primarily lead and petroleum hydrocarbons) in several samples of shallow soil collected within the Project site. Contaminant concentrations when compared to conservative screening thresholds applied to residential land uses were high enough to warrant removal of shallow soil prior to the development of the demonstration wetlands and ancillary facilities. A Removal Action Workplan (RAW) that details the results of the environmental assessment and proposed soil remediation component of the Project was prepared and submitted to California Department of Substances Control consistent with California Health and Safety Code Section 25323.1 (Amicus, 2023). The RAW, which is included with this IS as Appendix E recommends removal of the shallow soil across the entire Project footprint to a depth of 2 feet below ground surface.

Shallow soil would be removed using conventional excavation equipment (i.e., grader, loader, and excavator) and either directly loaded into trucks or temporarily stockpiled with appropriate permit(s) onsite then loaded into trucks for transport to an offsite receiving facility for recycling or disposal. For purposes of analyzing potential environmental impacts associated with RAW implementation within this IS, it was conservatively assumed that up to the top two feet of soil at the Project site would be excavated and removed.

The activities and processes performed during the construction of the proposed Project have the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, including but not limited to fuel/hazardous material spills during construction activities. However, compliance with applicable regulations, including the CCR Title 22, 23, 26, & 27, 29 CFR 1910.119 and California Fire Codes CFR Title 24, impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level for the proposed Project to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

With adherence to the RAW and compliance with existing regulations, the proposed Project is not expected to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. The Project would additionally remove the impacted shallow soils thereby reducing future potential of public and environmental impact from the presence of hazardous materials compared to existing site conditions.

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

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

See response to 3.9.2(b) above.

c) Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project does not include an activity with the potential to result in hazardous or acutely hazardous emissions. There is no school located within one-quarter mile of the Project site, however, it is possible that trucks hauling exported soil to the yet to be determined receiving facility could pass within a quarter mile of a school. While these exported soils could contain lead and petroleum hydrocarbons that exceed residential land use screening thresholds, concentrations present are not expected to result in a hazardous waste characterization. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Please refer to the response to 3.9.2(b) above. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is not located within two miles of an airport. No impact would occur.

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

## **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

The Project does not include a component with the potential to impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The Project would additionally be required to adhere to applicable regulations related to transportation of equipment and materials to and from the site. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

## **Finding: No Impact**

According to Los Angeles County's Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map, the Project is not located within a designated wildland fire risk area (Los Angeles County, 2023). Additionally, the Project does not include a component that has the potential to increase wildland fire risk. No impact would occur.

# 3.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	НҮ	DROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	requiren	water quality standards or waste discharge ments or otherwise substantially degrade or groundwater quality?				
b)	interfere that the	ntially decrease groundwater supplies or e substantially with groundwater recharge such e project may impede sustainable groundwater ement of the basin?				
c)	site or course	ntially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, including through the alteration of the of a stream or river or through the addition of ous surfaces, in a manner which would:  Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;  Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;  Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or  Impede or redirect flood flows.				
d)		hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release tants due to project inundation?				
e)	quality	with or obstruct implementation of a water control plan or sustainable groundwater ement plan?			$\boxtimes$	

# 3.10.1 Environmental Setting

The Project is located in the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area, defined by Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Stormwater System Permit. The Project is located along Reach 6 of the Los Angeles River.

Groundwater beneath and around the Project area is inferred to contain contamination, namely the volatile organic compounds (VOC) trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetra-chloroethylene (PCE) migrating from source areas in the valley to the north (in and around the cities of Burbank and Glendale). Taylor Yard is included in the boundary of what is referred to as Area 4 of the San Fernando Valley Superfund Site (USEPA, 2008). No indication of a source of groundwater contamination on or near the Project area has been identified and none is believed to exist. Groundwater is not expected to be encountered during Project construction and operation of the Project does not include groundwater use.

## 3.10.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Construction of the Project would involve earth disturbing activities such as grading and excavations that have the potential during precipitation events to increase erosion or introduce petroleum hydrocarbons and/or lead from impacted shallow soils into the storm drain system or Los Angeles River resulting in a violation of a water quality standard.

The Project site is under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), which administers the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for construction projects resulting in the disturbance of one acre or more. As the Project site is approximately 3.3 acres in size, a NPDES permit would be required. State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ and the NPDES permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP. SWPPPs must include a range of best management practices to reduce soil erosion such as temporary soil stabilizers, temporary sediment controls, wind erosion controls, vehicle track-out controls, waste management and materials pollution controls that substantially reduce the potential for soils and other pollutants to enter stormwater or adjacent water features such as the Los Angeles River.

Project operation would capture and treat dry-weather stormwater flows from a highly industrial and commercial area within the Upper Los Angeles River watershed area. The Project would address the primary and secondary pollutants of concern: bacteria (fecal coliform), copper (dissolved and total) and zinc (dissolved and total). Disinfection would be accomplished by a self-contained ultraviolet light disinfection system. No chemicals would be utilized on-site by any treatment equipment. The treatment equipment would collect some solids from the water. These solids would be located within the treatment equipment until such time as they can be removed by maintenance personnel. This material is non-hazardous and would be suitable for disposal in a landfill.

As the Project would only accept dry-weather flow and stormwater that would otherwise enter the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), there are no water discharge permitting triggers activated. The Project would be part of the MS4 infrastructure or a best management practice and would help the City of Los Angeles's MS4 permit compliance efforts detailed in the ULAR Enhanced Watershed Management Plan. Additionally, the requirements in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations are not applicable to the Project's irrigation use, as the Project water does not contain domestic waste such as treated municipal wastewater.

While the created wetland would include a liner that would limit the potential for dry-weather flow and stormwater to percolate into the groundwater beneath, the quality of the treated water would not degrade groundwater quality should some percolation occur. The Project would additionally be consistent with the Safe, Clean Water Program as it would assist in achieving municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit compliance, utilize Nature Based Solutions, and provide benefits to Overburdened Communities.

Considering the above, the Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality. As a result, potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project does not include the use of groundwater and would therefore have no impact on groundwater supplies. The Project entails creation of native wetland habitat and does not include the addition of large areas of impervious surfaces compared to existing site conditions. Therefore, the Project would not interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the Project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin and potential impacts would be less than significant.

- Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would;
  - i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;
  - ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;
  - iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or
  - iv. Impede or redirect flood flows.

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

All stormwater that falls on the Project site would sheet flow into the wetland for treatment and use. The Project does not include a component involving alteration of the course of a stream or river or substantial increases in impervious surfaces. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

d) Would the project in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

## **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

The Project site is not located in a 100-year flood plain (City of Los Angeles, 2023d). The Project site is additionally not located in a tsunami hazard area (California Department of Conservation, 2023) nor it is located in close proximity to a lake or similar body of water capable of producing a seiche. The Project

would additionally remove the impacted shallow soils thereby reducing a source of potential water quality contamination compared to existing site conditions. Potential impact would be less than significant.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project was approved for the Upper Los Angeles River subregion of Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) in August 2020. The Project has received support from the ULAR EWMP Watershed Management Group for its contribution towards the compliance efforts of the EWMP. The Project would result in improvements to stormwater quality prior to discharge to the Los Angeles River and would provide both ecological benefits through creation of wetland habitat and recreation/nature-based benefits to an Overburdened Community. The Project would additionally remediate impacted shallow soils thereby reducing a potential source of surface and/or groundwater contamination compared to existing site conditions. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

	LAND USE AND PLANNING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Physically divide an established community?				$\boxtimes$
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				

### 3.11.1 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located in the northwest portion of Assessor Parcel Number 5442002BRK in the City of Los Angeles (Project site), which is also referred to as the "Bowtie" parcel. Officially a part of Rio de Los Angeles State Park, the Bowtie parcel is an approximately 18-acre strip of land located on the east bank of the Los Angeles River in northeast Los Angeles. Historically, this property was part of Taylor Yard, the former headquarters of Southern Pacific Railroad. Once a bustling railyard and major local employer, Southern Pacific closed the facilities in the late 1980's and began parceling the land for future sale. After rail operations shut down, advocates, including nonprofit organizations, community groups, and government agencies, all worked to ensure the land found its way into public hands with a vision to revitalize 100 acres of the area into publicly owned park space. This collective vision is managed by the 100 Acre Partnership.

In 2003, CDPR bought the property called G-1, which is now referred to as "the Bowtie" (due to its shape), with the intent of transforming the currently undeveloped industrial land into a safe and clean, vibrant public green space focused on nature conservation and restoration, education, and providing opportunities for passive recreation (California Department of Parks and Recreation, 2022). The Project site is zoned [Q]PF-1-CDO-RIO for Public Facilities in the Community Design Overlay and River Improvement Overlay. Surrounding areas are zoned industrial and residential with concentrated commercial areas. The nearest residences are approximately 600 feet southwest and 800 feet northwest from the Project site.

#### 3.11.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

## a) Would the project physically divide an established community?

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is zoned for Public Facilities in the Community Design Overlay and River Improvement Overlay. Surrounding the site in the north, east, and west are commercial buildings. The nearest residential land use is located approximately 600 feet southwest on the opposite side of the Los Angeles River. The Project does not include a component with the potential to divide an established community and no impact would occur.

b) Would the project cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project is in Reach 6 on the Bowtie/G1 Parcel, the first of eight stages within the ARBOR Project (Area with Restoration Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization), which aims to revitalize habitats along 11 miles of the Los Angeles River. The Project is consistent with the ARBOR Project Study, Safe Clean Water Program, and existing zoning. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

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

## 3.12.1 Environmental Setting

Mining of sand and gravel began in Los Angeles around 1900 when concrete became popular as a building material. Extraction began in the Arroyo Seco and the Big Tujunga Wash. From 1920 to the present, the demand for sand and gravel has been spurred by construction associated with growth in California and the southwestern United States. Sand and gravel deposits follow the Los Angeles River flood plain, coastal plain and other water bodies and courses. Significant potential deposit sites have been identified by the state geologist. They lie along the flood plain from the San Fernando Valley through downtown. However, much of the area identified has been developed with structures and is inaccessible for mining extraction (City of Los Angeles Conservation Element, 2001). There are no known mineral resources recorded on the Project site. The closest prospect is inactive and located approximately 0.1 miles southwest of the Project site and was a past producer of sand and gravel (USGS 2022).

## 3.12.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# Finding: No Impact

There are no known mineral resources recorded on the Project site. The Project would not result in a loss of availability of a known mineral resource. No impact would occur.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site land use is zoned for Public Facilities in the Community Design Overlay and River Improvement Overlay and no known mineral resources are recorded on the Project site. Therefore, the Project would not result in a loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource. No impact would occur.

# **3.13 NOISE**

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

### 3.13.1 Environmental Setting

The decibel (dB) is the preferred unit used to measure sound levels utilizing a logarithmic scale to account for large ranges in audible sound intensities. A general rule for the decibel scale is that a ten dB increase in sound is perceived as a doubling of loudness by the human ear. For example, a 55 dB sound level will sound twice as loud as a 45 dB sound level. The average healthy person cannot detect differences of one dB whereas a five dB change is clearly noticeable.

Several sound measurement descriptors are used to assess the effects of sound on the human environment. These include the energy equivalent sound level (Leq.) which is the level of a constant sound that has the same sound energy as the actual fluctuating sound. It is similar to the average sound level. The day-night sound level, (Ldn.) is similar to the 24-hour Leq except that a ten dB penalty is added to sound levels between 10:00 pm and 7:00 am to account for the greater sensitivity of people to sound at night. The Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) also places a weighted factor on sound events occurring in the evening hours. The L90 value is the sound level (L) that is exceeded 90 percent of the time and is often used to describe the background or residual sound level.

Acoustics is defined as the science of sound, including the generation, transmission, and effects of sound waves, both audible and inaudible. Noise, on the other hand, is generally defined as loud, unpleasant, unexpected or undesired sound that disrupts or interferes with normal human activities. Although exposure to high noise levels has been demonstrated to cause hearing loss, the principal human response to environmental noise is annoyance. The objectionable nature of sound is caused by its pitch or loudness. Pitch is the height or depth of a tone or sound wave, depending on the relative rapidity (frequency) of the sound vibrations by which it is produced. Higher pitched signals sound louder to humans than sounds with a lower pitch. Loudness is intensity of sound waves combined with the reception characteristics of the ear.

Intensity is a measure of the amplitude or height of the sound wave. Frequency describes the sound's pitch and is measured in Hertz (Hz), while intensity describes the sound's loudness and is measured in dB.

The dB is the preferred unit for measuring sound that indicates the relative amplitude (height) of a particular sound wave. The zero (0) on the decibel scale is based on the lowest sound level that a healthy, unimpaired human ear can detect. Sound levels in decibels are calculated on a logarithmic scale. Thus, an increase of ten dB represents a ten—fold increase in acoustic energy, while a 20 dB increase is 100 times more intense, and a 30 dB increase is 1,000 times more intense. There is a direct relationship between the subjective noisiness or loudness of a sound and its intensity. Each ten dB increase in sound level is perceived as approximately a doubling of loudness over a fairly wide range of intensities. The A—weighted decibel (dBA) is a method of sound measurement, which assigns weighted values to selected frequency bands in an attempt to reflect how the human ear responds to sound. Definitions of common acoustical terms are summarized below in Table 14. The range of human hearing is from zero dBA (the threshold of hearing) to about 140 dBA which is the threshold of pain. Examples of noise and their dBA levels are shown in Table 15. In general, a three to five dBA change in community noise levels starts to become noticeable, while one to two dBA changes are generally not perceived. Quiet suburban areas typically have noise levels in the range of 40–50 dBA, while those along arterial streets are in the 50–60 dBA or greater range. Normal conversational levels are in the 60–65 dBA ranges.

In addition to the actual instantaneous measurements of sound levels, the duration of sound is important since sounds that occur over a long period of time are more likely to be an annoyance or cause direct physical damage or environmental stress. To analyze the overall noise levels in an area, noise events are combined for an instantaneous value or averaged over a specific time period. The time—weighted measure is referred to as equivalent sound level and represented by ).Leq The percentage of time that a given sound level is exceeded also can be designated as L10, L50, and L90. The subscript denotes the percentage of time that the noise level was exceeded during the measurement period. Namely, an L10 indicates the sound level is exceeded ten percent of the time and is generally taken to be indicative of the highest noise levels experienced at the proposed Project site. The L90 is that level exceeded 90 percent of the time and this level is often called the base level of noise at a location. The L50 sound (that level exceeded 50 percent of the time) is frequently used in noise standards and ordinances.

The scientific instrument used to measure noise is the sound level meter. Sound level meters can accurately measure environmental noise levels to within  $\pm 1$  dBA. The data is then imported into computer sound models. These computer models are used to predict environmental noise levels from sources such as roadways and airports over a given area using equal sound level contours. The accuracy of the predicted models depends upon the distance the receptor is from the noise source and natural attenuation caused by structures and other sound barriers. The closer to the noise source, the greater is the model's accuracy ( $\pm 1$ –2 dBA).

Since the sensitivity to noise increases during the evening and at night (because excessive noise interferes with the ability to sleep) 24—hour descriptors have been developed that incorporate artificial noise penalties that are added to quiet—time noise events. The CNEL is a measure of the cumulative noise exposure in a community during a 24—hour period. The Ldn is essentially the same as CNEL, with the exception that the

evening time period is dropped and all occurrences during this three-hour period are grouped into the daytime period.

Noise sources occur in two forms: 1) point sources, such as stationary equipment, loudspeakers, or individual motor vehicles; and 2) line sources, such as a roadway with a large number of point sources (motor vehicles). Sound generated by a point source typically diminishes (attenuates) at a rate of six dBA for each doubling of distance from the source to the receptor at acoustically "hard" sites and 7.5 dBA at acoustically "soft" sites (United States Department of Transportation [USDOT], Federal Highway Administration. For example, a 60 dBA noise level measured 50 feet from a point source at an acoustically hard site would be 54 dBA 100 feet from the source and 48 dBA 200 feet from the source. Sound generated by a line source typically attenuates at a rate of three dBA and 4.5 dBA per doubling of distance from the source to the receptor for hard and soft sites, respectively. Sound levels can also be attenuated by manmade or natural barriers. Solid walls, berms, or elevation differences typically reduce point and line source noise levels by five to ten dBA (USDOT, FHWA, 2006). Sound levels for a source may also be attenuated three to five dBA by a first row of houses and 1.5 dBA for each additional row of houses (T.M. Barry and J.A. Reagan, 1978).

**Table 14 Definitions of Acoustical Terms** 

Terms	Definitions
dB, Decibel	Unit of measurement of sound level
dBA, decibel A-Weighted	A unit of measurement of sound level corrected to the A—weighted scale, as defined in ANSI S1.4–1971 (R1976), using a reference level of 20 micropascals (0.00002 Newtons per square meter).
A – Weighted Scale	A sound measurement scale, which corrects the pressures of individual frequencies according to human sensitivities. The scale is based upon the fact that the region of highest sensitivity for the average ear is between 2,000 and 4,000 Hz. Sound levels are measured on a logarithmic scale in decibels, dB. The universal measure for environmental sound is the A—weighted sound level, dBA.
Hz, Hertz	Unit of measurement of frequency, numerically equal to cycles per second.
Loudness	A listener's perception of sound pressure incident in his ear.
L01, L10, L50, L90	The A-weighted noise levels that are exceeded 1%, 10%, 50%, and 90% of the time during the measurement period.
Leq, Equivalent Noise Level	Also called the equivalent continuous noise level. It is the continuous sound level that is equivalent, in terms of noise energy content, to the actual fluctuating noise existing at the location over a given period, usually one hour. Leq is usually measured in hourly intervals over long periods in order to develop 24–hour noise levels.
CNEL, Community Noise Equivalent Level	The CNEL is a measure of the cumulative noise exposure in the community, with greater weights applied to evening and night time periods. This noise descriptor is the equivalent noise level over a 24-hour period mathematically weighted during the evening and night

Terms	Definitions
	when residents are more sensitive to intrusive noise. The daytime period is from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm; evening from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm; and nighttime from 10:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A weighting factor of one dB is added to the measured day levels defined as 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, evening levels (7:00 pm to 10:00 pm) have a weighting factor of three and ten dB to the night time levels (10:00 pm to 7:00 am). The weighted levels over a 24–hour period are then averaged to produce the single number CNEL rating.
Ldn, Day/Night Noise Level	The same as CNEL except that the evening time period is not considered separately, but instead it is included as part of the daytime period. Measurements of both CNEL and Ldn in the same residential environments reveal that CNEL is usually slightly higher (by less than one dB) than Ldn due to the evening factor weighting.
Lmin, Lmax	The minimum and maximum A—weighted noise level during the measurement period.
Ambient Noise Level	The composite of noise from all sources near and far. The normal or existing level of environmental noise at a given location.
Intrusive	That noise which intrudes over and above the existing ambient noise at a given location. The relative intrusiveness of a sound depends upon its amplitude, duration, frequency, and time of occurrence and tonal or informational content as well as the prevailing ambient noise level.

**Table 15 Typical Sound Levels Measure in the Environment** 

A-Weighted Sound Level in dBA	Outdoor Examples	Indoor Examples	Subjective Impression
130	<ul> <li>Jackhammer</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Stock Car Races</li> </ul>		
120	<ul> <li>Ambulance Siren</li> <li>Leaf Blower (110 dBA)</li> <li>Rock Concert (110 dBA)</li> <li>Car Horn (110 dBA)</li> </ul>	Baby Crying on Shoulder (110 dBA)	
100	Snowmobile		Very Loud
	<ul><li>Lawnmower (96dBA)</li><li>Backhoe (75- 95 dBA)</li></ul>		

A–Weighted Sound Level in dBA	Outdoor Examples	Indoor Examples	Subjective Impression
	<ul> <li>Pile driver at 50' (90-105 dBA)</li> </ul>		
90	<ul> <li>Motorcycle at 25'</li> <li>Propeller Airplane flyover at 1000' (88 dBA)</li> <li>Diesel Truck at 50' @ 40mph</li> </ul>	Shouted Conversation      Vacuum cleaner	
80	<ul><li>(84 dBA)</li><li>Car at 25' @</li><li>65mph (77 dBA)</li></ul>	<ul> <li>(60-85 dBA)</li> <li>Garbage Disposal</li> <li>Ringing Telephone</li> <li>Living Room Music or TV (70-75 dBA)</li> </ul>	Moderately Loud
70		<ul> <li>Dishwasher (55-70 dBA)</li> <li>Normal Conversation (60-65 dBA)</li> </ul>	
60	<ul> <li>Air-conditioner at 100'</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Sewing Machine</li></ul>	
50		<ul> <li>Refrigerator</li> </ul>	
40	<ul> <li>Quiet         Residential         Area     </li> </ul>		Quiet
20	<ul> <li>Rustling of Leaves</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Whispering at 5'</li></ul>	

# 3.13.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

The City of Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide includes screening criteria that CDPR has elected to utilize for this noise analyses (City of Los Angeles, 2006). The screening criteria indicate construction activities that occur within 500 feet of a noise sensitive use or between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, before 8:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, or at any time on Sunday may require additional analysis to determine the significance of potential impacts. Projects not meeting these criteria would be considered to have no significant construction noise impact.

The nearest sensitive noise receptor to the Project site are residential land uses located approximately 650 feet west of the Project site. Project construction is not proposed between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, before 8:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, or at any time Sunday. Consequently, construction noise impacts would be less than significant to human receptors.

As discussed in Section 3.4, the Los Angeles River adjacent to the Project site contains habitat that could support threatened and/or endangered species, including but not limited to least Bell's vireo. CDFW's June 8, 2023 comment letter on the IS/MND cites literature that construction noise can cause adverse effects to wildlife at exposure levels of only 55-60 dBA. USFWS uses 60 dBA as a practical threshold above which substantial impacts to the least Bell's vireo may occur. Correspondingly, a 60 dBA threshold of significance for determining potential construction noise impacts to wildlife, including, but not limited to least Bell's vireo has been adopted for purposes of this analysis. Noise levels that could result from Project construction at the nearest suitable wildlife habitat in the adjacent Los Angeles River were estimated using a multi-point source noise attenuation model. It was assumed that all of the equipment anticipated to be necessary during the most intense construction activities all operate simultaneously. While this is unlikely to occur due to site size limitations, it provides a conservative analysis by which to analyze the Project's potential noise impacts. As shown in Appendix F (Construction Nosie Worksheet), unmitigated construction noise levels at the nearest suitable wildlife habitat in the adjacent Los Angeles River are estimated to be approximately 73.2 dBA. The Project could result in a potentially significant noise impact because construction noise levels could exceed the 60 dBA threshold of significance for wildlife. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 which includes construction schedule limitations to avoid the nesting season of sensitive bird species or installation and maintenance of a temporary sound attenuation barrier during construction shall be implemented to reduce potentially significant wildlife noise impacts to less than significant.

Noise associated with operation of the Project would be limited to an enclosed pump for the water treatment system as well as minor maintenance with hand tools/small equipment and voices from public use of the green space during daytime hours. The highest operation phase noise levels are anticipated to be from a vacuum truck used to remove settled solids from the water treatment system. However, the duration of vacuum truck operation needed to remove the settled solids would be limited and expected to only occur on one day per month. Operation of the vacuum truck associated with Project maintenance would therefore not be expected to result in a substantial increase in ambient noise levels. Project operation does not include substantial noise sources that have the potential to result in substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project. Potential construction and operation noise impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

### **Mitigation Measures**

# **BIO-4** Nesting Bird Surveys and Avoidance Measures

b) Would the project exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Vibration refers to ground borne noise and perceptible motion. Typical sources of ground borne vibration are construction activities (e.g., blasting and pile driving). Project construction would not include activities such as blasting or pile driving that would cause excessive vibration. Operation of the Project does not include a component with the potential to generate excessive ground borne vibration. Potential impacts from ground borne vibration would be less than significant.

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

## **Finding: No Impact**

The Project is not located within an airport land use plan. Consequently, the Project would not expose people to excessive airport noise. No impact would occur.

# 3.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				$\boxtimes$
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				

### 3.14.1 Environmental Setting

The City of Los Angeles has a population estimate of 3,849,297 as of 2021 (USCB, 2021). The Project site is designated for Public Facilities Land Use and there are no residences on-site. The nearest residential zoned parcels are located approximately 600 feet southwest of the Project site. The purpose of the Project is to enhance the wetland habitat and public recreation access along the Bowtie Parcel. Greenspaces such as the wetland habitat create a recreational and educational use for the community.

### 3.14.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project would not include new housing or businesses, nor does it extend roads or other infrastructure with the potential for unplanned population growth. The Project could result in the indirect construction of additional housing and commercial use as land use surrounding the Los Angeles River continues to deindustrialize with the removal of Taylor Yard. The new park space would benefit visitors both in the nearby community and outside of it. Regardless, a less than significant impact would occur as available land is limited in ability for redevelopment.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is designated for Public Facilities in the Community Design Overlay and River Improvement Overlay. Currently the Project site is a post-industrial landscape. Construction and operation of the Project would not cause displacement of people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Unhoused community members do not currently live on the Project site. No impact would occur.

# 3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

	PUBLIC SERVICES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact	
a)	a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:					
	i) Fire protection?				$\boxtimes$	
	ii) Police protection?				$\boxtimes$	
	iii) Schools?				$\boxtimes$	
	iv) Parks?					
	v) Other Public Facilities?					

## 3.15.1 Environmental Setting

#### **Fire Protection**

There are 114 Fire Stations organized into 14 Battalions in the City Los Angeles. Los Angeles Fire Department is a collective of 3,246 uniformed personnel and 353 professional support personnel. The closest department to the Location is Station 50 (LAFD, 2022) which is located approximately 0.7 miles north of the Project site.

## **Police Protection**

There are a total of 25 Police stations located in the City of Los Angeles. The closest station to the Project site is the Northeast Community Police station (LAPD, 2022) which is approximately 0.5 miles north of the Project site.

#### **Schools**

Los Angeles Unified School District is the 2nd largest public school district in the United States and has a total of more than 1,400 school and centers (FSD, 2022). The closest to the Project site is Cal Creative Learning Academy which is approximately 282 feet northeast from the Project site.

#### **Parks**

There are 510 parks within the City of L.A. (DRAP, 2022). The closest one to the Project site is the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park and the Marsh Skate Park which is located approximately 631 feet southwest in distance from the Project site and across the Los Angeles River.

#### Other Public Facilities - Libraries

The City of Los Angeles additionally operates and maintains a range of other public facilities such as public transportation (metro, buses, subways), libraries, community centers, homeless shelters, and health clinics. The closest library to the Project site is the Silver Lake Brach Library located approximately 0.94 miles southwest. There is a railroad track that services Amtrak and Metrolink located about approximately 80 feet northeast of the Project site.

### 3.15.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# i. Fire Protection

### Finding: No Impact

Fire Protection is provided by the Los Angeles Fire Department. The Project would not introduce any new residences to the City or result in the need for additional new nor altered fire protection services, and would not alter acceptable service ratios or response times based on implementation of the wetland habitat/ stormwater pre-treatment facility, and therefore, no impact would occur.

#### ii. Police Services

### **Finding: No Impact**

Police Protection is provided by the Los Angeles Police Department. The Project would not introduce any new residences to the City. Therefore, the Project would not result in the need for additional new nor altered police protection services and would not alter acceptable service ratios or response times. No impact would occur.

#### iii. Schools

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project site is within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Unified School District. The Project would not introduce any new residence to the City of Los Angeles and does include a component with the potential to increase demand for school services. The Project could be accessed by schools in the area to provide No impact would occur.

### iv. Parks

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

The Project includes public access and pathways that can serve as a recreational and educational benefit to the surrounding Overburdened Community. These improvements would be completed within the approximately 3.2-acre Project site, the potential environmental impacts of which have been analyzed within Sections 3.1 thru 3.21 of this IS/MND. Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, CR-1, CR-2, CR-3, GEO-1, GEO-2, GEO-3, TCR-1, and TCR-2 in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program in Section 4 of this IS/MND shall be implemented to reduce the Project's potential environmental impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

#### v. Other Public Facilities – Libraries?

## **Finding: No Impact**

The Project would not introduce any new residences to the City of Los Angeles. Therefore, the Project would not significantly impact the level of other public services or increase the need for other public facilities.

## 3.16 RECREATION

	RECREATION Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?			$\boxtimes$	
b)	Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?		$\boxtimes$		

### 3.16.1 Environmental Setting

There are 591 Park and Recreation Facilities in Los Angeles including parks, community centers, pools, museums, tennis courts, garden centers, senior citizen centers (DRAP, 2022). The closest park to the Project site is the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park and the Marsh Skate Park which is located approximately 631 feet southwest of the Project site.

### 3.16.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

### **Finding: Less than Significant Impact**

The Project would provide more recreational opportunities to the surrounding community as the Project provides accessible urban green spaces for public use and recreation, including paved walking paths and observations decks. The Project would be maintained during its operational life such that substantial physical deterioration of the proposed facilities and park does not result. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

### Finding: Less than Significant Impact With Mitigation

The Project consists of creating a wetland habitat and pretreatment for dry-weather flow and stormwater before it enters the Los Angeles River as well as public access improvements such as walking paths and signage. The potential environmental impacts of the public recreation and access improvements have been analyzed within Sections 3.1 thru 3.21 of this IS/MND. Mitigation Measures in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) in Section 4 of this IS/MND shall be implemented to reduce the Project's potential environmental impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

# 3.17 TRANSPORTATION

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

### 3.17.1 Environmental Setting

The City of Los Angeles has adopted programs, plans, ordinances and policies that establish the transportation planning framework for all travel modes. The overall goals of these policies are to achieve a safe, accessible and sustainable transportation system for all users. The Transportation Element of the City's General Plan, the "Mobility Plan 2035," offers a comprehensive vision and set of policies and programs the City aims to achieve to provide streets that are safe and convenient for all users. Vision Zero implements the Safety First goal of the Mobility Plan 2035, and aims to reduce transportation fatalities to zero by using extensive crash data analysis to identify priority corridors and intersections, and applying safety countermeasures.

On September 27, 2013, Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 743, which went into effect in January 2014. SB 743 directed the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop revisions to the CEQA Guidelines by July 1, 2014 to establish new criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts and define alternative metrics for traffic LOS. This started a process that changes transportation impact analysis under CEQA. These changes include elimination of auto delay, LOS, and other similar measures of vehicular capacity or traffic congestion as a basis for determining significant impacts for land use projects and plans in California. Additionally, as discussed further below, as part of SB 743, parking impacts for particular types of development projects in areas well served by transit are not considered significant impacts on the environment. According to the legislative intent contained in SB 743, these changes to current practice were necessary to "more appropriately balance the needs of congestion management with statewide goals related to infill development, promotion of public health through active transportation, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions."

On July 30, 2019, the City of Los Angeles City Council adopted the CEQA Transportation Analysis Update, which sets forth the revised thresholds of significance for evaluating transportation impacts as well as screening and evaluation criteria for determining impacts. The CEQA Transportation Analysis Update establishes VMT as the City's formal method of evaluating a project's transportation impacts. In conjunction

with this update, LA DOT adopted its Transportation Assessment Guidelines (TAG) in July 2019 and updated in July 2020, which defines the methodology for analyzing a project's transportation impacts in accordance with SB 743.

### 3.17.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

### **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

The proposed Project would include on-road vehicular traffic associated with worker trips, delivery of construction materials and fill import, and export of shallow impacted soils during the construction phase. Project operation would include on-road vehicular traffic associated with routine maintenance activities and post-construction public use of the site. The Project consists of using treated dry-weather flow and stormwater to create native wetland habitat and related public visitation opportunities in an Overburdened Community. The Project does not include a component that has the potential to conflict with the Los Angeles Mobility Plan 2035, Plan for Healthy LA, streetscape plans, Vision Zero plans, or municipal code related to transportation. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

## **Finding: No Impact**

The City of Los Angeles Transportation Assessment Guidelines includes screening criteria by which to determine if additional traffic impact analysis is required. Specifically, the City of Los Angeles guidelines specify that projects with less than 250 daily vehicle trips do not require additional analysis and a "No Impact" finding can be made pursuant with SB743 and CEQA requirements (City of Los Angeles, 2022). Tables 16 and 17 summarize the Project's potential construction and operation vehicle trips based on the CalEEMod modeling conducted for the Project.

**Table 16 Construction Phase Vehicle Trips** 

Construction Phase	Daily Vehicle Trips					
Construction Phase	Worker	Vendor	Hauling	Total		
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	15	0	87	102		
Stormwater Drain Connection and	59	23	0	82		
Treatment System Installation						
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	18	0	0	18		
Amenities	59	23	0	82		

Notes:

Hauling trips assume use of heavy-duty trucks. A passenger car equivalent of 3 has been conservatively applied to heavy-duty truck trips. A total of 29 truck trips per day are anticipated during the 45-day shallow soil removal and site preparation phase (1,284 trips total). Therefore, the 295 heavy-duty truck trips per day have a passenger car equivalency of 87 vehicle trips.

**Table 17 Operation Phase Vehicle Trips** 

Daily Vehicle Trips				
Weekday	Saturday	Sunday		
6	73	54		

Notes:

Operation vehicle trips estimated in CalEEMod using the Institute of Transportation Engineers trip generation rates for a city park and rounded to nearest whole number.

As shown in Tables 16 and 17, the Project would result in up to 102 vehicle trips per day and up to 73 vehicle trips per day during construction and operation, respectively. These daily vehicle trips are below the 250 daily vehicle trips screening level adopted by the City of Los Angeles and potential and there would be no impact related to SB 743 or VMT.

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

#### **Finding: No Impact**

The City of Los Angeles Transportation Assessment Guidelines includes screening criteria by which to determine if additional traffic impact analysis is required to evaluate whether a project would result in impacts due to geometric design hazards or incompatible uses. Specifically, the guidelines specify that further analysis would be required if a project proposes new driveways, introduces new vehicle access to the property from the public right-of way, or proposes to make any voluntary or required modifications to the public right-of-way (i.e., street dedications, reconfigurations of curb line, etc.).

Vehicular site access is available the existing entrance to the Bowtie Parcel at the end of Kerr Street. Existing access is sufficient to accommodate the Project. The Project would not include new vehicular access from the public right-of-way, nor would it require modifications to the public right-of-way. No impact would occur.

# d) Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

# **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Existing access is sufficient to accommodate emergency access to the Project site. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

### 3.18.1 Environmental Setting

AB 52 (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) requires lead agencies to consider the effects of projects on tribal cultural resources and to conduct consultation with federally and non-federally recognized Native American Tribes early in the environmental planning process. The goal of AB 52 is to include California Tribes in determining whether a project may result in a significant impact to tribal cultural resources that may be undocumented or known only to the Tribe and its members. This bill specifies that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. AB 52 defines tribal cultural resources as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe" that are either included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR or included in a local register of historical resources (PRC § 21074 (a)(1)).

AB 52 requires that prior to determining whether a Negative Declaration, MND, or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is prepared for a project, the lead agency must consult with California Native American Tribes, defined as those identified on the contact list maintained by the NAHC, who are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed Project, and who have requested such consultation in writing. Consultation must be initiated by a lead agency within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or that a decision by a public agency to undertake a project. The lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American Tribes that have requested notice. At the very least the notice should consist of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed Project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American

Tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section. The lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a California Native American Tribe's request for consultation. According to PRC §21080.3.2(b), consultation is considered concluded when either the parties agree to measure to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a tribal cultural resource, or a party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached.

### 3.18.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

- a) Would the Project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:
  - i. Listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

Please refer to Section 3.5, response (a). Potential impacts would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated

CDPR initiated a Native American Heritage Commission request on October 26, 2020 and received a response on November 9, 2020 with a positive Sacred Lands File finding, and a list of tribal organizations to contact. CDPR subsequently sent out AB 52 tribal consultation letters on February 4, 2021 to Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation, Gabrieleño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Gabrielino /Tongva Nation, and Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council.

CDPR received notification requesting consultation from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation and the Gabrieleño Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians. Additional outreach to the Gabrieleño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians resulted in no response. CDPR and Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation participated in numerous tribal resources consultations related to the Project between May 2021 and January 2023.

Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation provided background and points of interest input related to plants that could be used to support site remediation, balance between community use and ecological restoration, and species to consider for the Project site's proposed restoration plant palette. Gabrieleño

Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation expressed appreciation for the diversity of the proposed Project site plant palette and expressed interest in additional species to be considered, including feedback on species appropriate or not appropriate to be considered for vector control.

The Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation further expressed their concern about the potential for encountering tribal cultural resources during ground disturbance due to the proximity of the Los Angeles River, which was a traditional travel corridor, and recommended tribal monitoring. As a result of the consultation, CDPR determined that proposed construction-related ground disturbances could result in a potentially significant tribal cultural resources impact. Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 would therefore be implemented to reduce potential tribal cultural resources impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

### **Mitigation Measures**

TCR-1 Tribal Cultural Resources Monitoring During Construction: The Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a qualified Native American Monitor(s) during construction-related ground disturbance activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the project area.

The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal Representatives and will be present on-site during the construction phases that involve any ground disturbing activities. The Native American Monitor(s) will complete monitoring logs on a daily basis. The logs will provide descriptions of the daily activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The monitor(s) shall possess Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification. In addition, the monitor(s) will be required to provide insurance certificates, including liability insurance, for any archaeological resource(s) encountered during grading and excavation activities pertinent to the provisions outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Division 13, Section 21083.2 (a) through (k). The on-site monitoring shall end when the Project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor have indicated that the site has a low potential for archeological resources.

Based on the results of tribal consultation conducted for the Project pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 (d), the Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a qualified Tribal Monitor(s) representing the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation during construction-related ground disturbance activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the Project area.

The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation to identify their tribal cultural resources and will be present on-site during the construction phases that involve any ground disturbing activities. The Tribal Monitor(s) will complete

monitoring logs on a daily basis. The logs will provide descriptions of the daily activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The monitor(s) shall possess Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification. In addition, the monitor(s) will be required to provide insurance certificates, including liability insurance, for work conducted during grading and excavation activities pertinent to the provisions outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Division 13, Section 21084.3 (a) through (b). The on-site monitoring shall end when the Project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor have indicated that the site has a low potential for tribal cultural resources.

TCR-2 Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resources: All archaeological resources unearthed by Project construction activities shall be evaluated by the Qualified Archaeologist and Native Monitor. If the resources are Native American in origin, the Tribe shall coordinate with the landowner regarding treatment and curation of these resources. Typically, the Tribe will request reburial or preservation for educational purposes. If a resource is determined by the Qualified Archaeologist to constitute a "historical resource" pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or has a "unique archaeological resource" pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g), the Qualified Archaeologist shall coordinate with the applicant and the City to develop a formal treatment plan that would serve to reduce impacts to the resources. The treatment plan established for the resources shall be in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f) for historical resources and Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b) for unique archaeological resources. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment. If preservation in place is not feasible, treatment may include implementation of archaeological data recovery excavations to remove the resource along with subsequent laboratory processing and analysis. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin, if encountered, shall be treated appropriately according to the Secretary of Interior Standards. If such material is collected, it shall be curated at a CDPR facility public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, they shall be donated to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.

# 3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

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

### 3.19.1 Environmental Setting

The Project area is served by a number of utility and service systems which are discussed below in Section 3.19.2.Stormwater Drainage

## 3.19.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

# Finding: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

The Project includes a proposed dry-weather flow and stormwater treatment system, connection to an existing Los Angeles County storm drain system, an electrical connection with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to provide electricity to the pump station, and a backup connection to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power potable water supply system. These improvements would be completed within the approximately 3.2-acre Project site, the potential environmental impacts of which have been analyzed within this IS/MND. Mitigation Measures in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting

Program in Section 4 of this IS/MND shall be implemented to reduce the Project's potential environmental impacts to less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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

### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project would utilize treated dry-weather flow and stormwater to create and maintain native wetland habitat. While the Project includes a backup connection to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power potable water supply system, it is not anticipated that the Project would require a substantial volume of water beyond supply availability. There is additionally no foreseeable future development at the Project site that would increase water supply need. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

### **Finding: No Impact**

The Project does not include discharge of wastewater to a wastewater treatment provider. No impact would occur.

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

## **Finding: Less Than Significant Impact**

Project Construction would include the excavation and recycling, or disposal of shallow soils impacted with petroleum hydrocarbons and lead resulting in improved site conditions. Operation of the Project would involve minimal solid waste generation associated with water treatment system maintenance. The Project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

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

## Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Please refer to the response to question 3.19.2(d) above. The Project would not conflict with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.20 WILDFIRE

	WILDFIRE Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
If Id	ocated in or near state responsibility areas or lands classif	ied as very higl	n fire hazard severi	ty zones;	
a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			$\boxtimes$	
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			$\boxtimes$	
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?			$\boxtimes$	
d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				

## 3.20.1 Environmental Setting

According to Los Angeles County's Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map, the Project is not located within a designated wildland fire risk area (Los Angeles County, 2023).

### 3.20.2 Environmental Impact Analysis

- a) Would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- b) Would the project due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?
- c) Would the project require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

d) Would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

## a-d) Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project is not located within a designated wildland fire risk area. The Project does not include a component that has the potential to increase wildland fire risk. The Project additionally does not include changes to public rights-of-way or site access modifications from the adjacent public way. The Project would not impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, expose Project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire, require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk, or expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 3.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

# 3.21.1 Environmental Impact Analysis

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

## Finding: Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

Based on the evaluation completed for this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, construction of the Project has the potential to result in significant impacts as assessed in this IS/MND, but they would be mitigated based on mitigation incorporated within the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Section 4). The Project does not include a component with the potential to otherwise degrade the quality of the environment or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The Project additionally includes a long-term beneficial impact to biological resources resulting from the creation of native habitat.

b) Would the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulative considerable? ("Cumulative considerable" means that the incremental effects of a Project are considerable

when viewed in connection with the effects of past Projects, the effects of other current Projects, and the effects of probable future Projects)?

#### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

The Project involves construction and operation of native habitat and publicly-accessible green space in an Overburdened Community. As identified in the analysis, all potential impacts can be mitigated to less than significant. The Project is consistent with the land use and zoning of the site and does not include any component with the potential to result in cumulatively considerable impacts. The Project's potential cumulative impacts would be less than significant.

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

#### Finding: Less Than Significant Impact

Based on the results of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, the Project is not expected to have environmental effects, which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

# 4.0 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The following mitigation measures shall apply to the Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project to reduce identified impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
BIO-1	wildlife Pre-Construction Clearance Surveys and Biological Monitoring: Prior to ground disturbance or vegetation clearing within the proposed Project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction clearance surveys for wildlife (no more than 7 days prior to site disturbing activities) where suitable habitat is present and directly impacted by construction activities within the Project site and a 500 foot buffer (where accessible). Wildlife found within the proposed Project site or in areas potentially affected by the proposed Project shall be relocated to the nearest suitable habitat that would not be affected by the proposed Project prior to the start of construction. Special-status species found within a proposed Project impact area shall be relocated by a qualified biologist to suitable habitat outside the impact area prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities that may impact those species; this activity may be subject to prior incidental take authorization if required. Nesting birds found within the proposed Project impact areas shall be subject to buffer requirements and additional conditions as detailed below in mitigation measure BIO-4.  A qualified biologist shall be onsite during all ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities throughout the construction phase; this qualified biologist shall have experience with special-status species known to occur in the region, including least Bell's vireo. The qualified biologist(s) shall have the right to halt all activities	Surveys (and relocations, if needed) prior to ground disturbance or vegetation clearing. Monitoring during construction ground disturbances and vegetation removals.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Review and approval of pre-construction clearance biological survey reports and daily construction biological monitoring logs during ground disturbances and vegetation removals.

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
	that are in violation of the special-status species protection measures. Work shall proceed only after hazards to special-status species are removed, the species are allowed to leave, or are removed, and the species is no longer at risk. The qualified biologist(s) shall have a copy of all the compliance measures in their possession while work is being conducted onsite.				
	If required during pre-construction clearance surveys or required monitoring efforts, the qualified biologist(s) shall relocate common and special-status species that enter the proposed Project site; some special-status species may require specific permits prior to handling or have established protocols for relocation. Records of all detection, capture, and release shall be reported to CDFW and/or USFWS as appropriate. Should a federally or State listed species be discovered onsite, at any time, then activities shall be suspended, and the USFWS and/or CDFW contacted, as appropriate. Work shall not resume until coordination/consultation with the USFWS and/or CDFW has been completed, and recommended measures/ requirements have been implemented				
BIO-2	to minimize harm/harassment to the species.  Environmental Awareness Training: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit proof to CDPR that all proposed Project personnel have attended an environmental awareness and compliance training program. The training program shall present the environmental regulations and applicable permit conditions that the proposed Project team shall comply with. The training program shall include applicable measures established for the proposed Project to minimize impacts to water quality and avoid sensitive resources, habitats, and species. Subsequent training events shall be scheduled to support the training of new personnel. Dated sign-in sheets for	Prior to initial ground disturbance.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Review and approval of Environmental Awareness Training content and logs of personnel training.

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
	attendees at these meetings shall be maintained and submitted to CDPR. Copies of all training materials shall be maintained at the site for workers to reference and shall be provided in Spanish, as needed. A qualified biologist shall provide and document all trainings.				
BIO-3	Implement Best Management Practices: Implement Best Management Practices: Prior to initial ground disturbance, the Applicant shall submit grading plans and specifications to CDPR CDPR, which indicate that the proposed Project shall implement the following BMPs:  • Restrict non-essential equipment to the existing roadways and/or ruderal areas to avoid disturbance to native vegetation.  • All excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of 6 inches in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth dirt fill or wooden planks; escape ramps should be placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped wildlife. Any wildlife discovered shall be allowed to escape before construction activities are allowed to resume or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist holding the appropriate permits (if required).  • All staged equipment, staged materials (e.g., pipe) or any other construction products that could shelter small animals overnight or during periods of work inactivity, shall be inspected for wildlife prior to moving. All	Prior to initial ground disturbance.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Review and approval of plans and specifications that include required BMPs.

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
MedSuite	sections of pipe shall be visually checked for the presence of wildlife prior to being removed from the Project site. If any sections of pipes are being stored onsite for any length of time, they shall be visually checked to ensure wildlife is absent and then all ends capped to prevent wildlife entry.  • Minimize mechanical disturbance of soils to reduce impact of habitat manipulation on small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.  • Removal or disturbance of vegetation shall be minimized to the greatest extent feasible.  • Installation and maintenance of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures as needed throughout the duration of work activities.  • Implementation of a 15 miles per hour (MPH) speed limit within all proposed Project areas.  • No vehicles or equipment shall be refueled, cleaned, or maintained (e.g., oil changed), nor shall other actions (e.g., washing of tools used for painting) that could result in the release of a hazardous substance, occur within 100 feet of a drainage or wetland unless a bermed and lined refueling area is constructed that would prevent the accidental spill of fuel, oil, or chemicals. Approved/designated areas should be in a location where a spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope that drains away from the water), unless a requested exception is granted or prior written approval obtained. Spill kits shall be maintained onsite in sufficient quantity to accommodate at least three complete vehicle tank failures of 50 gallons each; any spills or discharges shall be immediately contained, cleaned up, and properly disposed.	Сопримисе	responsibility	responsibility	

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure		Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	<ul> <li>The proposed Project area shall be kept</li> </ul>				
	clear of trash to avoid attracting				
	scavengers/predators. All food and garbage				
	shall be placed in sealed containers and				
	regularly removed from the site. Following				
	construction, any trash, debris, or rubbish				
	remaining within the work limits shall be				
	collected and hauled off to an appropriate				
	facility.				
	<ul> <li>No rodent poisons or rodenticide shall be</li> </ul>				
	used to control rodents. These products,				
	even used properly, can lead to secondary				
	exposure to wildlife.				
	All work shall be performed during daylight				
	hours. No nighttime operations (including				
	lighting) shall be authorized to complete the				
	Project.				
	Work limits, as defined on Project plans,				
	shall be clearly delineated onsite (e.g., using				
	orange snow fence, silt fence, lath and				
	survey tape, etc.) prior to the start of any				
	construction activities. No work shall occur				
	outside of the approved work limits.				
	Work shall be limited to the construction				
	footprint, as outlined in the Project plans.				
	Access routes, staging areas, and the total				
	footprint of disturbance shall be limited to the				
	minimum number/size necessary to				
	complete the Project and avoid resource				
	impacts. All routes of travel and work				
	boundaries shall be configured to avoid				
	unnecessary intrusions into surrounding				
	habitat.				
	Conditions set forth in any Project-related				
	permits/approvals shall be observed and				
	implemented as part of construction.				
	No erosion control materials potentially				
	harmful to fish and wildlife species, such as				
	plastic mesh, mono-filament netting, or				

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure		Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	similar material shall be used. Erosion and				
	sediment control devices, such as erosion				
	control blankets, erosion control netting, and				
	fiber rolls, shall be made of biodegradable				
	loose-weave mesh that is not fused at the				
	intersections of the weave (i.e., jute,				
	coir/coconut fiber, or other natural fiber				
	products without welded weaves) to avoid				
	creating a wildlife entanglement hazard. In				
	addition, weed-free products shall be used to				
	minimize the spread of exotics.				
	<ul> <li>All equipment shall be cleaned of dirt and</li> </ul>				
	vegetative material prior to arrival at and				
	departure from the Project site to minimize				
	the opportunity for the spread of non-native				
	species, including noxious weeds. All				
	imported fill shall be clean/certified free of				
	invasive species				
	<ul> <li>Any non-native, weedy vegetation removed</li> </ul>				
	during the clearing and grading activities				
	shall be collected, treated, and disposed of				
	as recommended by the qualified biologist.				
BIO-4	Nesting Bird Surveys and Avoidance	Prior to initial ground	The Nature	CDPR	Review and approval
	Measures: To avoid impacts to or take of both	disturbance and during	Conservancy		of pre-ground
	common and/or special-status birds (e.g., least	construction if during			disturbance nesting
	Bell's vireo), nestlings, or their eggs, and to the	avian nesting season <del>,</del>			bird survey reports
	extent feasible, no ground-disturbing activities,	and during construction if			and daily construction
	including staging, as well as disturbances to native	nesting birds observed			monitoring logs if
	and nonnative vegetation should not occur during	within buffer distances.			nesting birds within
	the recognized breeding season from Feb 15				buffer distances.
	through September 15 (January 1 through August				Review and approval
	15 for raptors) to avoid impacts to or take of				of contractor work
	common and/or special-status birds, nestlings, or				plan for temporary
	their eggs.				sound attenuation
					barrier demonstrating
	If construction can't avoid the nesting season, then				minimum 15 decibel
	a temporary sound attenuation barrier shall be				design reduction.
	placed along the western limits of construction to				
	reduce potential construction noise levels in the				
	bed of the adjacent Los Angeles River. The				

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure		Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	construction contractor shall be responsible for				
	demonstrating the design of the temporary sound				
	attenuation barrier achieves a minimum of a 15				
	decibel reduction in noise levels.				
	Prior to initial ground disturbance or vegetation				
	removal (including construction of the sound				
	attenuation barrier), the Applicant shall provide				
	evidence to CDPR of the following. If initial site				
	disturbance is scheduled to begin during the avian				
	nesting season (February 15 through September				
	15; January 1 through August 15 for raptors),				
	breeding and nesting bird surveys shall be				
	conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 3				
	days prior to the start of site disturbance. Should				
	work be suspended or delayed for a period of				
	greater than seven 7 days (during the nesting				
	season), then the qualified biologist, at their				
	discretion, shall complete an additional nesting bird				
	survey to ensure that no additional nesting has				
	occurred within or adjacent to the Project area. If				
	construction activities carry over into a second				
	nesting season(s), the surveys shall be completed				
	annually until the proposed Project is complete.				
	Surveys shall be conducted within 500 feet of all				
	proposed Project activities.				
	The Applicant shall coordinate with <u>notify</u> USFWS				
	and/or CDFW if endangered or threatened species				
	are observed. If breeding birds with active nests				
	are found prior to or during construction, a qualified				
	biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer				
	around the nest, and no activities shall be allowed				
	within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged				
	from the nest or the nest fails; initial buffers for				
	nesting raptors shall be 500 feet;. a A buffer of				
	0.25 mile shall be used for nesting peregrine falcon				
	unless the line-of-sight from the edge of				
	development is obscured as determined by a				
	qualified ornithologist. The prescribed buffers for				
	quanned officiologist. The prescribed bullets to		1	l	

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
weasure		Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	common species may be adjusted by the qualified				
	biologist based on existing conditions around the				
	nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of				
	the species, location of nest in relation to the				
	sound attenuation barrier, and other pertinent				
	factors; for example, buffers for common				
	passerines, often found to be habituated to human				
	activity, may be adjusted down to 25 - 50 feet				
	depending on the disturbance tolerance of each				
	specific species. Buffer adjustments for listed				
	and/or other special-status species shall be done in coordination with the USFWS and CDFW as				
	applicable; nest locations within the areas				
	protected by the sound attenuation barrier will only require notification to the USFWS and CDFW. The				
	qualified biologist shall conduct regular monitoring				
	of the nest to determine success or failure and to				
	ensure that proposed Project activities are not				
	conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting				
	cycle is complete or the nest fails.				
CR-1	Worker Environmental Awareness Program:	Prior to initial ground	The Nature	CDPR	Review and approval
CK-1	Prior to construction activities, a qualified	disturbance.	Conservancy	CDFK	of Environmental
	archaeologists meeting the Secretary of the	disturbance.	Conservancy		Awareness Training
	Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for				content and logs of
	archaeology (qualified archaeologist) shall conduct				personnel training.
	cultural resources Worker environmental				personner training.
	Awareness Program (WEAP) training for all				
	construction personnel. Construction personnel				
	shall be informed of the proposer procedures for				
	treating cultural resources that may be				
	encountered during construction activities.				
CR-2	Archaeological Monitoring During	Monitoring during	The Nature	CDPR	Review and approval
	Construction: A qualified archeological monitor	construction ground	Conservancy		of daily construction
1	(working under the direct supervision of a qualified	disturbances.	Jonesia		archaeological
	archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the	diotarbariocs.			monitoring logs
	Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for				during construction
	archaeology) shall be present to monitor all				ground disturbances.
	ground-disturbing activities associated with the				ground disturbanious.
	Project.				
	110,000.				

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure		Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	The archaeological monitor shall be empowered to redirect construction activity in the event that archaeological resources are encountered, for the purposes of documenting the resource for evaluation by a qualified archaeologist. The archaeological monitor shall keep daily logs and provide updates to TNC upon request. After monitoring has been completed, the qualified archaeologist shall prepare a monitoring report that details the results of monitoring, which shall be submitted to TNC and to the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton.				
CR-3	Protection of Encountered Archaeological Resources: If a potentially significant archaeological resource is encountered, it shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist in coordination with a CDPR_cultural resources specialist. If the resource is determined to be significant, appropriate avoidance, site capping (burial), creation of conservation easements, and/or data recovery shall be implemented in accordance with Secretary of the Interior's Standards to bring the potential impact to that resource to levels less than significant.	During construction.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Coordination, review and approval of evaluation and protection measures, if warranted.
GEO-1	Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan: A paleontologist meeting professional standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) shall be retained as the Project paleontologist to oversee all aspects of paleontological mitigation, including the development and implementation of a Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PMMP) tailored to the Project plans that provides for paleontological monitoring of earthwork and ground disturbing activities into undisturbed geologic units with high paleontological potential to be conducted by a paleontological monitor meeting industry standards (Murphey et al. 2019). The PMMP should also include provisions for a Workers' Environmental Awareness Program	Prior to Project construction activities.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Review and approval of Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan and verification of content in Environmental Awareness Training.

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
	training that communicates requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of paleontological resources during construction, to be delivered by the paleontological monitor to the construction crew prior to the onset of ground disturbance. As the Project is on CDPR lands, a permit shall be required from CDPR for this work.				
GEO-2	Paleontological Monitoring During Construction: Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor for ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area. The Project paleontologist may reduce the frequency of monitoring should subsurface conditions indicate low paleontological potential.	During ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Review of daily construction paleontological monitoring logs during ground disturbances that exceed 10 feet.
GEO-3	Management of Paleontological Resources: Should a potential paleontological resource be identified in the Project area, whether by the monitor or a member of the construction crew, work shall halt in a safe radius around the find (usually 50 feet) until the Project paleontologist can assess the find and, if significant, salvage the fossil for laboratory preparation and curation at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.	During construction.	CDPR	CDPR	Preparation and approval of documentation demonstrating work pause, assessment, and salvage/curation in collaboration with Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (if necessary).
TCR-1	Tribal Cultural Resources Monitoring During Construction: The Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a qualified Native American Monitor(s) during construction-related ground disturbance activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the project area.  The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal Representatives and will be present on-site during	During construction- related ground disturbance activities.	The Nature Conservancy	CDPR	Retention of a qualified Native American Monitor(s) and review of daily monitoring records.

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure	the construction whereas that involve any survey	Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	the construction phases that involve any ground				
	disturbing activities. The Native American				
	Monitor(s) will complete monitoring logs on a daily				
	basis. The logs will provide descriptions of the				
	daily activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified.				
	The monitor(s) shall possess Hazardous Waste				
	Operations and Emergency Response				
	(HAZWOPER) certification. In addition, the				
	monitor(s) will be required to provide insurance				
	certificates, including liability insurance, for any				
	archaeological resource(s) encountered during				
	grading and excavation activities pertinent to the				
	provisions outlined in the California Environmental				
	Quality Act, California Public Resources Code				
	Division 13, Section 21083.2 (a) through (k). The				
	on site monitoring shall end when the Project site				
	grading and excavation activities are completed, or				
	when the Tribal Representatives and monitor have				
	indicated that the site has a low potential for				
	archeological resources.				
	Based on the results of tribal consultation				
	conducted for the Project pursuant to California				
	Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 (d), the				
	Project Proponent shall obtain the services of a				
	qualified Tribal Monitor(s) representing the				
	Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation				
	during construction-related ground disturbance				
	activities. Ground disturbance is defined by the				
	Tribal Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band				
	of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that				
	include, but are not limited to, pavement removal,				
	pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, weed abatement,				
	boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching,				
	within the Project area.				
	The monitor(s) must be approved by the Tribal				
	Representatives from the Gabrieleño Band of				
	Mission Indians-Kizh Nation to identify their tribal				

Mitigation	Monitoring Action	Required Time of	Implementation	Verification	Verification Method
Measure	~	Compliance	Responsibility	Responsibility	
	cultural resources and will be present on-site				
	during the construction phases that involve any				
	ground disturbing activities. The Tribal Monitor(s)				
	will complete monitoring logs on a daily basis. The				
	logs will provide descriptions of the daily activities,				
	including construction activities, locations, soil, and				
	any cultural materials identified. The monitor(s)				
	shall possess Hazardous Waste Operations and				
	Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification.				
	In addition, the monitor(s) will be required to				
	provide insurance certificates, including liability				
	insurance, for work conducted during grading and				
	excavation activities pertinent to the provisions				
	outlined in the California Environmental Quality				
	Act, California Public Resources Code Division 13,				
	Section 21084.3 (a) through (b). The on-site				
	monitoring shall end when the Project site grading				
	and excavation activities are completed, or when				
	the Tribal Representatives and monitor have				
	indicated that the site has a low potential for tribal				
	<u>cultural resources.</u>				
TCR-2	Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural	During Project	The Nature	CDPR	Retention of a
	Resources: All archaeological resources	construction.	Conservancy		qualified Native
	unearthed by Project construction activities shall				American Monitor(s)
	be evaluated by the Qualified Archaeologist and				and review of daily
	Native Monitor. If the resources are Native				monitoring records.
	American in origin, the Tribe shall coordinate with				
	the landowner regarding treatment and curation of				
	these resources. Typically, the Tribe will request				
	reburial or preservation for educational purposes. If				
	a resource is determined by the Qualified				
	Archaeologist to constitute a "historical resource"				
	pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)				
	or has a "unique archaeological resource" pursuant				
	to Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g), the				
	Qualified Archaeologist shall coordinate with the				
	applicant and the City to develop a formal				
	treatment plan that would serve to reduce impacts				
	to the resources. The treatment plan established				
	for the resources shall be in accordance with				

### Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project

Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Action	Required Time of Compliance	Implementation Responsibility	Verification Responsibility	Verification Method
	CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f) for historical resources and Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b) for unique archaeological resources.				
	Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment. If preservation in place is not feasible, treatment may include implementation of archaeological data recovery				
	excavations to remove the resource along with subsequent laboratory processing and analysis.  Any historic archaeological material that is not				
	Native American in origin shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History				
	Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, they shall be donated to a				
	local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.				

### 5.0 PREPARERS

The following individuals prepared or contributed to preparation of this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Authors of supporting technical studies and plans are provided within each respective technical report Appendix B (Biological Resources Technical Report), Appendix C (Cultural Resources Survey Report), Appendix D (Paleontological Resource Assessment), and Appendix E (Removal Action Workplan).

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Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

### **Bowtie Wetland Demonstration**

### **Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual**

### 1.0 Project Characteristics

### 1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
City Park	3.20	Acre	3.20	139,392.00	0

### 1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	Wind Speed (m/s)	2.2	Precipitation Freq (Days)	33
Climate Zone	12			Operational Year	2024
Utility Company	Los Angeles Department of	of Water & Power			
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	1227.89	CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.029	N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.006

### 1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

CalEEMod Version: CalEEMod.2016.3.2 Page 2 of 29 Date: 2/25/2023 2:14 PM

### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

Project Characteristics -

Land Use -

Construction Phase - estimated schedule

Off-road Equipment -

Trips and VMT - 1,284 haul trips for import/export

Grading - Assumed entire 3.2 acre site graded. Shallow soil removal and site prep = 10,547 cubic yards exported for impacted soil removal, 4,166 cubic yards exported from wetland site prep excavation, and 260 cubic yards of rip rap import = 14,973 cubic yards total.

Water And Wastewater -

Land Use Change -

Sequestration -

Construction Off-road Equipment Mitigation -

Area Mitigation -

Off-road Equipment -

Off-road Equipment -

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstDustMitigation	WaterUnpavedRoadVehicleSpeed	0	15
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	8.00	45.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	130.00
tblGrading	AcresOfGrading	22.50	3.20
tblGrading	MaterialExported	0.00	14,713.00
tblGrading	MaterialImported	0.00	260.00
tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	1,872.00	1,284.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	23.00	0.00

### 2.0 Emissions Summary

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### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

# 2.1 Overall Construction <u>Unmitigated Construction</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
2023	0.1409	1.3439	1.3671	3.1200e- 003	0.1921	0.0554	0.2475	0.0894	0.0518	0.1411	0.0000	278.8056	278.8056	0.0534	0.0000	280.1397
2024	0.1304	1.0925	1.3879	2.6900e- 003	0.0542	0.0474	0.1015	0.0145	0.0445	0.0590	0.0000	235.1895	235.1895	0.0439	0.0000	236.2863
Maximum	0.1409	1.3439	1.3879	3.1200e- 003	0.1921	0.0554	0.2475	0.0894	0.0518	0.1411	0.0000	278.8056	278.8056	0.0534	0.0000	280.1397

### **Mitigated Construction**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e			
Year		tons/yr											MT/yr						
2023	0.1409	1.3439	1.3671	3.1200e- 003	0.1921	0.0554	0.2475	0.0894	0.0518	0.1411	0.0000	278.8054	278.8054	0.0534	0.0000	280.1395			
2021	0.1304	1.0925	1.3879	2.6900e- 003	0.0542	0.0474	0.1015	0.0145	0.0445	0.0590	0.0000	235.1893	235.1893	0.0439	0.0000	236.2861			
Maximum	0.1409	1.3439	1.3879	3.1200e- 003	0.1921	0.0554	0.2475	0.0894	0.0518	0.1411	0.0000	278.8054	278.8054	0.0534	0.0000	280.1395			
	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e			
Percent Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			

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Quarter	Start Date	End Date	Maximum Unmitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)	Maximum Mitigated ROG + NOX (tons/quarter)
1	6-1-2023	8-31-2023	0.7393	0.7393
2	9-1-2023	11-30-2023	0.5681	0.5681
3	12-1-2023	2-29-2024	0.5089	0.5089
4	3-1-2024	5-31-2024	0.5194	0.5194
5	6-1-2024	8-31-2024	0.3684	0.3684
		Highest	0.7393	0.7393

### 2.2 Overall Operational

### **Unmitigated Operational**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category	tons/yr											MT/yr						
Area	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	! !	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005		
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
Widelie	5.5800e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0000	26.0710	26.0710	1.2600e- 003	0.0000	26.1025		
Waste			i			0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0568	0.0000	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408		
Water	F;		1 1			0.0000	0.0000	1       	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	23.5926	23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409		
Total	6.8900e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0568	49.6637	49.7206	5.1800e- 003	1.2000e- 004	49.8843		

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### 2.2 Overall Operational

### **Mitigated Operational**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category		tons/yr										MT/yr						
Area	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005		
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
Mobile	5.5800e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0000	26.0710	26.0710	1.2600e- 003	0.0000	26.1025		
Waste						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0568	0.0000	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408		
Water						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	23.5926	23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409		
Total	6.8900e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0568	49.6637	49.7206	5.1800e- 003	1.2000e- 004	49.8843		

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

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### 2.3 Vegetation

### **Vegetation**

	CO2e
Category	MT
Vegetation Land Change	0.0000
Total	0.0000

### 3.0 Construction Detail

### **Construction Phase**

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
	Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Grading	6/1/2023	8/2/2023	5	45	
	Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Building Construction	8/3/2023	11/1/2023	5	65	
	Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Building Construction	11/2/2023	5/1/2024	5	130	
4	Amenities	Building Construction	5/2/2024	7/31/2024	5	65	

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Acres of Paving: 0

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

### OffRoad Equipment

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Excavators	1	8.00	158	0.38
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Graders	1	8.00	187	0.41
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	8.00	247	0.40
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	8.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Rubber Tired Dozers	0		247	0.40
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Amenities	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Amenities	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Amenities	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45

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### **Trips and VMT**

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Shallow Soil Removal	6	15.00	0.00	1,284.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Stormwater Drain	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Wetland Habitat and	9	59.00	0.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Amenities	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

### **3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction**

### 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

### **Unmitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Fugitive Dust					0.1380	0.0000	0.1380	0.0748	0.0000	0.0748	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Off-Road	0.0385	0.4036	0.3319	6.7000e- 004		0.0174	0.0174	       	0.0160	0.0160	0.0000	58.6364	58.6364	0.0190	0.0000	59.1105
Total	0.0385	0.4036	0.3319	6.7000e- 004	0.1380	0.0174	0.1555	0.0748	0.0160	0.0908	0.0000	58.6364	58.6364	0.0190	0.0000	59.1105

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# 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	3.3800e- 003	0.1082	0.0372	4.7000e- 004	0.0110	1.9000e- 004	0.0112	3.0300e- 003	1.9000e- 004	3.2200e- 003	0.0000	46.3435	46.3435	3.1100e- 003	0.0000	46.4211
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.2800e- 003	9.2000e- 004	0.0108	3.0000e- 005	3.7000e- 003	3.0000e- 005	3.7300e- 003	9.8000e- 004	3.0000e- 005	1.0100e- 003	0.0000	3.1024	3.1024	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.1044
Total	4.6600e- 003	0.1091	0.0480	5.0000e- 004	0.0147	2.2000e- 004	0.0150	4.0100e- 003	2.2000e- 004	4.2300e- 003	0.0000	49.4459	49.4459	3.1900e- 003	0.0000	49.5256

### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Fugitive Dust					0.1380	0.0000	0.1380	0.0748	0.0000	0.0748	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	0.0385	0.4036	0.3319	6.7000e- 004		0.0174	0.0174		0.0160	0.0160	0.0000	58.6363	58.6363	0.0190	0.0000	59.1104
Total	0.0385	0.4036	0.3319	6.7000e- 004	0.1380	0.0174	0.1555	0.0748	0.0160	0.0908	0.0000	58.6363	58.6363	0.0190	0.0000	59.1104

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# 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

### **Mitigated Construction Off-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	3.3800e- 003	0.1082	0.0372	4.7000e- 004	0.0110	1.9000e- 004	0.0112	3.0300e- 003	1.9000e- 004	3.2200e- 003	0.0000	46.3435	46.3435	3.1100e- 003	0.0000	46.4211
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	1.2800e- 003	9.2000e- 004	0.0108	3.0000e- 005	3.7000e- 003	3.0000e- 005	3.7300e- 003	9.8000e- 004	3.0000e- 005	1.0100e- 003	0.0000	3.1024	3.1024	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.1044
Total	4.6600e- 003	0.1091	0.0480	5.0000e- 004	0.0147	2.2000e- 004	0.0150	4.0100e- 003	2.2000e- 004	4.2300e- 003	0.0000	49.4459	49.4459	3.1900e- 003	0.0000	49.5256

# 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0511	0.4675	0.5279	8.8000e- 004		0.0227	0.0227		0.0214	0.0214	0.0000	75.3365	75.3365	0.0179	0.0000	75.7846
Total	0.0511	0.4675	0.5279	8.8000e- 004		0.0227	0.0227		0.0214	0.0214	0.0000	75.3365	75.3365	0.0179	0.0000	75.7846

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# 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category		tons/yr MT/yr														
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	1.6200e- 003	0.0530	0.0170	1.8000e- 004	4.7100e- 003	6.0000e- 005	4.7700e- 003	1.3600e- 003	6.0000e- 005	1.4200e- 003	0.0000	17.6920	17.6920	9.6000e- 004	0.0000	17.7161
Worker	7.2700e- 003	5.2500e- 003	0.0614	1.9000e- 004	0.0210	1.6000e- 004	0.0212	5.5800e- 003	1.5000e- 004	5.7300e- 003	0.0000	17.6264	17.6264	4.5000e- 004	0.0000	17.6378
Total	8.8900e- 003	0.0582	0.0784	3.7000e- 004	0.0257	2.2000e- 004	0.0259	6.9400e- 003	2.1000e- 004	7.1500e- 003	0.0000	35.3184	35.3184	1.4100e- 003	0.0000	35.3539

### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0511	0.4675	0.5279	8.8000e- 004		0.0227	0.0227		0.0214	0.0214	0.0000	75.3365	75.3365	0.0179	0.0000	75.7845
Total	0.0511	0.4675	0.5279	8.8000e- 004		0.0227	0.0227		0.0214	0.0214	0.0000	75.3365	75.3365	0.0179	0.0000	75.7845

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# 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Mitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	1.6200e- 003	0.0530	0.0170	1.8000e- 004	4.7100e- 003	6.0000e- 005	4.7700e- 003	1.3600e- 003	6.0000e- 005	1.4200e- 003	0.0000	17.6920	17.6920	9.6000e- 004	0.0000	17.7161
Worker	7.2700e- 003	5.2500e- 003	0.0614	1.9000e- 004	0.0210	1.6000e- 004	0.0212	5.5800e- 003	1.5000e- 004	5.7300e- 003	0.0000	17.6264	17.6264	4.5000e- 004	0.0000	17.6378
Total	8.8900e- 003	0.0582	0.0784	3.7000e- 004	0.0257	2.2000e- 004	0.0259	6.9400e- 003	2.1000e- 004	7.1500e- 003	0.0000	35.3184	35.3184	1.4100e- 003	0.0000	35.3539

### 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0330	0.3021	0.3411	5.7000e- 004		0.0147	0.0147		0.0138	0.0138	0.0000	48.6790	48.6790	0.0116	0.0000	48.9685
Total	0.0330	0.3021	0.3411	5.7000e- 004		0.0147	0.0147		0.0138	0.0138	0.0000	48.6790	48.6790	0.0116	0.0000	48.9685

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# 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr							
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
' '	4.7000e- 003	3.3900e- 003	0.0397	1.3000e- 004	0.0136	1.1000e- 004	0.0137	3.6100e- 003	1.0000e- 004	3.7000e- 003	0.0000	11.3894	11.3894	2.9000e- 004	0.0000	11.3967		
Total	4.7000e- 003	3.3900e- 003	0.0397	1.3000e- 004	0.0136	1.1000e- 004	0.0137	3.6100e- 003	1.0000e- 004	3.7000e- 003	0.0000	11.3894	11.3894	2.9000e- 004	0.0000	11.3967		

### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr							
	0.0330	0.3021	0.3411	5.7000e- 004		0.0147	0.0147		0.0138	0.0138	0.0000	48.6789	48.6789	0.0116	0.0000	48.9684		
Total	0.0330	0.3021	0.3411	5.7000e- 004		0.0147	0.0147		0.0138	0.0138	0.0000	48.6789	48.6789	0.0116	0.0000	48.9684		

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# 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr							
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		
' '	4.7000e- 003	3.3900e- 003	0.0397	1.3000e- 004	0.0136	1.1000e- 004	0.0137	3.6100e- 003	1.0000e- 004	3.7000e- 003	0.0000	11.3894	11.3894	2.9000e- 004	0.0000	11.3967		
Total	4.7000e- 003	3.3900e- 003	0.0397	1.3000e- 004	0.0136	1.1000e- 004	0.0137	3.6100e- 003	1.0000e- 004	3.7000e- 003	0.0000	11.3894	11.3894	2.9000e- 004	0.0000	11.3967		

### 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
Category	tons/yr										MT/yr							
Off-Road	0.0648	0.5915	0.7113	1.1900e- 003		0.0270	0.0270		0.0254	0.0254	0.0000	102.0136	102.0136	0.0241	0.0000	102.6167		
Total	0.0648	0.5915	0.7113	1.1900e- 003	·	0.0270	0.0270		0.0254	0.0254	0.0000	102.0136	102.0136	0.0241	0.0000	102.6167		

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## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	9.3300e- 003	6.4800e- 003	0.0775	2.6000e- 004	0.0285	2.2000e- 004	0.0287	7.5600e- 003	2.0000e- 004	7.7600e- 003	0.0000	23.1236	23.1236	5.6000e- 004	0.0000	23.1376
Total	9.3300e- 003	6.4800e- 003	0.0775	2.6000e- 004	0.0285	2.2000e- 004	0.0287	7.5600e- 003	2.0000e- 004	7.7600e- 003	0.0000	23.1236	23.1236	5.6000e- 004	0.0000	23.1376

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0648	0.5915	0.7113	1.1900e- 003		0.0270	0.0270		0.0254	0.0254	0.0000	102.0135	102.0135	0.0241	0.0000	102.6166
Total	0.0648	0.5915	0.7113	1.1900e- 003		0.0270	0.0270		0.0254	0.0254	0.0000	102.0135	102.0135	0.0241	0.0000	102.6166

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## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Worker	9.3300e- 003	6.4800e- 003	0.0775	2.6000e- 004	0.0285	2.2000e- 004	0.0287	7.5600e- 003	2.0000e- 004	7.7600e- 003	0.0000	23.1236	23.1236	5.6000e- 004	0.0000	23.1376
Total	9.3300e- 003	6.4800e- 003	0.0775	2.6000e- 004	0.0285	2.2000e- 004	0.0287	7.5600e- 003	2.0000e- 004	7.7600e- 003	0.0000	23.1236	23.1236	5.6000e- 004	0.0000	23.1376

## 3.5 Amenities - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0478	0.4369	0.5254	8.8000e- 004		0.0199	0.0199		0.0188	0.0188	0.0000	75.3510	75.3510	0.0178	0.0000	75.7964
Total	0.0478	0.4369	0.5254	8.8000e- 004		0.0199	0.0199		0.0188	0.0188	0.0000	75.3510	75.3510	0.0178	0.0000	75.7964

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3.5 Amenities - 2024

<u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	1.5800e- 003	0.0528	0.0165	1.8000e- 004	4.7100e- 003	6.0000e- 005	4.7700e- 003	1.3600e- 003	6.0000e- 005	1.4200e- 003	0.0000	17.6215	17.6215	9.5000e- 004	0.0000	17.6453
Worker	6.8900e- 003	4.7900e- 003	0.0572	1.9000e- 004	0.0210	1.6000e- 004	0.0212	5.5800e- 003	1.5000e- 004	5.7300e- 003	0.0000	17.0799	17.0799	4.2000e- 004	0.0000	17.0903
Total	8.4700e- 003	0.0575	0.0737	3.7000e- 004	0.0257	2.2000e- 004	0.0259	6.9400e- 003	2.1000e- 004	7.1500e- 003	0.0000	34.7014	34.7014	1.3700e- 003	0.0000	34.7356

## **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Off-Road	0.0478	0.4369	0.5254	8.8000e- 004		0.0199	0.0199		0.0188	0.0188	0.0000	75.3509	75.3509	0.0178	0.0000	75.7963
Total	0.0478	0.4369	0.5254	8.8000e- 004		0.0199	0.0199		0.0188	0.0188	0.0000	75.3509	75.3509	0.0178	0.0000	75.7963

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3.5 Amenities - 2024

<u>Mitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							МТ	/yr		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Vendor	1.5800e- 003	0.0528	0.0165	1.8000e- 004	4.7100e- 003	6.0000e- 005	4.7700e- 003	1.3600e- 003	6.0000e- 005	1.4200e- 003	0.0000	17.6215	17.6215	9.5000e- 004	0.0000	17.6453
Worker	6.8900e- 003	4.7900e- 003	0.0572	1.9000e- 004	0.0210	1.6000e- 004	0.0212	5.5800e- 003	1.5000e- 004	5.7300e- 003	0.0000	17.0799	17.0799	4.2000e- 004	0.0000	17.0903
Total	8.4700e- 003	0.0575	0.0737	3.7000e- 004	0.0257	2.2000e- 004	0.0259	6.9400e- 003	2.1000e- 004	7.1500e- 003	0.0000	34.7014	34.7014	1.3700e- 003	0.0000	34.7356

## 4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

## **4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile**

#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
1 ~	5.5800e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0000	26.0710	26.0710	1.2600e- 003	0.0000	26.1025
1 - 3	5.5800e- 003	0.0258	0.0726	2.8000e- 004	0.0244	2.2000e- 004	0.0247	6.5500e- 003	2.0000e- 004	6.7500e- 003	0.0000	26.0710	26.0710	1.2600e- 003	0.0000	26.1025

## **4.2 Trip Summary Information**

	Avei	rage Daily Trip Ra	ate	Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
City Park	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378
Total	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378

## **4.3 Trip Type Information**

		Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpos	e %
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
City Park	16.60	8.40	6.90	33.00	48.00	19.00	66	28	6

#### 4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	МН
City Park	0.545348	0.044620	0.206559	0.118451	0.015002	0.006253	0.020617	0.031756	0.002560	0.002071	0.005217	0.000696	0.000850

## 5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

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## **5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Electricity Mitigated						0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Electricity Unmitigated	1					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Mitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	,	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
NaturalGas Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	,	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas <u>Unmitigated</u>

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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# **5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas Mitigated**

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 5.3 Energy by Land Use - Electricity <u>Unmitigated</u>

	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr		MT	/yr	
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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## 5.3 Energy by Land Use - Electricity Mitigated

	Electricity Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kWh/yr		МТ	-/yr	
City Park		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 6.0 Area Detail

## **6.1 Mitigation Measures Area**

No Hearths Installed

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	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					ton	s/yr							MT	<sup>-</sup> /yr		
Willigatoa	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005
Orimingatou	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005

## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

## <u>Unmitigated</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory					ton	s/yr							MT	/yr		
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Consumer Products	1.3100e- 003		1 1			0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	0.0000	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005
Total	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005

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## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

#### **Mitigated**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory					ton	s/yr							МТ	/yr		
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Dilibarior	1.3100e- 003		1       			0.0000	0.0000	1   	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Landscaping	0.0000	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	1   	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005
Total	1.3100e- 003	0.0000	4.0000e- 005	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005	8.0000e- 005	0.0000	0.0000	8.0000e- 005

## 7.0 Water Detail

## 7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

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	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category		МТ	√yr	
Mitigated	1 20.0020	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409
Unmitigated	1	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409

## 7.2 Water by Land Use Unmitigated

	Indoor/Out door Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal		МТ	-/yr	
City Park	0 / 3.81274	23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409
Total		23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409

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## 7.2 Water by Land Use

#### **Mitigated**

	Indoor/Out door Use	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	Mgal		MT	/yr	
City Park	0 / 3.81274	23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409
Total		23.5926	5.6000e- 004	1.2000e- 004	23.6409

## 8.0 Waste Detail

## 8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

## Category/Year

	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
		MT	/yr	
wiiigatod	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408
Unmitigated	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

8.2 Waste by Land Use <u>Unmitigated</u>

	Waste Disposed	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	tons		МТ	-/yr	
City Park	0.28	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408
Total		0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408

#### **Mitigated**

	Waste Disposed	Total CO2	1 CO2 CH4 N2O C							
Land Use	tons		MT	/yr						
City Park	0.28	0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408					
Total		0.0568	3.3600e- 003	0.0000	0.1408					

## 9.0 Operational Offroad

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

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Annual

## **10.0 Stationary Equipment**

## **Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators**

|--|

#### **Boilers**

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

## **User Defined Equipment**

Equipment Type	Number
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

## 11.0 Vegetation

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	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category		M	IT .	
Unmitigated	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 11.1 Vegetation Land Change

**Vegetation Type** 

	Initial/Fina I	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e				
	Acres	MT							
Wetlands	0/2	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000				
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000				

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Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

#### **Bowtie Wetland Demonstration**

#### **Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer**

## 1.0 Project Characteristics

#### 1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
City Park	3.20	Acre	3.20	139,392.00	0

## 1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	Wind Speed (m/s)	2.2	Precipitation Freq (Days)	33
Climate Zone	12			Operational Year	2024
Utility Company	Los Angeles Department of	of Water & Power			
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	1227.89	CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.029	N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.006

#### 1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

Project Characteristics -

Land Use -

Construction Phase - estimated schedule

Off-road Equipment -

Trips and VMT - 1,284 haul trips for import/export

Grading - Assumed entire 3.2 acre site graded. Shallow soil removal and site prep = 10,547 cubic yards exported for impacted soil removal, 4,166 cubic yards exported from wetland site prep excavation, and 260 cubic yards of rip rap import = 14,973 cubic yards total.

Water And Wastewater -

Land Use Change -

Sequestration -

Construction Off-road Equipment Mitigation -

Area Mitigation -

Off-road Equipment -

Off-road Equipment -

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstDustMitigation	WaterUnpavedRoadVehicleSpeed	0	15
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	8.00	45.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	130.00
tblGrading	AcresOfGrading	22.50	3.20
tblGrading	MaterialExported	0.00	14,713.00
tblGrading	MaterialImported	0.00	260.00
tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	1,872.00	1,284.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	23.00	0.00

#### 2.0 Emissions Summary

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 2.1 Overall Construction (Maximum Daily Emission)

#### **Unmitigated Construction**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year					lb/d	day							lb/d	lay		
2023	1.9159	22.6626	18.7619	0.0523	6.8018	0.7847	7.5865	3.5053	0.7222	4.2276	0.0000	5,318.594 9	5,318.594 9	1.0835	0.0000	5,345.681 1
2024	1.7295	15.1785	18.5327	0.0387	0.8067	0.6201	1.4268	0.2173	0.5832	0.8005	0.0000	3,765.372 9	3,765.372 9	0.6506	0.0000	3,781.637 0
Maximum	1.9159	22.6626	18.7619	0.0523	6.8018	0.7847	7.5865	3.5053	0.7222	4.2276	0.0000	5,318.594 9	5,318.594 9	1.0835	0.0000	5,345.681 1

#### **Mitigated Construction**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year		•			lb/	'day	•	•				•	lb/	'day		
2023	1.9159	22.6626	18.7619	0.0523	6.8018	0.7847	7.5865	3.5053	0.7222	4.2276	0.0000	5,318.594 9	5,318.594 9	1.0835	0.0000	5,345.681 1
2024	1.7295	15.1785	18.5327	0.0387	0.8067	0.6201	1.4268	0.2173	0.5832	0.8005	0.0000	3,765.372 9	3,765.372 9	0.6506	0.0000	3,781.637 0
Maximum	1.9159	22.6626	18.7619	0.0523	6.8018	0.7847	7.5865	3.5053	0.7222	4.2276	0.0000	5,318.594 9	5,318.594 9	1.0835	0.0000	5,345.681 1
	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e
Percent Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 2.2 Overall Operational Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	lay		
Area	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.1057	0.4439	1.3452	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1240	532.1240	0.0249		532.7470
Total	0.1129	0.4439	1.3456	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1247	532.1247	0.0249	0.0000	532.7477

#### **Mitigated Operational**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Area	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.1057	0.4439	1.3452	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1240	532.1240	0.0249		532.7470
Total	0.1129	0.4439	1.3456	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1247	532.1247	0.0249	0.0000	532.7477

#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

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

#### 3.0 Construction Detail

#### **Construction Phase**

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
	Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Grading	6/1/2023	8/2/2023	5	45	
	Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Building Construction	8/3/2023	11/1/2023	5	65	
	Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Building Construction	11/2/2023	5/1/2024	5	130	
4	Amenities	Building Construction	5/2/2024	7/31/2024	5	65	

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Acres of Paving: 0

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

OffRoad Equipment

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# Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer ad Equipment Type Amount Usage Hours Horse Power Load

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Excavators	1	8.00	158	0.38
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Graders	1	8.00	187	0.41
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	8.00	247	0.40
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	8.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Rubber Tired Dozers	0		247	0.40
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Amenities	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Amenities	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Amenities	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45

## **Trips and VMT**

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Shallow Soil Removal	6	15.00	0.00	1,284.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Stormwater Drain	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Wetland Habitat and	9	59.00	0.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Amenities	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

## **3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction**

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

#### **Unmitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Fugitive Dust	 				6.1351	0.0000	6.1351	3.3241	0.0000	3.3241			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297		0.7749	0.7749		0.7129	0.7129		2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2
Total	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297	6.1351	0.7749	6.9101	3.3241	0.7129	4.0370		2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/e	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.1485	4.6906	1.6215	0.0210	0.4990	8.5000e- 003	0.5075	0.1368	8.1300e- 003	0.1449		2,287.131 6	2,287.131 6	0.1503		2,290.888 1
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.0566	0.0361	0.5133	1.5900e- 003	0.1677	1.2800e- 003	0.1689	0.0445	1.1700e- 003	0.0456		158.7723	158.7723	4.1000e- 003		158.8748
Total	0.2051	4.7267	2.1348	0.0226	0.6666	9.7800e- 003	0.6764	0.1813	9.3000e- 003	0.1906		2,445.903 9	2,445.903 9	0.1544		2,449.763 0

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Fugitive Dust					6.1351	0.0000	6.1351	3.3241	0.0000	3.3241			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297		0.7749	0.7749	 	0.7129	0.7129	0.0000	2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291	 	2,895.918 2
Total	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297	6.1351	0.7749	6.9101	3.3241	0.7129	4.0370	0.0000	2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

#### **Mitigated Construction Off-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.1485	4.6906	1.6215	0.0210	0.4990	8.5000e- 003	0.5075	0.1368	8.1300e- 003	0.1449		2,287.131 6	2,287.131 6	0.1503		2,290.888 1
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.0566	0.0361	0.5133	1.5900e- 003	0.1677	1.2800e- 003	0.1689	0.0445	1.1700e- 003	0.0456		158.7723	158.7723	4.1000e- 003		158.8748
Total	0.2051	4.7267	2.1348	0.0226	0.6666	9.7800e- 003	0.6764	0.1813	9.3000e- 003	0.1906		2,445.903 9	2,445.903 9	0.1544		2,449.763 0

## 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997	I I	0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0487	1.6113	0.4988	5.6700e- 003	0.1473	1.8600e- 003	0.1491	0.0424	1.7800e- 003	0.0442		606.9871	606.9871	0.0319		607.7839
Worker	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161		624.9077
Total	0.2712	1.7534	2.5179	0.0119	0.8067	6.8800e- 003	0.8136	0.2173	6.4000e- 003	0.2237		1,231.491 5	1,231.491 5	0.0480		1,232.691 5

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Mitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/c	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0487	1.6113	0.4988	5.6700e- 003	0.1473	1.8600e- 003	0.1491	0.0424	1.7800e- 003	0.0442		606.9871	606.9871	0.0319		607.7839
Worker	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161		624.9077
Total	0.2712	1.7534	2.5179	0.0119	0.8067	6.8800e- 003	0.8136	0.2173	6.4000e- 003	0.2237		1,231.491 5	1,231.491 5	0.0480		1,232.691 5

#### 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000
Worker	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161	       	624.9077
Total	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161		624.9077

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	lay		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000
Worker	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161	     	624.9077
Total	0.2225	0.1421	2.0191	6.2700e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		624.5044	624.5044	0.0161		624.9077

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	lay		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148	       	605.5202
Total	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148		605.5202

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148		605.5202
Total	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148		605.5202

## 3.5 Amenities - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

3.5 Amenities - 2024

<u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/c	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0475	1.6052	0.4836	5.6400e- 003	0.1473	1.8400e- 003	0.1491	0.0424	1.7600e- 003	0.0442		604.5238	604.5238	0.0314		605.3092
Worker	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148		605.5202
Total	0.2580	1.7347	2.3659	0.0117	0.8067	6.7800e- 003	0.8135	0.2173	6.3100e- 003	0.2236		1,209.674 0	1,209.674 0	0.0462		1,210.829 4

## **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

3.5 Amenities - 2024

<u>Mitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0475	1.6052	0.4836	5.6400e- 003	0.1473	1.8400e- 003	0.1491	0.0424	1.7600e- 003	0.0442		604.5238	604.5238	0.0314		605.3092
Worker	0.2105	0.1296	1.8822	6.0700e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		605.1502	605.1502	0.0148		605.5202
Total	0.2580	1.7347	2.3659	0.0117	0.8067	6.7800e- 003	0.8135	0.2173	6.3100e- 003	0.2236		1,209.674 0	1,209.674 0	0.0462		1,210.829 4

## 4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

## **4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile**

#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	day		
Mitigated	0.1057	0.4439	1.3452	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1240	532.1240	0.0249		532.7470
Unmitigated	0.1057	0.4439	1.3452	5.2200e- 003	0.4454	3.8600e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.5800e- 003	0.1228		532.1240	532.1240	0.0249		532.7470

## **4.2 Trip Summary Information**

	Avei	age Daily Trip Ra	nte	Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
City Park	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378
Total	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378

## **4.3 Trip Type Information**

		Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpos	e %
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
City Park	16.60	8.40	6.90	33.00	48.00	19.00	66	28	6

#### 4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	МН
City Park	0.545348	0.044620	0.206559	0.118451	0.015002	0.006253	0.020617	0.031756	0.002560	0.002071	0.005217	0.000696	0.000850

## 5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## **5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy**

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

# **5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas Unmitigated**

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## **5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas**

#### **Mitigated**

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	1 1 1	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 6.0 Area Detail

## **6.1 Mitigation Measures Area**

No Hearths Installed

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	lay		
	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004

## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

## <u>Unmitigated</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	7.1800e- 003		1 1 1			0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000		,	0.0000
Landscaping	3.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000	,	7.5000e- 004
Total	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

#### **Mitigated**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e		
SubCategory	lb/day											lb/day						
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000		
Consumer Products	7.1800e- 003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000		
Landscaping	3.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004		
Total	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004		

#### 7.0 Water Detail

#### 7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

#### 8.0 Waste Detail

#### 8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

## 9.0 Operational Offroad

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Days/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
= 4		110 0.10 1.1	- 2, 2, 1, 22			, , , ,

## 10.0 Stationary Equipment

#### **Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators**

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Summer

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

#### **Boilers**

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

## **User Defined Equipment**

Equipment Type	Number

## 11.0 Vegetation

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Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## **Bowtie Wetland Demonstration**

#### Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 1.0 Project Characteristics

## 1.1 Land Usage

Land Uses	Size	Metric	Lot Acreage	Floor Surface Area	Population
City Park	3.20	Acre	3.20	139,392.00	0

## 1.2 Other Project Characteristics

Urbanization	Urban	Wind Speed (m/s)	2.2	Precipitation Freq (Days)	33
Climate Zone	12			Operational Year	2024
Utility Company	Los Angeles Department	of Water & Power			
CO2 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	1227.89	CH4 Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.029	N2O Intensity (lb/MWhr)	0.006

#### 1.3 User Entered Comments & Non-Default Data

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

Project Characteristics -

Land Use -

Construction Phase - estimated schedule

Off-road Equipment -

Trips and VMT - 1,284 haul trips for import/export

Grading - Assumed entire 3.2 acre site graded. Shallow soil removal and site prep = 10,547 cubic yards exported for impacted soil removal, 4,166 cubic yards exported from wetland site prep excavation, and 260 cubic yards of rip rap import = 14,973 cubic yards total.

Water And Wastewater -

Land Use Change -

Sequestration -

Construction Off-road Equipment Mitigation -

Area Mitigation -

Off-road Equipment -

Off-road Equipment -

Table Name	Column Name	Default Value	New Value
tblConstDustMitigation	WaterUnpavedRoadVehicleSpeed	0	15
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	65.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	8.00	45.00
tblConstructionPhase	NumDays	230.00	130.00
tblGrading	AcresOfGrading	22.50	3.20
tblGrading	MaterialExported	0.00	14,713.00
tblGrading	MaterialImported	0.00	260.00
tblTripsAndVMT	HaulingTripNumber	1,872.00	1,284.00
tblTripsAndVMT	VendorTripNumber	23.00	0.00

#### 2.0 Emissions Summary

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 2.1 Overall Construction (Maximum Daily Emission)

#### **Unmitigated Construction**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Year					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
2023	1.9264	22.6994	18.6266	0.0518	6.8018	0.7849	7.5867	3.5053	0.7225	4.2278	0.0000	5,269.593 5	5,269.593 5	1.0875	0.0000	5,296.780 8
2024	1.7577	15.1853	18.4060	0.0382	0.8067	0.6202	1.4269	0.2173	0.5833	0.8006	0.0000	3,713.737 9	3,713.737 9	0.6514	0.0000	3,730.023 5
Maximum	1.9264	22.6994	18.6266	0.0518	6.8018	0.7849	7.5867	3.5053	0.7225	4.2278	0.0000	5,269.593 5	5,269.593 5	1.0875	0.0000	5,296.780 8

## **Mitigated Construction**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e				
Year	lb/day											lb/day								
2023	1.9264	22.6994	18.6266	0.0518	6.8018	0.7849	7.5867	3.5053	0.7225	4.2278	0.0000	5,269.593 4	5,269.593 4	1.0875	0.0000	5,296.780 8				
2024	1.7577	15.1853	18.4060	0.0382	0.8067	0.6202	1.4269	0.2173	0.5833	0.8006	0.0000	3,713.737 9	3,713.737 9	0.6514	0.0000	3,730.023 5				
Maximum	1.9264	22.6994	18.6266	0.0518	6.8018	0.7849	7.5867	3.5053	0.7225	4.2278	0.0000	5,269.593 4	5,269.593 4	1.0875	0.0000	5,296.780 8				
	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio-CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N20	CO2e				
Percent Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 2.2 Overall Operational Unmitigated Operational

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	day		
Area	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	1       	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.1023	0.4531	1.2799	4.9700e- 003	0.4454	3.8700e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e- 003	0.1228		506.5479	506.5479	0.0249		507.1704
Total	0.1095	0.4531	1.2802	4.9700e-	0.4454	3.8700e-	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e-	0.1228		506.5486	506.5486	0.0249	0.0000	507.1711

#### **Mitigated Operational**

003

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/e	lb/day										
Area	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Energy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mobile	0.1023	0.4531	1.2799	4.9700e- 003	0.4454	3.8700e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e- 003	0.1228		506.5479	506.5479	0.0249		507.1704
Total	0.1095	0.4531	1.2802	4.9700e- 003	0.4454	3.8700e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e- 003	0.1228		506.5486	506.5486	0.0249	0.0000	507.1711

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

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

#### 3.0 Construction Detail

#### **Construction Phase**

Phase Number	Phase Name	Phase Type	Start Date	End Date	Num Days Week	Num Days	Phase Description
	Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Grading	6/1/2023	8/2/2023	5	45	
2	Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Building Construction	8/3/2023	11/1/2023	5	65	
	Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Building Construction	11/2/2023	5/1/2024	5	130	
4	Amenities	Building Construction	5/2/2024	7/31/2024	5	65	

Acres of Grading (Site Preparation Phase): 0

Acres of Grading (Grading Phase): 0

Acres of Paving: 0

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

OffRoad Equipment

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8.00

46

0.45

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Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Type	Amount	Usage Hours	Horse Power	Load Factor
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Excavators	1	8.00	158	0.38
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Graders	1;	8.00	187	0.41
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	8.00	247	0.40
Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	8.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Rubber Tired Dozers	0		247	0.40
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Cranes	1	7.00	231	0.29
Amenities	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Amenities	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74
Amenities	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	7.00	97	0.37
Amenities	Welders	1	8.00	46	0.45
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Cranes	1:	7.00	231	0.29
Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation	Forklifts	3	8.00	89	0.20
Wetland Habitat and Landscape	Generator Sets	1	8.00	84	0.74

#### **Trips and VMT**

Wetland Habitat and Landscape

Welders

Installation

Installation

#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

Phase Name	Offroad Equipment Count	Worker Trip Number	Vendor Trip Number	Hauling Trip Number	Worker Trip Length	Vendor Trip Length	Hauling Trip Length	Worker Vehicle Class	Vendor Vehicle Class	Hauling Vehicle Class
Shallow Soil Removal	6	15.00	0.00	1,284.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Stormwater Drain	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Wetland Habitat and	9	59.00	0.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT
Amenities	9	59.00	23.00	0.00	14.70	6.90	20.00	LD_Mix	HDT_Mix	HHDT

## **3.1 Mitigation Measures Construction**

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

#### **Unmitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
Fugitive Dust					6.1351	0.0000	6.1351	3.3241	0.0000	3.3241		i i	0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297		0.7749	0.7749		0.7129	0.7129		2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2
Total	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297	6.1351	0.7749	6.9101	3.3241	0.7129	4.0370		2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.1522	4.7236	1.6908	0.0206	0.4990	8.7300e- 003	0.5077	0.1368	8.3600e- 003	0.1451		2,247.394 4	2,247.394 4	0.1546		2,251.258 4
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.0633	0.0400	0.4677	1.5000e- 003	0.1677	1.2800e- 003	0.1689	0.0445	1.1700e- 003	0.0456		149.5081	149.5081	3.8500e- 003		149.6043
Total	0.2155	4.7635	2.1585	0.0221	0.6666	0.0100	0.6766	0.1813	9.5300e- 003	0.1908		2,396.902 5	2,396.902 5	0.1584		2,400.862 7

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Fugitive Dust					6.1351	0.0000	6.1351	3.3241	0.0000	3.3241			0.0000			0.0000
Off-Road	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297		0.7749	0.7749	 	0.7129	0.7129	0.0000	2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291	 	2,895.918 2
Total	1.7109	17.9359	14.7507	0.0297	6.1351	0.7749	6.9101	3.3241	0.7129	4.0370	0.0000	2,872.691 0	2,872.691 0	0.9291		2,895.918 2

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.2 Shallow Soil Removal and Site Preparation - 2023

#### **Mitigated Construction Off-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/c	lay		
Hauling	0.1522	4.7236	1.6908	0.0206	0.4990	8.7300e- 003	0.5077	0.1368	8.3600e- 003	0.1451		2,247.394 4	2,247.394 4	0.1546		2,251.258 4
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.0633	0.0400	0.4677	1.5000e- 003	0.1677	1.2800e- 003	0.1689	0.0445	1.1700e- 003	0.0456		149.5081	149.5081	3.8500e- 003		149.6043
Total	0.2155	4.7635	2.1585	0.0221	0.6666	0.0100	0.6766	0.1813	9.5300e- 003	0.1908		2,396.902 5	2,396.902 5	0.1584		2,400.862 7

## 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

# 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0512	1.6040	0.5432	5.5100e- 003	0.1473	1.9600e- 003	0.1492	0.0424	1.8700e- 003	0.0443		590.5050	590.5050	0.0337		591.3480
Worker	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151		588.4435
Total	0.3001	1.7612	2.3826	0.0114	0.8067	6.9800e- 003	0.8137	0.2173	6.4900e- 003	0.2238		1,178.570 2	1,178.570 2	0.0489		1,179.791 4

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

# 3.3 Stormwater Drain Connection and Treatment System Installation - 2023

**Mitigated Construction Off-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0512	1.6040	0.5432	5.5100e- 003	0.1473	1.9600e- 003	0.1492	0.0424	1.8700e- 003	0.0443		590.5050	590.5050	0.0337		591.3480
Worker	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151		588.4435
Total	0.3001	1.7612	2.3826	0.0114	0.8067	6.9800e- 003	0.8137	0.2173	6.4900e- 003	0.2238		1,178.570 2	1,178.570 2	0.0489		1,179.791 4

#### 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584		2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000
Worker	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151	       	588.4435
Total	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151		588.4435

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1
Total	1.5728	14.3849	16.2440	0.0269		0.6997	0.6997		0.6584	0.6584	0.0000	2,555.209 9	2,555.209 9	0.6079		2,570.406 1

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2023 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000
Worker	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151	       	588.4435
Total	0.2489	0.1572	1.8394	5.9000e- 003	0.6595	5.0200e- 003	0.6645	0.1749	4.6200e- 003	0.1795		588.0651	588.0651	0.0151		588.4435

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 <u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	       	0.0000
Worker	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139	       	570.1709
Total	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139		570.1709

#### **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 3.4 Wetland Habitat and Landscape Installation - 2024 Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Worker	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139		570.1709
Total	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139		570.1709

## 3.5 Amenities - 2024

**Unmitigated Construction On-Site** 

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769		2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

3.5 Amenities - 2024

<u>Unmitigated Construction Off-Site</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0499	1.5982	0.5267	5.4900e- 003	0.1473	1.9200e- 003	0.1492	0.0424	1.8400e- 003	0.0442		588.2148	588.2148	0.0332		589.0450
Worker	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139		570.1709
Total	0.2862	1.7415	2.2391	0.0112	0.8067	6.8600e- 003	0.8136	0.2173	6.3900e- 003	0.2237		1,158.039 0	1,158.039 0	0.0471		1,159.215 9

## **Mitigated Construction On-Site**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
Off-Road	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7
Total	1.4716	13.4438	16.1668	0.0270		0.6133	0.6133		0.5769	0.5769	0.0000	2,555.698 9	2,555.698 9	0.6044		2,570.807 7

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

3.5 Amenities - 2024

Mitigated Construction Off-Site

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/o	day							lb/d	day		
Hauling	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000
Vendor	0.0499	1.5982	0.5267	5.4900e- 003	0.1473	1.9200e- 003	0.1492	0.0424	1.8400e- 003	0.0442		588.2148	588.2148	0.0332		589.0450
Worker	0.2362	0.1433	1.7124	5.7200e- 003	0.6595	4.9400e- 003	0.6644	0.1749	4.5500e- 003	0.1795		569.8242	569.8242	0.0139		570.1709
Total	0.2862	1.7415	2.2391	0.0112	0.8067	6.8600e- 003	0.8136	0.2173	6.3900e- 003	0.2237		1,158.039 0	1,158.039 0	0.0471		1,159.215 9

## 4.0 Operational Detail - Mobile

## **4.1 Mitigation Measures Mobile**

#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
Mitigated	0.1023	0.4531	1.2799	4.9700e- 003	0.4454	3.8700e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e- 003	0.1228		506.5479	506.5479	0.0249		507.1704
Unmitigated	0.1023	0.4531	1.2799	4.9700e- 003	0.4454	3.8700e- 003	0.4493	0.1192	3.6000e- 003	0.1228		506.5479	506.5479	0.0249		507.1704

## **4.2 Trip Summary Information**

	Avei	rage Daily Trip Ra	ate	Unmitigated	Mitigated
Land Use	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Annual VMT	Annual VMT
City Park	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378
Total	6.05	72.80	53.57	64,378	64,378

## **4.3 Trip Type Information**

		Miles			Trip %			Trip Purpos	e %
Land Use	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	H-W or C-W	H-S or C-C	H-O or C-NW	Primary	Diverted	Pass-by
City Park	16.60	8.40	6.90	33.00	48.00	19.00	66	28	6

#### 4.4 Fleet Mix

Land Use	LDA	LDT1	LDT2	MDV	LHD1	LHD2	MHD	HHD	OBUS	UBUS	MCY	SBUS	МН
City Park	0.545348	0.044620	0.206559	0.118451	0.015002	0.006253	0.020617	0.031756	0.002560	0.002071	0.005217	0.000696	0.000850

## 5.0 Energy Detail

Historical Energy Use: N

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## **5.1 Mitigation Measures Energy**

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

# **5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas Unmitigated**

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	СО	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					lb/d	day							lb/c	lay		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## **5.2 Energy by Land Use - NaturalGas**

#### **Mitigated**

	NaturalGa s Use	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Land Use	kBTU/yr					lb/d	day							lb/c	day		
City Park	0	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	1 1 1	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## 6.0 Area Detail

## **6.1 Mitigation Measures Area**

No Hearths Installed

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## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
Category					lb/d	day							lb/d	lay		
Mitigated	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
1 · '	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004

## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

## <u>Unmitigated</u>

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
	7.1800e- 003					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	3.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Total	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004

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#### Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

## 6.2 Area by SubCategory

#### **Mitigated**

	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	Fugitive PM10	Exhaust PM10	PM10 Total	Fugitive PM2.5	Exhaust PM2.5	PM2.5 Total	Bio- CO2	NBio- CO2	Total CO2	CH4	N2O	CO2e
SubCategory					lb/d	day							lb/d	day		
Architectural Coating	0.0000					0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Consumer Products	7.1800e- 003		1 1 1			0.0000	0.0000	1 1 1 1 1	0.0000	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000
Landscaping	3.0000e- 005	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000	1 1 1 1 1	0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004
Total	7.2100e- 003	0.0000	3.3000e- 004	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		0.0000	0.0000		7.0000e- 004	7.0000e- 004	0.0000		7.5000e- 004

#### 7.0 Water Detail

## 7.1 Mitigation Measures Water

#### 8.0 Waste Detail

#### 8.1 Mitigation Measures Waste

## 9.0 Operational Offroad

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

## 10.0 Stationary Equipment

#### **Fire Pumps and Emergency Generators**

## Bowtie Wetland Demonstration - Los Angeles-South Coast County, Winter

Equipment Type	Number	Hours/Day	Hours/Year	Horse Power	Load Factor	Fuel Type
<u>Boilers</u>						
Equipment Type	Number	Heat Input/Day	Heat Input/Year	Boiler Rating	Fuel Type	

## **User Defined Equipment**

Equipment Type	Number
101 00 21 0	

## 11.0 Vegetation

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project			
	APPENDIX B BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL REPORT		
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## **Bowtie Demonstration Project**

Biological Resources Technical Report

January 13, 2023

Prepared for:

The Nature Conservancy 445 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1950 Los Angeles, CA 90071

Prepared by:

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 290 Conejo Ridge Avenue Thousand Oaks, California 91361

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## **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

BGEPA Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

BRTR Biological Resource Technical Report

BSA Biological Study Area

CCC California Coastal Commission

CCH Consortium of California Herbaria

CCMP California Coastal Management Program

CDFG California Department of Fish and Game

CDFW California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

CFS Cubic Feet Per Second

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CNDDB California Natural Diversity Database

CNPS California Native Plant Society

CRPR California Rare Plant Rank

CWA Clean Water Act

DCH Designated Critical Habitat

ESA Endangered Species Act

FGC California Fish and Game Code

FR Federal Register

GPS Global Positioning System

JSA Jurisdictional Survey Area

LA Los Angeles

LSAA Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement

MBTA Migratory Bird Treaty Act

MCVII second edition of The Manual for California Vegetation



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#### Acronyms and Abbreviations

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

NPPA Native Plant Protection Act

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

RWQCB Regional Water Quality Control Board

SEA Significant Ecological Area

Secretary Secretary of the Interior

SSC Species of Special Concern

TNC The Nature Conservancy

USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers

USC United States Code

USFWS U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

USGS U.S. Geological Survey

WOTS Waters of the State

WOTUS Waters of the United States



#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Biological Resources Technical Report (BRTR) is intended to document the biological resources that are associated with the Bowtie Parcel Project (Project) located in the City of Los Angeles, California (Appendix A, Figure 1). The surveys conducted and the discussions presented in this BRTR are intended to support planning and regulatory agency permitting and associated documentation. Reconnaissance surveys were conducted by Stantec biologists on November 21, 2022, within accessible portions of the Project Area and within a surrounding 300-foot buffer zone. This approximate 79-acre area is defined as the Biological Study Area (BSA) (Appendix A, Figure 2). This BRTR describes the existing environmental conditions that occur within the BSA and surrounding areas and evaluates the potential for biological resources to occur based on those conditions, with a special emphasis on special-status plant and wildlife species, wildlife corridors, and special-status and sensitive natural communities.

#### 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project is located in the City of Los Angeles, California, between the communities of Glassel Park and Elysian Valley, approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the I-5 and Glendale Fwy intersection. Specifically, the Project is located within the Bowtie Parcel, a partial concrete post-industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River (Figure 1). The Project Area covers the entire parcel, except for a small portion in the northwestern corner that was surveyed for the Bowtie Demonstration Project in May of 2022.

The Project is surrounded by industrial and residential land uses in the north and east, with a few concentrated commercial areas in the vicinity; railroad tracks bordering the east of the Parcel are active for Amtrak, Metrolink and freight trains.

A photographic log is provided in Appendix B which depicts representative environmental conditions within the Project Area.

#### 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project will be led by The Nature Conservancy in partnership with California State Parks. The Bowtie Parcel is an 18-acre strip of land located on the east bank of the Los Angeles River in northeast Los Angeles and is a sub-unit of Rio de Los Angeles State Park. The purpose of this project is to transform a neglected brownfield into a natural public green space providing the surrounding communities and the greater city of Los Angeles with much-needed outdoor recreation opportunities and access to the Los Angeles River. The property is generally bound by California State Route 2 (SR-2) to the northwest, the Union Pacific Railroad to the north and east, and the Los Angeles River to the south and west. The Bowtie parcel was a part of Taylor Yard, the former headquarters of Southern Pacific Railroad. Taylor Yard is comprised of several parcels and the Bowtie parcel is referenced as the G1 parcel. Vehicles enter the parcel by an entrance off Kerr Street on the northern portion of the Project Area. Project implementation will require soil remediation to address previous site contamination associated with the



Biological Resources Technical Report

#### 2.0 Methodologies

former use as a railroad maintenance facility. Park improvements would consist of the construction of a park entry, an internal vehicular access road, parking lots, trails and boardwalks, open native grass/turf areas, native habitat plantings, restrooms, a welcome area, and picnic tables and benches. The Bowtie Project will create a direct connection and access to the Glendale Narrows section of the Los Angeles River and complements two additional projects planned for the site by creating and facilitating access among these projects: the Stormwater Demonstration Project (in partnership with the Nature Conservancy) and the Paseo del Rio Riverfront Trail Project (in partnership with the Mountains Recreation and Conservancy Authority and City of Los Angeles).

Additional goals of the Project are to increase outdoor recreational park space to underserved and economically disadvantaged residents in the Project vicinity; provide an experience of urban river and habitat restoration for the local community as well as for the region, nation, and globe; reestablish access to the river for indigenous communities who regard the area as a sacred land; restore and enhance natural habitat along the Los Angeles River, including wetlands, to attract birds and wildlife; provide educational opportunities with respect to historical, cultural, and environmental considerations; and advance the goals of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Policy documents, including the Rio de Los Angeles General Plan and Los Angeles River Master Plan (LARMP), have acknowledged the need for a reimagined and revitalized Los Angeles River and is a critical component of fulfilling the ecosystem restoration goals identified in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (ARBOR).

The site includes utility rights of way and easements held the City of Los Angeles, LA County Flood Control District, Southern Pacific Telecommunications Company, and Southern Pacific Railroad. Due diligence research shows these easements do not impact the ability to develop the Bowtie as a natural open space park and they can be integrated seamlessly into the design of the park.

Because the Bowtie is located along the Pacific Flyway, a critical migratory bird path, the park's plant palette will be predominately native with an emphasis on habitat for wildlife. Park infrastructure will include utilities, lighting, fencing, and security measures.

#### 2.0 METHODOLOGIES

This biological resources assessment of the BSA included, but was not limited to, a literature review, reconnaissance-level survey, non-protocol survey to detect the presence of special-status plant and wildlife species, and a non-protocol avian survey to document the presence of birds, including federal and state threatened or endangered listed species, if present. Stantec Biologists conducted the initial reconnaissance-level surveys on November 21, 2022. Prior to the survey, a preliminary literature review of readily available resources was performed. The survey was conducted on foot within the BSA, where accessible, based on terrain and availability of public access.



Biological Resources Technical Report

2.0 Methodologies

## 2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

A literature search focused on the BSA was conducted prior to the field survey. The BSA is located within the USGS Venice, California, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. A search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was conducted in the BSA and a surrounding 10-mile buffer area to determine special-status plants, wildlife, and vegetation communities that have been documented within the vicinity of the BSA (CDFW 2022). The database included portions of the following quadrangles surrounding the BSA:

- Beverly Hills
- Burbank
- Condor Peak
- Inglewood
- Hollywood
- Los Angeles
- South Gate

- Whittier
- Pasadena
- Mt Wilson
- El Monte
- Sunland
- Van Nuys

Stantec obtained a list of federally listed species and species that are proposed or are candidates for federal listing with the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Project Area, using the Information for Planning and Consultation tool on December 9, 2022. Additional data regarding the potential occurrence of special-status species and policies relating to these special-status natural resources were gathered from the following sources:

- State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California (CDFW 2022b)
- Special Animals List (CDFW 2022c)
- State and Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California (CDFW 2022d)
- California Sensitive Natural Communities (CDFW 2021)
- Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS 2022)
- Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH 2022)

## 2.2 BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND HABITAT ASSESSMENT

# 2.2.1 Site Reconnaissance and Wildlife Surveys

Stantec conducted a habitat assessment and reconnaissance-level surveys to document the environmental conditions present within the BSA. The primary goal of these initial surveys was to identify and assess habitat that may be capable of supporting special-status plant or wildlife species and determine the potential need for additional focused surveys for special-status resources. Biologists recorded all incidental plant and wildlife observations. However, this assessment did not include focused, protocol-level surveys for rare plants or wildlife or other special-status resources.



Biological Resources Technical Report

### 2.0 Methodologies

The survey was conducted on November 21, 2022, during a season and time of day when resident and migratory birds would be expected to be present and exhibiting normal activity, small mammals would be active and detectable visually or by sign, and above-ground amphibian and reptile movement would generally be detectable. However, it should be noted that some wildlife species and individuals may have been difficult to detect due to their elusive nature, cryptic morphology, or nocturnal behavior. Furthermore, some bird species normally present during the summer may not have been present because of their winter migratory behavior. The survey was conducted during daylight hours when temperatures were such that reptiles and other wildlife would be active (i.e., between 65-95 degrees Fahrenheit).

The BSA was investigated on foot (where accessible) by experienced field biologists walking throughout publicly accessible areas at an average pace of approximately one mile per hour while visually scanning for wildlife and their sign and listening to wildlife songs and calls. Biologists paused as necessary to listen for wildlife or to identify, record, or enumerate any observed species. Species present were identified and recorded through direct visual observation, sound, or their sign (e.g., scat, tracks, etc.). Species identifications conform to the most up-to-date field guides and technical literature.

# 2.2.2 Vegetation Mapping

Vegetation descriptions and nomenclature are based on the second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation* (MCVII) (Sawyer et al. 2009), where applicable, and have been defined to the alliance level. Vegetation maps were prepared by recording tentative vegetation type boundaries over recent aerial photograph base maps using the ESRI Collector for ArcGIS app on an Apple iPad coupled with a Bad Elf GNSS Surveyor sub-meter external global positioning system (GPS) unit. Mapping was further refined in the office using ESRI ArcGIS (version 10.7) with aerial photograph base maps with an accuracy of 1 foot. Most boundaries shown on the maps are accurate within approximately 3 feet; however, boundaries between some vegetation types are less precise due to difficulties in interpreting aerial imagery and accessing stands of vegetation.

Vegetation communities can overlap in many characteristics and over time may shift from one community type to another. All vegetation maps and descriptions are subject to variability for the following reasons:

In some cases, vegetation boundaries result from distinct events, such as wildfire or flooding, but vegetation types usually tend to integrate on the landscape, without precise boundaries between them. Even distinct boundaries caused by fire or flood can be disguised after years of post-disturbance succession. Mapped boundaries represent best professional judgment, but usually should not be interpreted as literal delineations between sharply defined vegetation types.

Natural vegetation tends to exist in generally recognizable types, but also may vary over time and geographic region. Written descriptions cannot reflect all local or regional variation. Many (perhaps most) stands of natural vegetation do not strictly fit into any named type. Therefore, a mapped unit is given the best name available in the classification system being used, but this name does not imply that the vegetation unambiguously matches written descriptions.

Vegetation tends to be patchy. Small patches of one named type are often included within larger stands mapped as units of another type.



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2.0 Methodologies

# 2.2.3 Aquatic Resources

A formal jurisdictional waters delineation per US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) guidelines was not conducted as part of this assessment. The BSA was evaluated for potential waters subject to jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code (FGC), California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) regulations (Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 401 and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Waste Discharge Requirement), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) CWA Section 404 regulations. Prior to conducting the field assessment, Stantec reviewed current and historic aerial imagery, topographic maps, soil maps (USDA, 2020), local and state hydric soils lists, and the National Wetlands Inventory (USFWS, 2020a) to evaluate the potential active channels and wetland features that occur within the BSA. During the field assessment, hydrologic features were noted and mapped later via aerial imagery. Field data were further manipulated in the office using GIS. The results of the assessment are summarized below in Section 4.4.



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3.0 Regulatory Environment

# 3.0 REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

## 3.1 FEDERAL REGULATIONS

# 3.1.1 Federal Endangered Species Act

Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) provisions protect federally listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats from unlawful "take" and ensure that federal actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of Designated Critical Habitat (DCH). Under FESA, take is defined as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any of the specifically enumerated conduct." The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regulations define harm to mean "an act which actually kills or injures wildlife." Such an act "may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering" (50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Section 17.3).

DCH is defined in FESA Section 3(5)(A) as "(i) the specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species on which are found those physical or biological features: (I) essential to the conservation of the species; (II) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (ii) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species upon a determination by the Secretary of Commerce or the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species." The effects analyses for DCH must consider the role of the critical habitat in both the continued survival and the eventual recovery (i.e., the conservation) of the species in question, consistent with the recent Ninth Circuit judicial opinion, *Gifford Pinchot Task Force v. USFWS*.

Activities that may result in "take" of listed species are regulated by USFWS. USFWS produced an updated list of candidate species December 2, 2016 (81 Federal Register [FR] 87246). Candidate species are not afforded any legal protection under FESA; however, candidate species typically receive special attention from federal and state agencies during the environmental review process.

# 3.1.2 Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (16 United States Code [USC] 703-711) makes it unlawful to possess, buy, sell, purchase, barter or take any migratory bird listed in Title 50 of CFR Part 10. Take is defined as possession or destruction of migratory birds, their nests, and eggs. Disturbances that cause nest abandonment or loss of reproductive effort or the loss of habitats upon which these birds depend may be a violation of the MBTA. The MBTA prohibits killing, possessing, or trading in migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary. The MBTA encompasses whole birds, parts of birds, bird nests, and eggs.



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# 3.1.3 Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 USC 668)

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) of 1940 (16 USC 668, enacted by 54 Stat. 250) protects bald and golden eagles by prohibiting the taking, possession, and commerce of such birds and establishes civil penalties for violation of this Act. Take of bald and golden eagles is defined as follows: "disturb means to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior" (72 FR 31132; 50 CFR 22.3).

USFWS is the primary federal authority charged with the management of golden eagles in the U.S. A permit for take of golden eagles, including take from disturbance such as loss of foraging habitat, may be required for this Project. USFWS guidance on the applicability of current BGEPA statutes and mitigation is currently under review. On November 10, 2009, the USFWS updated rules (74 FR 46835) governing the take of golden and bald eagles. The new rules were released under the existing BGEPA, which has been the primary regulatory protection for unlisted eagle populations since 1940.

All activities that may disturb or incidentally take an eagle or its nest as a result of an otherwise legal activity must be permitted by the USFWS under this act. If a permit is required, due to the current uncertainty on the status of golden eagle populations in the western U.S., it is expected that permits would only be issued for safety emergencies or if conservation measures implemented in accordance with a permit would result in a reduction of ongoing take or a net take of zero.

## 3.1.4 Federally Regulated Habitats

Areas that meet the regulatory definition of "waters of the United States" are subject to the jurisdiction of the USACE under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (1972). "Navigable waters of the United States" are subject to jurisdiction under Section 10 of the RHA (1899). WOTUS may include all waters used or potentially used for interstate commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, all interstate waters, all other waters (e.g., intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, playa lakes, natural ponds, etc.), all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as WOTUS, tributaries of waters otherwise defined as WOTUS, territorial seas, and wetlands (i.e., "Special Aquatic Sites") adjacent to WOTUS (33 CFR, Section 328.3).

Construction activities within WOTUS are regulated by USACE. For example, the placement of fill into such waters must comply with permit requirements of USACE. No USACE permit would be effective in the absence of State Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA. As a part of the permit process, the USACE works directly with the USFWS to assess potential project impacts on biological resources.

# 3.1.5 National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires all federal agencies to examine the environmental impacts of their actions, incorporate environmental information, and use public



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### 3.0 Regulatory Environment

participation in the planning and implementation of all actions. Federal agencies must integrate NEPA into other planning requirements and prepare appropriate NEPA documents to facilitate better environmental decision-making. NEPA requires federal agencies to review and comment on federal agency environmental plans and documents when the agency has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impacts involved (42 USC 4321- 4327; 40 CFR 1500-1508).

## 3.2 STATE REGULATIONS

## 3.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes state policy to prevent significant and avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in projects through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures. CEQA applies to actions directly undertaken, financed, or permitted by state lead agencies. Regulations for implementation are found in the CEQA Guidelines published by the California Natural Resources Agency. These guidelines establish an overall process for the environmental evaluation of projects.

# 3.2.2 California Endangered Species Act

Provisions of the California Endangered Species Act protect state-listed threatened and endangered species. The CDFW regulates activities that may result in take of individuals (i.e., take is defined as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill"). Habitat degradation or modification is not expressly included in the definition of take under the California Fish and Game Code (FGC). Additionally, the FGC contains lists of vertebrate species designated as "fully protected" (FGC Sections 3511 [birds], 4700 [mammals], 5050 [reptiles and amphibians], and 5515 [fish]). Such species may not be taken or possessed.

In addition to federal and State-listed species, the CDFW also has produced a list of Species of Special Concern (SSC), Fully Protected (FP), and Watch List (WL) species to serve as a "watch list." Species on these lists are of limited distribution or the extent of their habitats has been reduced substantially, such that threat to their populations may be imminent. SSC may receive special attention during environmental review, but they do not have statutory protection. Fully Protected species may not be possessed or taken under any circumstances, and no incidental take permits are issued by CDFW for "take" of these species.

Birds of prey are protected in California under the FGC. FGC Section 3503.5 states that it is "unlawful to 'take', possess, or destroy any birds of prey (in the order Falconiformes or Strigiformes) or to 'take', possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Construction disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort is considered take by the CDFW. Under Sections 3503 and 3503.5 of the FGC, activities that would result in the taking, possessing, or destroying of any birds-of-prey, taking or possessing of any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA, or the taking, possessing, or needlessly destroying of the nest or eggs of any raptors or non-game birds protected by the MBTA, or the taking of any non-game bird pursuant to FGC Section 3800 are prohibited.



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### 3.2.3 Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code

Section 1602 of the FGC requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility which proposes a project that will substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake, or use materials from a streambed, or result in the disposal or deposition of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it can pass into any river, stream, or lake, to first notify the CDFW of the proposed project. This includes rivers or streams that flow at least periodically or permanently through a bed or channel with banks that support fish or other aquatic life and watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that support or have supported riparian vegetation. Based on the notification materials submitted, the CDFW would determine whether the proposed project may impact fish or wildlife resources.

If the CDFW determines that a proposed project may substantially adversely affect existing fish or wildlife resources, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) would be required. A completed CEQA document must be submitted to CDFW before an LSAA would be issued.

# 3.2.4 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) regulate the "discharge of waste" to "waters of the state" (WOTS). All projects proposing to discharge waste that could affect WOTS must file a Waste Discharge Report with the appropriate RWQCB. The board responds to the report by issuing Waste Discharge Requirements or by waiving them for that project discharge. Both terms "discharge of waste" and WOTS are broadly defined such that discharges of waste include fill, any material resulting from human activity, or any other "discharge." Isolated wetlands within California, which are no longer considered WOTUS, as defined by Section 404 of the CWA, are addressed under the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The Project Area falls under the jurisdiction of the Region 4 – Los Angeles RWQCB.

## 3.2.5 State-Regulated Habitats

The California State Water Resources Control Board is the state agency (together with the RWQCBs) charged with implementing water quality certification in California. See section 3.1.6 above.

### 3.2.6 Native Plant Protection Act

Under FGC Sections 1900 to 1913, the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) requires all state agencies to use their authority to carry out programs to conserve endangered and rare native plants. Provisions of NPPA prohibit the taking of listed plants from the wild and require notification of the CDFW at least 10 days in advance of any change in land use. This allows CDFW to salvage listed plant species that would otherwise be destroyed. A project applicant is required to conduct botanical inventories and consult with CDFW during project planning to comply with the provisions of the NPPA and sections of CEQA that apply to rare or endangered plants.



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## 3.3 LOCAL REGULATIONS

# 3.3.1 Los Angeles County General Plan – Chapter 9, Conservation and Natural Resources Element

### 3.3.1.1 Open Space Resources Component

The Open Space Resources Component of the Conservation and Natural Resources Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan contains policies and programs that are designed to preserve and manage dedicated open space areas through preservation, acquisition, and easements.

The Goals and Policies relative to natural resources that apply to the BSA are as follows:

Goal 1: Open space areas that meet the diverse needs of Los Angeles County

**Policy 1.2**: Protect and conserve natural resources, natural areas, and available open spaces

**Policy C/NR 1.4**: Create, support and protect an established network of dedicated open space areas that provide regional connectivity, between the southwestern extent of the Tehachapi Mountains to the Santa Monica Mountains, and from the southwestern extent of the Mojave Desert to Puente Hills and Chino Hills.

**Policy 1.5**: Provide and improve access to dedicated open space and natural areas for all users that considers sensitive biological resources

### 3.3.1.2 Biological Resources Component

The Biological Resources Component of the Conservation and Natural Resources Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan contains policies and practices which are designed to preserve biotic diversity, monitor Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs), and coordinate environmental protection.

The Goals and Policies relative to biological resources that apply to the BSA are as follows:

**Goal 3:** Permanent, sustainable preservation of genetically and physically diverse biological resources and ecological systems including: habitat linkages, forests, coastal zone, riparian habitats, streambeds, wetlands, woodlands, alpine habitat, chaparral, shrublands, and SEAs.

**Policy 3.3**: Restore upland communities and significant riparian resources, such as degraded streams, rivers, and wetlands to maintain ecological function- acknowledging the importance of incrementally restoring ecosystem values when complete restoration is not feasible.

**Policy 3.6**: Assist state and federal agencies and other agencies, as appropriate, with the preservation of special status species and their associated habitat and wildlife movement corridors through the administration of the SEAs and other programs.



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**Policy 3.7**: Participate in inter-jurisdictional collaborative strategies that protect biological resources.

### 3.3.1.3 Local Water Resources Component

The Local Water Resources Component of the Conservation and Natural Resources Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan contains policies and practices that are designed to effectively manage and preserve invaluable local water resources.

The Goals and Policies relative to local water resources that apply to the BSA are as follows:

Goal 5: Protected and useable local surface water resources.

**Policy 5.4**: Actively engage in implementing all approved Enhanced Watershed Management Programs/Watershed Management Programs and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs/ Integrated Monitoring Programs or other County-involved TMDL implementation and monitoring plans.

**Policy 5.6**: Minimize point and non-point source water pollution.

**Policy 5.7**: Actively support the design of new and retrofit of existing infrastructure to accommodate watershed protection goals.

Goal 7: Protected and healthy watersheds.

**Policy 7.1**: Support the LID philosophy, which mimics the natural hydrologic cycle using undeveloped conditions as a base, in public and private land use planning and development design.

**Policy 7.2**: Support the preservation, restoration, and strategic acquisition of available land for open space to preserve watershed uplands, natural streams, drainage paths, wetlands, and rivers, which are necessary for the healthy function of watersheds

**Policy 7.3**: Actively engage with stakeholders to incorporate the LID philosophy in the preparation and implementation of watershed and river master plans, ecosystem restoration projects, and other related natural resource conservation aims, and support the implementation of existing efforts, including Watershed Management Programs and Enhanced Watershed Management Programs.

**Policy 7.4**: Promote the development of multi-use regional facilities for stormwater quality improvement, groundwater recharge, detention/attenuation, flood management, retaining non-stormwater runoff, and other compatible uses.

# 3.3.2 City of Los Angeles General Plan

The City of Los Angeles General Plan provides a comprehensive long-range view of the city and includes a Land Use Element that is made up of 35 community plans and 10 technical elements. The pertinent technical elements include a Conservation Element and an Open Space Element.



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#### 3.3.2.1 Conservation Element

The Conservation Element primarily addresses preservation, conservation, protection, and enhancement of the City's natural resources. The natural resources or processes that should be or are subject to preservation, conservation, protection, and enhancement efforts include endangered species, erosion, habitats, and open space and parks. In addition, the Conservation Element identifies applicable regulations and the Conservation Element policies with regard to each type of resource.

# 3.3.2.2 Open Space Element

The Open Space Element consists of an Open Space Plan that serves to guide the identification, preservation, conservation, and acquisition of open space within the City of Los Angeles. The Open Space Plan was adopted in 1973; an update is pending. The BSA supports several of the characteristics used to define "Open Space" in the Open Space Element of the City's General Plan. Specifically, it provides "opportunities for recreation and education", preserves scenic, cultural or historic values, conserves or preserves natural resources or ecologically important areas, and protects or preserves lands for managed production of natural resources.

# 3.4 OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS, PLANS, AND STANDARDS

# 3.4.1 California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Program

The mission of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Program is to develop current, accurate information on the distribution, ecology, and conservation status of California's rare and endangered plants and to use this information to promote science-based plant conservation in California. Once a species has been identified as being of potential conservation concern, it is put through an extensive review process. Once a species has gone through the review process, information on all aspects of the species (e.g., listing status, habitat, distribution, threats, etc.) is entered into the online CNPS Rare Plant Inventory and given a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR). The Rare Plant Program currently recognizes more than 1,600 plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties) as rare or endangered in California.

Vascular plants listed as rare or endangered by the CNPS, but which might not have a designated status under state endangered species legislation, are defined by the following CRPRs:

- CRPR 1A: Plants considered by the CNPS to be extinct in California
- CRPR 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
- CRPR 2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more numerous elsewhere
- CRPR 3: Plants about which we need more information a review list
- CRPR 4: Plants of limited distribution a watch list



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### 4.0 Existing Conditions

In addition to the CRPR designations above, the CNPS adds a Threat Rank as an extension added onto the CRPR and designates the level of endangerment by a 0.1 to 0.3 ranking, with 0.1 being the most endangered and 0.3 being the least endangered and are described as follows:

- 0.1: Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat)
- 0.2: Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)
- 0.3: Not very threatened in California (low degree or immediacy of threats or no current threats known)

# 4.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS

## 4.1 **SETTING**

As depicted in Figures 1 and 2 in Appendix A, the BSA is located between the communities of Glassel Park and Elysian Valley, approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the I-5 and Glendale Fwy intersection. Specifically, the Project is located at the Bowtie Parcel, a partial concrete post-industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River. The parcel is approximately 3,800 feet long, and is slightly curved, following a bend in the Los Angeles River. The parcel is wider at the ends, which gives it the approximate shape of a bowtie (see Appendix A: Figures 1 and 2. The elevation of the BSA is approximately 320 ft to 370 ft above sea level.

The Project is surrounded by industrial and residential land uses in the north and east, with a few concentrated commercial areas in the vicinity; railroad tracks bordering the east of the Parcel are active for Amtrak, Metrolink and freight trains.

A photographic log is provided in Appendix B which depicts representative environmental conditions within the Project Area.

### 4.2 VEGETATION AND LAND COVERS

As defined in MCVII, a vegetation alliance is "a category of vegetation classification which describes repeating patterns of plants across a landscape. Each alliance is defined by plant species composition, and reflects the effects of local climate, soil, water, disturbance, and other environmental factors" (Sawyer et al. 2009).

Within the BSA, Stantec biologists mapped four plant community defined by Sawyer et al. (2009), one novel plant community and two land cover types. These are described below, summarized in Table 1, and depicted in Figure 3 included in Appendix A.



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4.0 Existing Conditions

Table 1: Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types Occurring within the Biological Study Area and Impacts

Vegetation Community/Land Cover Type	Habitat Type	Acreage within BSA	Acreage of Permanent Project Impacts	Acreage of Temporary Project Impacts
Fountain grass swards	Upland	11.77	8.56	0.00
Gooding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest	Riverine	2.67	0.00	0.00
Ornamental non-native	Upland	3.58	0.39	0.00
California buckwheat scrub	Upland	0.94	0.35	0.00
Deerweed – silver lupine – yerba santa scrub	Upland	0.10	0.02	0.00
Disturbed/Developed	Upland	46.88	4.74	0.00
Open water	Riverine	4.88	0.00	0.00
Total		79.59		

# 4.2.1 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

### 4.2.1.1 Vegetation Communities

# Fountain grass swards; *Pennisetum setaceum – Pennisetum ciliare* Herbaceous Semi-Natural Alliance

Vegetation characteristic of the *Pennisetum setaceum – Pennisetum ciliare* herbaceous seminatural alliance was mapped throughout the Project Area. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is *Pennisetum* spp. > 50% relative cover in herbaceous layer and combined with other non-native plants > 90% relative cover. In the BSA, this alliance is dominated by crimson fountaingrass (*Pennisetum setaceium*). Other species that occur within this community include Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*),coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*), and mulefat (Baccharis salicifolia). There are occasional clumps of California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) throughout this community; however, the clumps are not large enough to map as their own community. Mexican fan palm becomes dominant in some areas where this community transitions to Mexican fan palm scrub, a novel plant community described below.

# Gooding's willow -red willow riparian woodland and forest; Salix gooddingii - Salix laevigata Forest & Woodland Alliance

Vegetation characteristic of the *Salix gooddingii* – *Salix laevigata* forest and woodland alliance was mapped within the Los Angeles River in the southern portion of the BSA. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is *Salix gooddingii* and/or *Salix laevigata* > 50% relative cover in the tree canopy. This alliance is considered a state-sensitive vegetation community and has a State Rarity Rank of S3 (Sawyer et al. 2009). In the BSA, this alliance is dominated by red willow (*Salix laevigata*) in the open tree canopy



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with white mulberry (*Morus alba*) occurring occasionally. The shrub layer is sparse to absent. In the understory, there is a variety of wetland and riparian plants, including cattail (*Typhus* sp.), bulrushes (*Schoenoplectus* sp.), and spotted ladysthumb (*Persicaria maculosa*).

### California buckwheat scrub; Eriogonum fasciculatum Shrubland Alliance

Vegetation characteristic of the *Eriogonum fasiculatum* shrubland alliance was mapped adjacent to the concrete canal embankment just south of the Project site within the BSA. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) > 50% relative cover in the shrub canopy; other shrubs, if present, < 50% relative cover. In the BSA, California buckwheat dominates the shrub canopy. Other shrubs include California sage (*Artemisia californica*), bush sunflower (*Encelia californica*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). Shrubs is less than < 2 m in height and shrub canopy is continuous. The herbaceous layer is variable but has grasses. Crimson fountaingrass and Mexican fan palms also occur within this alliance. Due to the fact only native plant species were observed in this area, intermixed with the surrounding non-native plant species, this alliance appears to have been planted or seeded at some point in recent history.

# Deerweed – silver lupine – yerba santa scrub; Lotus scoparius - Lupinus albifrons - Eriodictyon spp. Shrubland Alliance

Vegetation characteristic of the *Lotus scoparius – Lupinus albifrons – Eriodictyon* spp. shrubland alliance was mapped adjacent to the concrete canal embankment. The applicable membership rule for this alliance is thick leaved yerba santa (*Eriodictyon crassifolium*) > 50% relative cover the shrub canopy with low to moderate cover. In the BSA this plant community is heavily dominated by thick leaved yerba santa in the shrub layer along with the occasional white sage. A few Mexican fan palms are found in the tree layer. Crimson fountain grass is found throughout the herbaceous layer.

#### **Ornamental Non-native**

This land cover type was used to describe landscaped areas within the buffer around the Project Area that were observed from the edge of the Project Area and through aerial imagery and to describe disturbed areas in the parcel where non-native ornamental plants had volunteered. The landscaped areas were observed from a distance from the edges of the study area and is not described in detail. The disturbed areas consist of various ornamental and non-native plants such as Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolia*), common fig (*Ficus carica*), acacias (*Acacia* sp.), and tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*)in the tree layer, and star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), crimson fountaingrass, and California buckwheat occurring in the herbaceous layer.

### Disturbed/Developed

This landcover type was mapped where there was compacted soil, gravel, concrete cover or buildings.

## 4.2.2 Common Plant Species Observed

Plants observed during the May 26, 2022, reconnaissance-level surveys were recorded; however, a focused, floristic-level survey was not conducted. The reconnaissance-level surveys resulted in the



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# 4.0 Existing Conditions

documentation of 38 species of native and non-native plants within the BSA, a detailed list of which is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Plant Species Observed in the Biological Study Area

Scientific Name Common Name

ANACARRIAGEAE	CACHENA FAMILY
ANACARDIACEAE	CASHEW FAMILY
Malosma laurina	laurel sumac
Schinus terebinthifolia	Brazilian pepper tree*
APIACEAE	CARROT FAMILY
Apium graveolens	garden celery*
Conium maculatum	poison hemlock*
ASTERACEAE	ASTER FAMILY
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush
Baccharis pilularis	coyote brush
Baccharis salicifolia	mulefat
Centaurea solstitialis	star thistle*
Encelia californica	bush sunflower
Erigeron canadensis	horseweed
Heterotheca grandiflora	telegraph weed
Isocoma menziesii	Menzies' goldenbush
Lactuca serriola	prickly lettuce*
Malacothrix saxatilis	cliff aster
Pseudognaphalium californicum	California cudweed
Salvia apiana	white sage
Sonchus oleraceus	common sow thistle*
Xanthium strumarium	rough cockleburr
BRASSICACEAE	CABBAGE FAMILY
Brassica nigra	black mustard*
Hirschfeldia incana	short podded mustard*
EUPHORBIACEAE	SPURGE FAMILY
Ricinus communis	castor bean*
FABACEAE	PEA FAMILY
Acacia redolens	bank catclaw
Acmispon glaber	deerweed
Melilotus officinalis	yellow sweetclover*
Parkinsonia aculeata	retama*



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Vachellia schaffneri	Schaffner's acacia*	
BORAGINACEAE	BORAGE FAMILY	
Eriodictyon crassifolium	thick leaved yerba santa	
MORACEAE	FIG FAMILY	
Ficus pumila	climbing fig*	
Ficus carica	common fig*	
Morus alba	white mulberry*	
ONAGRACEAE	PRIMROSE FAMILY	
Ludwigia peploides	floating water primrose*	
POLYGONACEAE	BUCKWHEAT FAMILY	
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat	
Persicaria maculosa	spotted ladysthumb*	
SALICACEAE	WILLOW FAMILY	
Salix lasiolepis	red willow	
SOLANACEAE	POTATO FAMILY	
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco*	
ARECACEAE	PALM FAMILY	
Washingtonia robusta	Mexican fan palm*	
CYPERACEAE	SEDGE FAMILY	
Cyperus eragrostis	tall flat sedge*	
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush	
Schoenoplectus americanus	American three-square bulrush	
POACEAE	GRASS FAMILY	
Arundo donax	giant reed*	
Pennisetum setaceum	crimson fountaingrass*	
Polypogon monspeliensis	rabbitsfoot grass*	
TYPHACEAE	CATTAIL FAMILY	
Typha sp.	cattail sp.	

<sup>\*</sup> Non-native Species

# 4.3 COMMON WILDLIFE

This section describes the common wildlife observed during the reconnaissance survey and those wildlife species expected to occur within the BSA based on habitat characteristics, previous studies, surveys of the northwestern corner of the Bowtie Parcel conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022, and species known to occur in the region.



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### 4.3.1 Terrestrial Invertebrates

As in all ecological systems, invertebrates inhabiting the BSA play a crucial role in a number of biological processes. They serve as the primary or secondary food sources for a variety of bird, reptile, and mammal predators; they provide important pollination vectors for numerous plant species; they act as components in controlling pest populations; and they support the naturally occurring maintenance of an area by consuming detritus and contributing to necessary soil nutrients. Though heavily urbanized, habitat conditions within the BSA provide a suite of microhabitat conditions for a wide variety of terrestrial insects and other invertebrates that are known to adapt to such disturbance. A focused insect survey was not performed within the BSA for this Project. During the field reconnaissance two insects were observed, the honeybee (Apis mellifera) and a harvester ant species (Pogonomyrmex sp.) however, a variety of other common insects were observed during the previous reconnaissance survey of the northwestern corner of the Bowtie Parcel Project conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022. These included honeybee (Apis mellifera), flame skimmer dragonfly (Libellula saturata), cloudless sulphur butterfly (Phoebis sennae), cabbage white butterfly (Pieris rapae), Argentine ant (Linepithema humile), and water strider (Gerridae family). Focused insect surveys were performed within the Los Angeles River and in other upland areas near the Bowtie Parcel for TNC in 2014 and 2015. These insect surveys found 102 different families of insects (TNC 2016).

#### 4.3.2 Fish

There were no fish observed in the Los Angeles River during the survey. In the previous reconnaissance survey of the northwestern corner of the Bowtie Parcel conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022, common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and an unknown bass species (Centrarchidae family) that could not be identified because it was being eaten by a great blue heron at the time of observation were observed. Although not observed during the survey, other non-native fish species observed during previous surveys and known to occur in the Glendale Narrows portion of the Los Angeles River include fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*), black bullhead (*Ameriurus melas*), amazon sailfin catfish (*Pteroplichthys pardalis*), mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*), green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and tilapia (*Oreochromis* sp.) (FOLAR 2008, TNC 2016). No native fish species historically occupying the Glendale Narrows portion of the Los Angeles River remain in the river, based on results from recently performed fish surveys (TNC 2016).

# 4.3.3 Amphibians

Amphibians typically require a source of standing or flowing water to lay their egg masses and to complete their life cycle. However, some terrestrial amphibian species can survive in drier areas by remaining in moist environments found beneath leaf litter and fallen logs, or by burrowing into the soil. These amphibian species are highly cryptic and often difficult to detect.

No amphibians were observed during the reconnaissance survey; however, the survey was performed during the day when frogs are typically inactive and are not calling. Therefore, it is not unexpected that other amphibian species were not observed during the reconnaissance survey. During the previous



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reconnaissance survey of the northwestern corner of the Bowtie Parcel conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022, a western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*) was observed.

Other amphibians known to occur within the Los Angeles River watershed include Pacific chorus frog (*Pseudacris regilla*), California tree frog (*Pseudacris cadaverina*) and non-native American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*). Focused surveys for amphibians performed in 2015 for TNC's Los Angeles River Study recorded western toad, as well as Pacific chorus frog and American bullfrog in the river near the BSA (TNC 2016).

# 4.3.4 Reptiles

The number and type of reptile species that may occur at a given site is related to a number of biotic and abiotic features. These include the diversity of plant communities, substrates, soil types, and presence of refugia such as rock piles, boulders, and native debris. Many reptile species, even if present, are difficult to detect because they are cryptic and their behavioral characteristics (e.g., foraging, thermoregulatory behavior, fossorial nature, camouflage) limit their ability to be observed during most surveys. Furthermore, many species are only active within relatively narrow thermal limits, avoiding both cold and hot conditions, and most species take refuge in microhabitats that are not directly visible to the casual observer, such as rodent burrows, in crevices, under rocks and boards, and in dense vegetation, where they are protected from unsuitable environmental conditions and predators (USACE and CDFG, 2010). In some cases, they are only observed when flushed from their refugia. Weather conditions during the survey were favorable for reptile activity.

The only reptile observed during the site reconnaissance was the common side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*). In the previous reconnaissance survey conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022, western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*) was observed. Other species of reptile known to occur within the Los Angeles River watershed include Western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*), southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*), western whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), striped racer (*Masticophis lateralis*), gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*), california king snake (*Lampropeltis californiae*), and Western rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus*).

Focused surveys for reptiles performed in 2015 for TNC's LA River Study (TNC 2016), which included 12 daytime surveys and one night survey, recorded western fence lizards, as well as side blotched lizards and southern alligator lizards within the Bowtie Parcel, and red-eared slider turtles in the Los Angeles River corridor. Side blotched lizards were not found in other areas outside of the Bowtie Parcel during the 2015 reptile surveys.

### 4.3.5 Birds

Birds were identified by sight and were observed throughout the BSA, especially birds associated with the Los Angeles River corridor. Bird species observed within the river corridor included mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*), American coot (*Fulica americana*), hooded merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), double-crested cormorant (*Nannopterum auritum*), belted kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*), osprey (*Pandion* 



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haliaetus), and black-necked stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*). Upland bird species observed included black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), and northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*).

Other bird species that were observed during the previous reconnaissance survey conducted by Stantec on May 26, 2022, include snowy egret (*Egretta thula*), killdeer (*Charadrius vocieferus*), hermit thrush (*Catharus guttatus*), black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), California gull (*Larus californicus*), Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), scaley-breasted munia (*Lonchura punctulata*), song sparrow (*Mesospiza melodia*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronata*), yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*).

Focused bird surveys for TNC's LA River Study were performed for several months in 2015 at Marsh Park, which is across the river south of the Bowtie Parcel. Most of the same common bird species were observed during TNC surveys compared to the Stantec reconnaissance surveys. Other bird species recorded during TNC's LA River Study included hooded oriole (*Oriolus xanthornus*), ruby-crowned kinglet (*Corthylio calendula*), orange-crowned warbler (*Leiothlypis celata*), black-chinned hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), and brownheaded cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) (TNC 2016). Because many of the bird species found in the Los Angeles River corridor are migratory and the Los Angeles River is within the Pacific Flyway avian migratory corridor, bird species diversity near the Bowtie Parcel is remarkably high, and the bird species present in the BSA will change throughout the year.

### 4.3.6 Mammals

Generally, the distribution of mammals on a given site is associated with the presence of factors such as access to perennial water, topographical and structural components (e.g., rock piles, vegetation) that provide cover and support prey base, and the presence of suitable soils for fossorial mammals (e.g., sandy areas).

No terrestrial mammal species were observed during the surveys. During the May 26, 2022, reconnaissance survey of the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel, ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) and cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus* sp.) were observed. Other mammals not observed during the reconnaissance survey that are tolerant of urban spaces and known to occur in the Los Angeles region include raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), opossum (*Deidelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*). Most of these species were observed or photographed (using trail cameras) near the Bowtie Parcel during TNC LA River Study (TNC 2016).

#### 4.3.6.1 Bat Habitat

No bat surveys were performed within the Project Area. However, a bat habitat assessment was performed during the foot surveys. Suitable bat roosting habitat within the Project Area consisted of



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several untrimmed palm trees near the northern entrance gate to the property and the middle section of the parcel. The untrimmed palm trees would be suitable for tree roosting bats such as the western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*). No bat guano or other bat sign was observed near the base of the palm trees.

Although no bat surveys were performed within the Bowtie Parcel in November 2022, bat emergence surveys were conducted near the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel by Stantec biologists on May 26, 2022. No bats were detected during the May 26 survey. However, bats are common in the Los Angeles River corridor for much of the year and are known to use the Los Angeles River corridor for foraging and for roosting on the numerous bridges over the river (S. Glowacki; Stantec; pers. obs., Remington and Cooper 2014, TNC 2016). As Part of TNC's LA River Study, bat detectors were placed on the Sunnynook Pedestrian Bridge approximately two miles upstream of the Bowtie parcel for several weeks in late summer 2015. Five species of bats were detected during the study, and all have previously been documented in the Los Angeles County area. The most frequently detected bat species was the Yuma myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*), followed by the Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) (TNC 2016). Less common bat species detected included the California myotis (*Myotis californicus*), canyon bat (*Parastrellus hesperus*) and big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) (TNC 2016).

All wildlife species observed within the BSA in May 2022 and November 2022 are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3: Wildlife Species Observed in the BSA

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Status				
INVERTEBRATES						
Apis mellifera	honeybee	non-native				
Gerridae family*	water strider	native				
Libellula saturate*	flame skimmer dragonfly	native				
Phoebis sennae*	cloudless sulphur butterfly	native				
Pieris rapae*	cabbage white butterfly	non-native				
Pogonomyrmex sp.	carpenter ant	native				
REPTILES						
Sceleporous occidentalis*	western fence lizard	native				
Uta stansburiana	common side-blotched lizard	native				
BIRDS						
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	native				
Anas platyrhynchos	mallard duck	native				
Ardea alba	great egret	native				
Ardea herodias	great blue heron	native				
Branta canadensis	Canada goose	native				
Calypte anna*	Anna's hummingbird	native				
Catharus guttatus*	hermit thrush	native				



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Corvus brachyrhynchos American crow native Corvus corax* common raven native Egretta thula snowy egret native Fulica americana American coot native Geothlypis trichas* common yellowthroat native Haemorhous mexicanus* house finch himantopus mexicanus black-necked stilt native Hirundo rustica* Larus californicus* California gull native Lonchura punctulate* Lonchura punctulate Lophodytes cucullatus hooded merganser native Megaceryle alcyon belted kingfisher native Mimus polyglottus northern mockingbird native Nycticorax nycticorax black-crowned night heron native Passer domesticus* house sparrow non-native Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Cliff swallow Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird native Setophaga coronate* Spinus psaltria* Lerser goldfinch Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native European starling	Charadrius vociferus*	killdeer	native
Corvus corax* common raven native  Egretta thula snowy egret native  Fulica americana American coot native  Geothlypis trichas* common yellowthroat native  Haemorhous mexicanus* house finch native  Himantopus mexicanus black-necked stilt native  Hirundo rustica* barn swallow native  Larus californicus* California gull native  Lonchura punctulate* nutmeg mannikin non-native  Lophodytes cucullatus hooded merganser native  Megaceryle alcyon belted kingfisher native  Mimus polyglottus northern mockingbird native  Nycticorax nycticorax black-crowned night heron native  Passer domesticus* house sparrow non-native  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* cliff swallow native  Sayornis nigricans black phoebe native  Setophaga coronate* yellow-rumped warbler native  Spinus psaltria* European starling non-native  European starling non-native  European starling non-native  European starling	Columba livia*	rock pigeon	non-native
Egretta thula  Snowy egret  American coot  American coot  Geothlypis trichas*  common yellowthroat  house finch  Inative  Haemorhous mexicanus*  black-necked stilt  Inative  Hirundo rustica*  Larus californicus*  California gull  Lonchura punctulate*  Lophodytes cucullatus  Megaceryle alcyon  Mesospiza melodia*  Nycticorax nycticorax  black-crowned night heron  Pandion haliaetus  Passer domesticus*  Allen's hummingbird  native  Nestophaga petechia*  Selasphorus sasin*  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  American coot  native  native  native  native  native  native  non-native  native  Setophaga petechia*  yellow warbler  native  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  non-native	Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow	native
American coot native Geothlypis trichas* common yellowthroat native Haemorhous mexicanus* house finch native Hirantopus mexicanus black-necked stilt native Hirundo rustica* barn swallow native Larus californicus* California gull native Lonchura punctulate* nutmeg mannikin non-native Lophodytes cucullatus hooded merganser native Megaceryle alcyon belted kingfisher native Mimus polyglottus northern mockingbird native Nycticorax nycticorax black-crowned night heron native Passer domesticus* house sparrow non-native Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* cliff swallow native Sayornis nigricans black phoebe native Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird native Setophaga coronate* yellow-rumped warbler native Spinus psaltria* lesser goldfinch native Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native	Corvus corax*	common raven	native
Geothlypis trichas*  Haemorhous mexicanus*  house finch  house still  house still  house finch  house still  house finch  house still  house mative  house sparrow  house house  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  hative  Setophaga coronate*  yellow-rumped warbler  hative  Setophaga petechia*  yellow warbler  hative  Spinus psaltria*  lesser goldfinch  hative  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  house starling	Egretta thula	snowy egret	native
Haemorhous mexicanus* Himantopus mexicanus  black-necked stilt  native  Hirundo rustica*  Larus californicus*  Lonchura punctulate*  Lophodytes cucullatus  Megaceryle alcyon  Mesospiza melodia*  Nycticorax nycticorax  Pandion haliaetus  Passer domesticus*  Dara swallow  native  nutmeg mannikin  non-native  native  native  native  native  native  native  native  northern mockingbird  native  plack-crowned night heron  native  Passer domesticus*  house sparrow  non-native  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  Cliff swallow  native  Sayornis nigricans  black phoebe  native  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  native  Setophaga coronate*  Spinus psaltria*  Larive  Parochelidon  purchonota  plack phoebe  native  petrochagion native  petrochagion native  petrochaga petechia*  yellow warbler  native  Setophaga petechia*  Larive  petrochagion  native  petrochaga petechia*  petrochaga petechia*  petrochaga potechia*  petrochaga potechia*  petrochaga potechia*  petrochaga potechia*  petrochaga petechia*  petrochaga petrochia*  petrochaga petrochia*	Fulica americana	American coot	native
Himantopus mexicanus  black-necked stilt  hirundo rustica*  barn swallow  native  Californicus*  Lonchura punctulate*  Lophodytes cucullatus  Megaceryle alcyon  Mesospiza melodia*  song sparrow  northern mockingbird  native  Pandion haliaetus  Passer domesticus*  house sparrow  native  Nouse sparrow  non-native  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  sonative  yellow warbler  passer goldfinch  sonative  native  native  native  non-native  native  non-native  native  native  native  native  native  native  native  native  native  petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  native  Setophaga petechia*  yellow warbler  native  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  non-native	Geothlypis trichas*	common yellowthroat	native
Hirundo rustica* Larus californicus* California gull native Lonchura punctulate* Lophodytes cucullatus Megaceryle alcyon Mesospiza melodia* Nycticorax nycticorax Pandion haliaetus Passer domesticus* house sparrow house sparrow native Nuse sparrow native Nuse sparrow native Nuse sparrow native Passer domesticus* house sparrow house sparrow native Native Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Sayornis nigricans black phoebe Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird spinus psaltria* lesser goldfinch stive Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native native native Selasphorus sasir* Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native  Pative Native non-native native native Selasphorus asain* Selasphorus sasin* Larus vulgaris* Lalifornia gull native native native native Selasphorus asain* Native Nat	Haemorhous mexicanus*	house finch	native
Larus californicus*  Lonchura punctulate*  Lophodytes cucullatus  Megaceryle alcyon  Mesospiza melodia*  Northern mockingbird  Native  Pandion haliaetus  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  Selasphorus sasin*  Selophaga coronate*  Sepinus psaltria*  California gull  nutmeg mannikin  non-native  nonn-native  native  non-native  non-native  native  native  native  native  native  separatow  native  native  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  native  Sepinus psaltria*  lesser goldfinch  native  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  non-native	Himantopus mexicanus	black-necked stilt	native
Lonchura punctulate* Lophodytes cucullatus hooded merganser native Megaceryle alcyon belted kingfisher native Mesospiza melodia* song sparrow northern mockingbird native Nycticorax nycticorax black-crowned night heron native Pandion haliaetus petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird Setophaga petechia* Spinus psaltria* looded merganser native native native native native native non-native native ser goldfinch native Sturnus vulgaris*  non-native native ser goldfinch son-native native ser goldfinch son-native native ser goldfinch son-native native spinus psaltria* European starling non-native	Hirundo rustica*	barn swallow	native
Lophodytes cucullatus       hooded merganser       native         Megaceryle alcyon       belted kingfisher       native         Mesospiza melodia*       song sparrow       native         Mimus polyglottus       northern mockingbird       native         Nycticorax nycticorax       black-crowned night heron       native         Pandion haliaetus       osprey       native         Passer domesticus*       house sparrow       non-native         Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*       cliff swallow       native         Sayornis nigricans       black phoebe       native         Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Larus californicus*	California gull	native
Megaceryle alcyon       belted kingfisher       native         Mesospiza melodia*       song sparrow       native         Mimus polyglottus       northern mockingbird       native         Nycticorax nycticorax       black-crowned night heron       native         Pandion haliaetus       osprey       native         Passer domesticus*       house sparrow       non-native         Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*       cliff swallow       native         Sayornis nigricans       black phoebe       native         Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Lonchura punctulate*	nutmeg mannikin	non-native
Mesospiza melodia*       song sparrow       native         Mimus polyglottus       northern mockingbird       native         Nycticorax nycticorax       black-crowned night heron       native         Pandion haliaetus       osprey       native         Passer domesticus*       house sparrow       non-native         Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*       cliff swallow       native         Sayornis nigricans       black phoebe       native         Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Lophodytes cucullatus	hooded merganser	native
Mimus polyglottus       northern mockingbird       native         Nycticorax nycticorax       black-crowned night heron       native         Pandion haliaetus       osprey       native         Passer domesticus*       house sparrow       non-native         Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*       cliff swallow       native         Sayornis nigricans       black phoebe       native         Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Megaceryle alcyon	belted kingfisher	native
Nycticorax nycticorax  Pandion haliaetus  Passer domesticus*  house sparrow  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  Sayornis nigricans  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  Setophaga coronate*  Setophaga petechia*  Spinus psaltria*  Sturnus vulgaris*  black-crowned night heron  native  native  non-native  native	Mesospiza melodia*	song sparrow	native
Pandion haliaetus  Passer domesticus* house sparrow non-native  Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Cliff swallow native  Sayornis nigricans black phoebe Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird native  Setophaga coronate* yellow-rumped warbler native  Setophaga petechia* yellow warbler native  Spinus psaltria* lesser goldfinch sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native	Mimus polyglottus	northern mockingbird	native
Passer domesticus* house sparrow non-native Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* cliff swallow native Sayornis nigricans black phoebe native Selasphorus sasin* Allen's hummingbird native Setophaga coronate* yellow-rumped warbler native Setophaga petechia* yellow warbler native Spinus psaltria* lesser goldfinch native Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native	Nycticorax nycticorax	black-crowned night heron	native
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*  Cliff swallow  Sayornis nigricans  black phoebe  native  Selasphorus sasin*  Allen's hummingbird  native  Setophaga coronate*  yellow-rumped warbler  native  Setophaga petechia*  yellow warbler  native  Spinus psaltria*  lesser goldfinch  native  Sturnus vulgaris*  European starling  non-native	Pandion haliaetus	osprey	native
Sayornis nigricans       black phoebe       native         Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Passer domesticus*	house sparrow	non-native
Selasphorus sasin*       Allen's hummingbird       native         Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*	cliff swallow	native
Setophaga coronate*       yellow-rumped warbler       native         Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe	native
Setophaga petechia*       yellow warbler       native         Spinus psaltria*       lesser goldfinch       native         Sturnus vulgaris*       European starling       non-native	Selasphorus sasin*	Allen's hummingbird	native
Spinus psaltria* lesser goldfinch native Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native	Setophaga coronate*	yellow-rumped warbler	native
Sturnus vulgaris* European starling non-native	Setophaga petechia*	yellow warbler	native
	Spinus psaltria*	lesser goldfinch	native
Stelgidopteryx serripennis* northern rough-winged swallow native	Sturnus vulgaris*	European starling	non-native
	Stelgidopteryx serripennis*	northern rough-winged swallow	native
Zenaida macroura* mourning dove native	Zenaida macroura*	mourning dove	native
MAMMALS	MAMMALS		
Otospermophilus beecheyi* ground squirrel native	Otospermophilus beecheyi*	ground squirrel	native
Sylvilagus sp.* cottontail rabbit native	Sylvilagus sp.*	cottontail rabbit	native

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes species observed on May 26, 2022



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# 4.4 AQUATIC RESOURCES

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California: the USACE Regulatory Program regulates activities pursuant to Section 404 of the federal CWA and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act; the CDFW regulates activities under the FGC Sections 1600-1607; and the RWQCB regulates activities under Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

There are no potential jurisdictional features within the Project Area. Immediately adjacent (southwest) to the Project Area and within the BSA is the Los Angeles River (Figure 4). The Project Area is located in the upland area adjacent to the concrete-lined banks of the Los Angeles River channel. The Los Angeles River is considered to be WOTUS and under the jurisdiction of the USACE up to the OHWM, and waters of the state under jurisdiction of the RWQCB. The river channel up to the top of the concrete banks and within any adjacent riparian zone vegetation is considered to be under the jurisdiction of the CDFW.

### 4.5 SOILS

Prior to conducting the delineation, historic soils data from the Natural Resources Conservation Service was used to determine potential soil types that may occur with the BSA; this data was used to determine where hydric soils have historically occurred (Appendix A, Figure 5). Table 4 identifies the soils historically known to occur within the BSA and provides a summary of characteristics of these soils.

Table 4: Historic Soil Units Occurring within the Biological Survey Area

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Description	Acres within BSA
1002	Urban land- Palmview-Tujunga complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	A well-drained soil associated with alluvial fans at elevations between 240 to 1,990 feet; fine sandy loam, sandy loam; parent material consists of discontinuous human-transported material over alluvium derived from granite; very high runoff; 0 inches to manufactured layer.	3.38
1200	Urban land, commercial, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Associated with floodplains at 120 to 510 feet in elevation; very high runoff; 0 inches to manufactured layer	56.03
1264	Xeropsamments, frequently flooded, 0 to 2 percent slopes	A somewhat excessively drained soil associated with rivers and channels at elevations between 100 to 460 feet; stratified sand; parent material consists of alluvium derived from granite	20.18



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5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

# 5.0 SPECIAL-STATUS BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The background information presented above combined with habitat assessments performed during the surveys was used to evaluate special-status natural communities and special-status plant and animal taxa that either occur or may have the potential to occur within the BSA and adjacent habitats. For the purposes of this BRTR, special-status taxa are defined as plants or animals that:

- Have been designated as either rare, threatened, or endangered by CDFW or the USFWS, and are protected under either the California Endangered Species Act or FESA
- Are candidate species being considered or proposed for listing under these same acts
- Are recognized as SSC by the CDFW
- Are ranked by CNPS as CRPR 1, 2, 3, or 4 plant species
- Are fully protected by the FGC, Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, or 5515
- Are of expressed concern to resource/regulatory agencies, or local jurisdictions

# 5.1 SPECIAL STATUS NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Special-status natural communities are defined by CDFW (2020) as, "...communities that are of limited distribution statewide or within a county or region and are often vulnerable to environmental effects of projects." All vegetation within the state is ranked with an "S" rank; however, only those that are of special concern (S1-S3 rank) are evaluated under CEQA.

One vegetation community identified within the BSA is listed as sensitive: Gooding's willow - red willow riparian woodland and forest. This community has a state rank of S3/Vulnerable; vulnerable in the state due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation from the state. No sensitive communities occur within proposed Project Area.

# 5.2 DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT

Critical habitat is defined by the USFWS (2020b) as, "...a term defined and used in the Endangered Species Act. It is specific geographic areas that contain features essential to the conservation of an endangered or threatened species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may also include areas that are not currently occupied by the species but will be needed for its recovery."

There is no designated critical habitat for any listed plant or wildlife species within the BSA.

## 5.3 SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS

Table 5 presents a list of special-status plants, including federally and state listed species and CRPR 1-4 species that are known to occur within 10 miles of the BSA (Appendix A, Figures 6 and 6a provide a depiction of known species locations).



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5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

Record searches of the CNDDB, the CNPS Online Inventory, and the Consortium of Critical Herbaria was performed for special-status plant taxa. Each of the taxa identified in the record searches was assessed for their potential to occur within the BSA based on the following criteria:

**Present**: Taxa were observed within the BSA during recent botanical surveys or population has been acknowledged by CDFW, USFWS, or local experts.

**High**: Both a documented recent record (within 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or immediate vicinity (approximately 5 miles) and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated with taxa presence occur within the BSA.

**Moderate**: Both a documented recent record (within 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or the immediate vicinity (approximately 5 miles) and the environmental conditions associated with taxa presence are marginal or limited within the BSA, or the BSA is located within the known current distribution of the taxa and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated with taxa presence occur within the BSA.

**Low**: A historical record (over 10 years) exists of the taxa within the BSA or general vicinity (approximately 10 miles), and the environmental conditions (including soil type) associated with taxa presence are marginal or limited within the BSA.

**Not Likely to Occur**: The environmental conditions associated with taxa presence do not occur within the BSA.

While many of the species listed below in Table 5 have a low potential to occur within the BSA, they are not expected to occur within the Project Area due to the lack of suitable habitat.

Table 5: Known and Potential Occurrences of Special Status Plant Taxa within the BSA

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Arenaria paludicola marsh sandwort	FE, SE, 1B.1, S1	Marshes and swamps (fresh water or brackish); sandy substrates; found in open habitats. Elevation range: 3-170 m.	March- August	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 6.35 miles southwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from 120 years ago in 1900.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Astragalus brauntonii Braunton's milk- vetch	FE, 1B.1, S2	Chaparral, valley grasslands, coastal sage scrub, closed-cone pine forest. Occurs in disturbed habitat and requires gravelly clay soils. Elevation range: 4-640 m.	January- August	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 7 miles west of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 80 years ago in 1930.
Astragalus tener var. titi coastal dunes milkvetch	FE, SE 1B.1, S1	Coastal bluff scrub (sandy), coastal dunes, and coastal prairie (mesic). Often in vernally mesic areas. Elevation range: 1-50 m.	March-May	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 9 miles south southwest of the BSA; however, this observation was recorded 90 years ago in 1930.
Atriplex parishii Parish's brittlescale	1B.1, S1	Native to Central and Southern California often found in dry lake beds, playas, and ephemeral vernal pools. Saline and alkaline soils. Elevation range: 0-470 m.	June- October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 4.5 miles northwest of the BSA.
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii Davidson's saltscale	1B.2, S1	Coastal scrub, bluffs, Chenopod scrub, playas, and vernal pools from southern California to Baja California. Elevation range: 0-200 m.	April- October	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 2 miles to the south southwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 120 years ago.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Berberis nevinii Nevin's barberry	FE, SE, S1, 1B.1	Chaparral of inland canyons and foothills in southern California. Elevation range: It is also widely cultivated in gardens and parks. Elevation range: 40-2280 m.	March-June	Not Likely to Occur: Marginally suitable habitat occurs. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is a planted population approximately 3 miles west northwest of the BSA located in Griffith Park. It was not observed during the field survey and is not likely to occur.
Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis slender mariposa- lily	S2S3, 1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland, coastal scrub, and chaparral. Elevation range: 5-2540 m	May-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are from within the past 20 years, presumed extant, and located 4 miles west northwest and 9 miles north northwest.
Calochortus plummerae Plummer's mariposa-lily	4.2, S4	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and valley and foothill grassland. Granite and rocky substrates. Elevation range: 100-1,700 m.	May-July	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 and 9 miles north northeast of the BSA from within the past 30 years.
Calystegia felix lucky morning- glory	1B.1, S1	Historically associated with wetland and marshy places, but possibly in drier situations as well. Possibly silty loam and alkaline, meadows and seeps (sometimes alkaline), riparian scrub (alluvial). Elevation range: 30-215 m.	March- September	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence are approximately 2 miles west southwest and 7 miles southwest of the BSA from more than 120 years ago in 1899.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Centromadia parryi ssp. australis southern tarplant	1B.1, S2	Marshes and swamps (margins), valley and foothill grasslands (vernally mesic), and vernal pools; often in disturbed sites near the coast at marsh edges; also, in alkaline soils sometimes with saltgrass. Elevation range: 0-480 m.	May- November	Low: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence are approximately 2 miles and 8 miles northeast of the BSA from 1930 and 1950.
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis smooth tarplant	1B.1, S2	Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands. Elevation range: 0-610 m.	April- September	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately five miles east northeast of the BSA from 1901.
Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina San Fernando Valley spineflower	FC, SE, 1B.1, S1	Annual; sandy areas in coastal scrub and native grasslands; Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Elevation range: 150-1220 m.	April-July	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is five miles northwest of the BSA; however, this observation is from more than 130 years ago in 1890.
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi Parry's spineflower	1B.1, S2	Annual; Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation range: 275-1220 m.	April-June	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are six and eight miles north northeast of the BSA; however, one observation is from more than 100 years ago in 1919 and the other observation does not have a date associated with it.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Dodechahema leptoceras slender-horned spineflower	FE, SE, 1B.1, S2	Annual. Chapparal, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Southern California. Elevation range: 200-760 m.	April-June	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are 6 and 7 miles northeast and north of the BSA from 1920 and 1916.
Dudleya multicaulis many-stemmed dudleya	1B.2, S2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. Elevation range: 15-790 m.	April-July	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 3 miles west from 1925.
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii Los Angeles sunflower	1A, SH	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt and freshwater). Elevation range: 10-1,525 m.	August- October	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 6 miles east northeast of the BSA from 1901
Horkelia cuneata var. puberula mesa horkelia	1B.1, S1	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub. Sandy or gravelly sites. Elevation range: 15- 1,645 m.	February- July (September)	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recent recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles north northeast and 9 miles northeast of the BSA from 1906 and 1967.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri Coulter's goldfields	1B.1	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt), playas, and vernal pools; Usually found on alkaline soils in playas, sinks, and grasslands. Elevation range: 1-1,375 m.	February- June	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 5 miles east northeast and 10 miles southwest of the BSA from 1882 and 1934.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii Robinson's peppergrass	<b>S</b> 3	Chaparral and coastal scrub. Elevation range: 5-885 m.	Jan-July	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles south southeast and 9 miles east northeast of the BSA from 1950 and 1994.
Malacothamnus davidsonii Davidson's bush- mallow	1B.2, S2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Elevation range: 185- 1140 m.	June- January	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 8 miles north northwest and 9 miles northwest of the BSA from 2003 and 2015.
Nasturtium gambelii Gambel's water cress	FE, ST, 1B.1, S1	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish). Elevation range:5-330 m.	April- October	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 7 miles southwest of the BSA from 1904.
Navarretia prostrata prostrate vernal pool navarretia	1B.2, S2	Coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools, meadows and seeps. Alkaline soils in grassland, or in vernal pools. Mesic, alkaline sites. Elevation range: 3- 1,235 m.	April-June	Not Likely to Occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is 3 miles southwest of the BSA from 1907.
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum white rabbit-tobacco	2B.2, S2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. 0-2100 m.	(July) August- November (December)	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs with the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles west southwest and 8 miles north of the BSA from 1907 and 1932.



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Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Quercus dumosa Nuttall's scrub oak	1B.1, S3	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal scrub. Generally, on sandy soils near the coast; sometimes on clay loam. Elevation range: 15-640 m.	February- May (May- August)	Not Likely to Occur: Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 2 miles west from 1924 and 10 miles southwest from 2009.
Ribes divaricatum va. Parishii Parish's gooseberry	1A, SX	Riparian woodland. Elevation range: 65-300 m.	February- April	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River in the BSA. No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is 1 mile east northeast from the BSA from 1893.
Sidalcea neomexicana salt spring checkerbloom	2B.2, S2	Playas, chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub; alkali springs and marshes. Elevation range: 3-2,380 m.	March-June	Not likely to occur: No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrences are approximately 3 miles south and 9 miles southwest of the BSA from 1902 and 1922.
Spermolepis lateriflora western bristly scaleseed	2A, SH	Sonoran Desert scrub	March-April	Not likely to occur: Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 8 miles north of the BSA from 1930.



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### 5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Blooming Period	Potential to Occur
Symphyotrichum defoliatum San Bernardino aster	1B.2, S2	Meadows and seeps, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grassland. Vernally mesic grassland or near ditches, streams and springs; disturbed areas. Elevation range: 3-2,045 m.	July- November	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrences are approximately 4 miles west and 6 miles southwest of the BSA; however, these observations are from more than 110 years ago in 1893 and 1904.
Symphyotrichum greatae Greata's aster	1B.3, S2	Broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, and riparian woodland. 300- 2010 m.	Jun-Oct	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs in the BSA in the L.A. river corridor. The nearest recorded occurrences are approximately 1 mile south and 9 miles north northeast of the BSA from 1932 and 1991.
Thelypteris puberula var. sonorensis Sonoran maiden fern	2B.2, S2	Meadows and seeps (seeps and streams) and riparian habitats. 50-610 m.	Jan-Sept	Low: Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA in the L.A. River corridor. The nearest and most recently recorded occurrence is approximately 8 miles north northeast from the BSA from 1967.

## **Status Codes**

Federal Designation

FE = Federally Endangered

FC = Federal Candidate Species for Listing

CDFW State Designation

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened
State Ranking

S1 = Critically Imperiled S2 = Imperiled

S3 = Vulnerable

S4 = Apparently Secure

S5 = Secure

SH = Possibly Extirpated

SX = Presumed Extirpated

CNPS CRPR Designation

1A = Plants considered by the CNPS to be extinct in California

1B = Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.

2A. Presumed extinct in California, extant and more common elsewhere

2B. Rare or Endangered in California, more common elsewhere

3. Plants for which we need more information - Review list

4. Plants of limited distribution - Watch list

.1 = Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat).

.2 = Fairly threatened in California (moderate

degree/immediacy of threat). BSA = Biological Study Area

m = meter



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5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

## 5.4 SPECIAL STATUS WILDLIFE

Special-status taxa include those listed as threatened or endangered under the FESA or California Endangered Species Act, taxa proposed for such listing, SSC, and other taxa that have been identified by USFWS, CDFW, or local jurisdictions as unique or rare and that have the potential to occur within the BSA.

The CNDDB was queried for occurrences of special-status wildlife taxa within a 10-mile radius of the BSA discussed in Section 2.0. Table 6 summarizes the special-status wildlife taxa known to occur regionally and their potential for occurrence in the BSA (Appendix A, Figures 6, 6b and 6c provide a depiction of previously reported species locations). Each of the taxa identified in the database reviews/searches were assessed for its potential to occur within the BSA based on the following criteria:

**Present**: Taxa (or sign) were observed in the BSA or in the same watershed (aquatic taxa only) during the most recent surveys, or a population has been acknowledged by CDFW, USFWS, or local experts.

**High**: Habitat (including soils) for the taxa occurs onsite, and a known occurrence occurs within the BSA or adjacent areas (within 5 miles of the BSA) within the past 20 years; however, these taxa were not detected during the most recent surveys.

**Moderate**: Habitat (including soils) for the taxa occurs onsite, and a known regional record occurs within the database search, but not within 5 miles of the BSA or within the past 20 years; or a known occurrence occurs within 5 miles of the BSA and within the past 20 years and marginal or limited amounts of habitat occurs onsite; or the taxa's range includes the geographic area and suitable habitat exists.

**Low**: Limited habitat for the taxa occurs within the BSA and no known occurrences were found within the database search and the taxa's range includes the geographic area.

**Not Likely to Occur**: The environmental conditions associated with taxa presence do not occur within the BSA.

While many of the species listed in Table 6 have some potential to occur within the BSA, they are generally not expected to occur within the Project Area due to the lack of suitable habitat.



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Table 6: Known and Potential Occurrences of Special-Status Wildlife Taxa within the Biological Study Area

Taxa					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Bombus crotchii	Crotch bumble bee	SC, S1S2	Coastal California east to the Sierra-Cascade crest and south into Mexico. Food plant genera include Antirrhinum, Phacelia, Clarkia, Dendromecon, Eschscholzia, and Eriogonum.	The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is within the BSA in 2020, and there are multiple occurrences within 5 miles within the past 20 years. California buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> ), a food plant for the species occurs within the BSA, but there is none within the Project Area.	High
Danaus plexippus	Monarch butterfly	CAN	Winter roost sites extend along the coast from northern Mendocino to Baja California, Mexico. Roosts located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress), with nectar and water sources nearby. Food plant genus Asclepias.	No suitable habitat for food or roosting occurs within the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur
Eugnosta busckana	Busck's gallmoth	SH	Coastal scrub dune habitat.	Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is 7.4 miles west southwest from the BSA in 1929.	Not Likely to Occur



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Taxa								
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential			
Glyptostoma gabrielense	San Gabriel chestnut snail	S2	Microhabitats with sufficient moisture in rocky hills and mountains at relatively low elevations. Historic range includes the San Gabriel Mountain Range within the city of Pasadena, Millard Canyon, Mt. Lowe and the Dominguez Hills.	Suitable habitat does not occur with the BSA. The nearest recorded occurrence of this species is approximately ½ mile south of the BSA in 1944. There are three occurrences from 2020 between 9 and 10 miles from the BSA, all to the east or northeast.	Not Likely to Occur			
Gonidea angulata	western ridged mussel	S1S2	Prefers constant water flow and stable stream bottoms such as sand and gravel bars in areas of slow-moving water. Streams with wide floodplains and ample sand and gravel.	The portion of the BSA that contains the Los Angeles River has suitable habitat for this species, and the nearest recorded occurrence was within the BSA in 1993. However, the species was not observed on site during the field survey. It is not expected to occur within the Project Area due to lack of suitable habitat.	Moderate			
	AMPHIBIANS							
Rana muscosa	southern mountain yellow-legged frog	FE, SE, WL, S1	Occur in the Sierra Nevada range of California. Inhabit lakes, ponds, marshes, meadows, and streams at elevations typically ranging from 1,370 to 3,660 meters.	The elevation of the BSA is lower than the elevation where this species typically occurs. The nearest occurrence is 8 miles north northeast from the BSA in 1936.	Not Likely to Occur			



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Taxa					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Spea hammondii	western spadefoot	SSC, S3	Occurs in the Central Valley and adjacent foothills and the non-desert areas of Southern California and Baja California. Grassland habitats and valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Vernal pools and other temporary rain pools, cattle tanks, and occasionally pools of intermittent streams are essential for breeding and egglaying. Burrows in loose soils during dry season.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River portion of the BSA. Two occurrences have been recorded within three miles, but both are from 1921, over 100 years ago.	Low
Taricha torosa	Coast Range newt	SSC, S4	Species of Special Concern status extends only to populations found from Monterey County to San Diego, excluding a population in the southern Sierra Nevada mountains. Southern populations tend to use permanent streams for breeding, and in southern California are also limited by the availability of rocky canyons with clear, cold water (Thomson, 2016)	Although a portion of the Los Angeles River is included in the BSA, the type of river and water quality is not suitable for this species. So, no suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The closest occurrence is 8 miles north northeast of the BSA from 2003.	Not Likely to Occur



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
			REPTILES		
Anniella stebbinsi	Southern California legless lizard	SSC, S3	Generally, south of the transverse range, extending to northwestern Baja California; occurs in sandy or loose loamy soils under sparse vegetation; disjunct populations in the Tehachapi and Piute mountains in Kern County; variety of habitats; generally in moist, loose soil; they prefer soils with a high moisture content.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River within the BSA. Five species occurrences occur within five miles within the past ten years. The closest of these was approximately ½ mile to the east of the BSA in 2013. This species was not observed during the field survey.	Moderate
Arizona elegans occidentalis	California glossy snake	SSC, S2	Occurs in grasslands, fields, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral from the central San Joaquin Valley south to the Tehachapi Mountains and along the base of the Coast Range mountains farther south to San Quintin, Baja California. It prefers loose soil that allows for burrowing.	Suitable habitat doesn't occur within the BSA. No occurrences within a 5-mile radius of the BSA. The closest occurrence was in 1889 and 5 ½ miles to the east.	Not Likely to Occur



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Emys marmorata	western pond turtle	SSC, S3	Ranges widely along the west coast of the U.S. down into the Baja California peninsula. Variety of aquatic water bodies; Needs upland area for nesting habitat; Soils need to be loose enough to allow for nest excavation	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest CNDDB records were 6 miles west northwest of the BSA in 1917. Species was observed in the Los Angeles River approximately 5 miles upstream of Bowtie Parcel in 2017 by Stantec biologists.	Moderate
Phrynosoma blainvillii	coast horned lizard	SSC, S3S4	Primarily in sandy soil in open areas, especially sandy washes and floodplains, in many plant communities. Requires open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and an abundant supply of ants or other insects. Occurs west of the deserts from northern Baja California north to Shasta County below 2,400 meters (8,000 feet) elevation.	Suitable habitat does not occur within the BSA. The most recent occurrence was 5 miles east southeast of the BSA in 1974. In 1931 the species was recorded 3.5 miles north northeast of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur
			BIRDS		
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	WL	Uses a variety of habitats, including mixed and deciduous forests, open woodlands, riparian woodlands, open pinyon woodlands, and forests. Can be found in city habitats and suburban areas.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs in the Los Angeles River corridor, but habitat is disturbed. This species was observed in the BSA eating a prey item in the river corridor in November 2022.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Accipiter striatus	sharp- shinned hawk	WL, S4	Forages in openings at edges of woodlands, hedgerows, brushy pastures, and shorelines, especially where migrating birds are found. Typically nests in dense, small-tree stands of conifers, which are cool, moist, well shaded, with little ground-cover, near water.	Marginally suitable foraging habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River corridor. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird approximately in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park, approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022 and one occurrence at the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA from 2022.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged blackbird	SSC	Breeds in marshes, brushy swamps, hayfields; forages also in cultivated land and along edges of water. Breeds most commonly in freshwater marsh, but also in wooded or brushy swamps, rank weedy fields, hayfields, upper edges of salt marsh.	Suitable habitat occurs in river corridor, but habitat is disturbed within the Los Angeles River corridor. There are numerous occurrences near the BSA on eBird, including at the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park across the Los Angeles River from the BSA in 2022, and the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA in January 2023.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging



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Tax	Taxa				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Aimophila ruficeps canescens	southern California rufous- crowned sparrow	WL, S3	Breeding habitat includes vegetated scrubland on hillsides and canyons, coastal sage scrub, coastal bluff scrub, lowgrowing serpentine chaparral, and along the edges of tall chaparral habitats.	Marginally suitable breeding and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence 5 miles west of the BSA in 2014.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	SSC, BCC, S3	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Owls are found in microhabitats highly altered by humans, including flood risk management and irrigation basins, dikes, banks, abandoned fields surrounded by agriculture, and road cuts and margins. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the California ground squirrel.	Marginally suitable breeding and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest and most recent occurrence was recorded on site in 1921.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Ardea alba	great egret	SA, S4	Fresh and saline emergent wetlands, along the margins of estuaries, lakes, and slow-moving streams, on mudflats and salt ponds, and in irrigated croplands and pastures. Nests in large trees and roosts in trees.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the Los Angeles River corridor during the survey.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging



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Taxa					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Ardea herodias	great blue heron	SA, S4	Shallow estuaries and fresh and saline emergent wetlands, riverine and rocky marine shores, croplands, pastures and in mountains above foothills. Usually nests in colonies.	Suitable habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the Los Angeles River during the survey.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	ST, BCC, S3	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, and agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	No suitable habitat for nesting or foraging occurs within the BSA. The nearest occurrence was recorded in 1880 almost seven miles east of the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting /Not Likely to Occur for Foraging
Calypte costae	Costa's hummingbird	SA, S4	Primary habitats are desert wash, edges of desert riparian and valley foothill riparian, coastal scrub, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, lower-elevation chaparral, and palm oasis.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. There are occurrences recorded on eBird at Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park approximately 0.6 miles west of the BSA in 2022 and in the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile south of the BSA in 2016.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Chaetura vauxi	Vaux's swift	SSC, BCC, S2S3	Open sky over forest, lakes, and rivers. Often feeds low over water, especially in morning and evening or during unsettled weather. Nests in coniferous and mixed forest,	Marginally suitable nesting habitat foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There are occurrences recorded on eBird at the Taylor Yard area and Rio do Los Angeles State Park approximately 0.25 mile east of the BSA in 2013 and 2022 respectively.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Coturnicops noveboracensis	yellow rail	SSC, BCC, S1S2	Summer resident in eastern Sierra Nevada in Mono County. Freshwater marshlands.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA for nesting or foraging. The species was recorded 3 miles west southwest of the BSA in 1952.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Not Likely to Occur for Foraging
Elanus leucurus	White-tailed kite	FP, \$3\$4	Open groves, river valleys, marshes, grasslands. Occurs in lowlands of California west of the Sierra Nevada range and the southeast deserts. It is found in the Central Valley and along the entire California coast.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird at the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile downstream of the BSA in 1999.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Tax	a				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	FE, SE, S1	Rare and local breeder in extensive riparian areas of dense willows or (rarely) tamarisk, usually with standing water, in the southwestern U.S.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat occurs andsuitable foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There are two occurrences from within the site and within five miles of the site, but they are from over 90 years ago. There is an eBird occurrence of willow flycatcher from Rio De Los Angeles State Park approximately 0.6 miles south of the BSA from 2022 and from the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile south of the BSA in 2018. These occurrences were not confirmed at the subspecies level.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Egretta thula	snowy egret	SA, S4	Coastal estuaries, fresh and saline emergent wetlands, ponds, slow-moving rivers, irrigation ditches, and wet fields. Dense marshes are required for nesting. Also nests in low trees.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences recorded from within 10 miles of the BSA. This species was observed in the LA River corridor during the survey.	Low for Nesting/High for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Tax	Таха				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Falco peregrinus anatum	American peregrine falcon	FP, S3S4	Coastal sage scrub communities that are associated with coastal dunes, perennial grasslands, annual grasslands, croplands, pastures, coast Douglas-firhardwood forests, coastal oak woodlands, montane hardwood woodlands, closed-cone pinecypress woodlands, chamisered shank chaparral, and mixed-chaparral communities.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one recorded occurrence within 1 mile north of the BSA in 2005, and an occurrence recorded on eBird across the Los Angeles River from the BSA at Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park in 2022	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Larus californicus	California gull	WL, S4	A fairly common nester at alkali and freshwater lacustrine habitats east of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades, and an abundant visitor to coastal and interior lowlands in nonbreeding season. Preferred habitats are sandy beaches, mudflats, rocky intertidal, and pelagic areas of marine and estuarine habitats, as well as fresh and saline emergent wetlands, lacustrine, riverine, and cropland habitats, landfill dumps, and open lawns in cities.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA river corridor. An occurrence was recorded in eBird from 2022 from the Bowtie Parcel and in the Rio de Los Angeles State Park, approximately 0.6 miles from the BSA from 2022.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Tax	a				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Nannopterum auritum	double- crested cormorant	WL, S4	Inland lakes, in fresh, salt and estuarine waters. Feeds mainly on fish also on crustaceans and amphibians.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA river corridor. There are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the BSA. An occurrence was recorded in eBird from 2022, from the Bowtie Parcel hotspot (specific location not available).	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Nycticorax nycticorax	black- crowned night heron	SA, S4	Lowlands and foothills throughout most of California, including the Salton Sea and Colorado River areas. Nests in large colonies. Feeds along the margins of lacustrine, large riverine, and fresh and saline emergent habitats. Nests in dense-foliaged trees, dense, fresh or brackish emergent wetlands, or dense shrubbery or vine tangles, usually near aquatic or emergent feeding areas.	Suitable habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. This species was observed within the river corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel during surveys.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/High for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Tax	a				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Pandion haliaetus	osprey	WL, S4	Forages in shallow inland waters along rivers, streams, marshes, and reservoirs. Wintering and nonbreeding birds also feed in shallow coastal marine habitats Suitable nesting habitat includes power poles and towers, large living and dead trees.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the Los Angeles River corridor. This species was observed within the river corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel during surveys.	Moderate for Nesting/High for Foraging
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	American white pelican	SSC, S1S2	Forage in shallow inland waters, such as open areas in marshes and along lake or river edges; wintering and nonbreeding birds also feed in shallow coastal marine habitats	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There are occurrences recorded on eBird in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park, approximately .6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022, in the Frogtown area approximately 1 mile south of the BSA from 2021, and in the Rio de Los Angeles State Park, approximately .6 miles from the BSA from 2022.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/High for Foraging



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	WL, \$3\$4	Feeds in fresh emergent wetland, shallow lacustrine waters, muddy ground of wet meadows, and irrigated or flooded pastures and croplands. Nests in dense, fresh emergent wetland.	Marginally suitable foraging habitat occurs within the LA River corridor. There is one occurrence recorded on eBird approximately in Lewis McAdams Riverfront Park, approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the BSA from 2022 and one occurrence recorded in Frogtown approximately 1 mile downstream from the BSA from 2023.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT, SSC, S2	Obligate, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2500 feet in Southern California. Low, coastal sage scrub in arid washes and on mesas and slopes with California sagebrush ( <i>Artemisia californica</i> ) as a dominant or co-dominant species. Not all areas classified as coastal sage scrub are occupied.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. However, the only occurrences within 20 years are all at least 9 miles away.	Low for Nesting/Low for Foraging



Biological Resources Technical Report

Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Riparia riparia	bank swallow	ST, S2	Low areas along rivers, streams, ocean coasts, and reservoirs. Nesting habitat is vertical banks of fine textured soils, most commonly along streams and rivers. Forage in open areas and avoid places with tree cover.	Marginally suitable nesting and foraging habitat occurs within the BSA along the Los Angeles River. However, the BSA is outside of the breeding range of this species. The only recorded occurrence was recorded within site in 1894.	Not Likely to Occur for Nesting/Low for Foraging
Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler		Yellow warblers generally occupy riparian vegetation in close proximity to water along streams and in wet meadows. They can be found roosting and nesting in willows and cottonwoods in river corridors.	Suitable nesting habitat and foraging habitat occurs in vegetated sections of the Los Angeles River corridor. This species was observed in May 2022 by Stantec biologists within the Los Angeles River corridor adjacent to the Bowtie Parcel.	Moderate for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo	FE, SE, S2	Summer resident of Southern California in low riparian in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms; below 2000 feet. Often inhabits structurally diverse woodlands along watercourses including cottonwood-willow and oak woodlands and mulefat scrub. Nests placed along margins of bushes or on twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, <i>Baccharis</i> , mesquite.	Marginally suitable nesting habitat and suitable foraging habitat occurs within the BSA along the Los Angeles River. All the occurrences within 5 miles of the BSA are from over 100 years ago. More recent occurrences, from 2013 and 2015, are 7 and 10 miles to the east and northeast of the BSA.	Low for Nesting/Moderate for Foraging



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Tax	a				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	SSC, S3	Desert, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts must protect bats form high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	No suitable habitat occurs within the site. All occurrences are more than 50 years old and are recorded more than 5 miles from the BSA.	Not Likely to Occur
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	SSC, S3S4	Many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, bridges, trees, and tunnels. In California, most records are from rocky areas at low elevations.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. All occurrences within 5 miles are from over 30 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur
Lasionycteris noctivagans	silver-haired bat	S3S4	Coastal and montane forest. Forages over streams, ponds, and brushy areas, and requires follows of trees for roost habitat. Conifer and mixed conifer/hardwood forests. Roosts mainly in hollows or crevices of trees, but may also roost in rock crevices, mines, or caves. Forages over streams, ponds, and brushy areas.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. The nearest record of this species in over 6 miles to the north northeast of the BSA and was recorded almost 45 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	S4	Forages over a wide range of habitats but prefers open habitats with access to water and trees for roosting. Typically solitary, roosting in the foliage of shrubs or coniferous and deciduous trees. Roosts are usually near the edge of a clearing.	Marginally suitable habitat. The nearest occurrence was recorded ¾ of a mile west southwest of the BSA in 1977. The most recent record was 1.5 miles to the west in 1992.	Low
Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	SSC, S3	Occurs in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties south to the Mexican border. Valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats below 600 m.	Untrimmed palm trees are present in the BSA. There is an occurrence 1 mile north northwest of the BSA from 1984.	Low
Microtus californicus stephensi	south coast marsh vole	SSC, S1S2	Occurs in the area of tidal marshes in Los Angeles, Orange, and southern Ventura Counties.	No suitable habitat is present within the BSA. The nearest occurrence was recorded 10 miles to the southwest 45 years ago.	Not Likely to Occur
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	SSC, S3S4	Inhabits most of southern California, with range extending northward along the coast to Monterey Co., and along the Coast Range to San Francisco Bay. Joshua tree, pinyon- juniper, mixed and chamise- redshank chaparral, sagebrush, and most desert habitats. Also found in other habitats.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA within the low-quality coastal scrub. Two occurrences from 2006 were documented approximately 5 miles west northwest of the site.	Moderate



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Таха					
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential
Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	SSC, S3	Limited distribution in California. Prefers rugged, rocky canyons, but will also roost in buildings, caves, and occasionally in holes in trees.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. Two occurrences 3 miles south and 5 miles northwest of the BSA were recorded in 1987 and 1985, respectively.	Not Likely to Occur
Onychomys torridus ramona	southern grasshopper mouse	SSC, S3	Low, semi-open, and open scrub habitats, including chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and low sagebrush.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA in the low-quality coastal scrub. The only recorded occurrence is within 1 mile south of the BSA but over 100 years ago.	Low
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	SSC, S3	The habitat of Los Angeles pocket mice includes lower elevation grassland, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal sage scrub.	Marginally suitable habitat occurs within the BSA in the disturbed coastal scrub. The only recorded occurrence is from 9 miles west northwest of the BSA in 1903.	Low
Taxidea taxus	American badger	SSC, S3	Most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Needs sufficient food, friable soils, and open and uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. There is one occurrence within the site, but the observation date is unknown.	Not Likely to Occur



Biological Resources Technical Report

#### 5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

Таха					
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Scientific Name	Name	Status	Habitat Type	Comments	Occurrence Potential

#### State Rankings:

S1 = Critically Imperiled

S2 = Imperiled

S3 = Vulnerable

S4 = Apparently Secure

S5 = Secure

SH = Possibly Extirpated

SX = Presumed Extirpated

SC = State Candidate for Listing

SD = State Delisted

SA = CDFW Special Animal

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened

FP= CDFW Fully Protected

SSC = CDFW Species of Special Concern

WL = CDFW Watch List

#### Federal Rankings:

FE = Federally Endangered

FD = Federally Delisted

BCC = USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern

#### **Bird Species Occurrence Potential:**

The first Occurrence Potential determination is based on nesting habitat and the second determination is based on foraging habitat.

BSA=Biological Study Area

CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database



Biological Resources Technical Report

5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

#### 5.5 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS AND SPECIAL LINKAGES

Linkages and corridors facilitate regional animal movement and are generally centered in or around waterways, riparian corridors, flood control channels, contiguous habitat, and upland habitat. Drainages generally serve as movement corridors because wildlife can move easily through these areas, and fresh water is available. Corridors also offer wildlife unobstructed terrain for foraging and for dispersal of young individuals.

As the movements of wildlife species are more intensively studied using radio-tracking devices, there is mounting evidence that some wildlife species do not necessarily restrict their movements to some obvious landscape element, such as a riparian corridor. For example, recent radio-tracking and tagging studies of Coast Range newts, California red-legged frogs, southwestern pond turtles, and two-striped garter snakes found that long-distance dispersal involved radial or perpendicular movements away from a water source with little regard to the orientation of the assumed riparian "movement corridor" (Bulger et al. 2002; Hunt 1993; Ramirez 2002, 2003a, 2003b; Rathbun et al. 1992; Trenham 2002). Likewise, carnivores do not necessarily use riparian corridors as movement corridors, frequently moving overland in a straight line between two points when traversing large distances (Beier 1993, 1995; Newmark 1995; Noss et al. 1996, n.d.). In general, the following corridor functions can be utilized when evaluating impacts to wildlife movement corridors:

Movement corridors are physical connections that allow wildlife to move between patches of suitable habitat. Simberloff et al. (1992) and Beier and Loe (1992) correctly state that for most species, we do not know what corridor traits (length, width, adjacent land use, etc.) are required for a corridor to be useful. But, as Beier and Loe (1992) also note, the critical features of a movement corridor may not be its physical traits but rather how well a particular piece of land fulfills several functions, including allowing dispersal, plant propagation, genetic interchange, and recolonization following local extirpation.

Dispersal corridors are relatively narrow, linear landscape features embedded in a dissimilar matrix that link two or more areas of suitable habitat that would otherwise be fragmented and isolated from one another by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human-altered environments. Corridors of habitat are essential to the local and regional population dynamics of a species because they provide physical links for genetic exchange and allow animals to access alternative territories as dictated by fluctuating population densities.

Habitat linkages are broader connections between two or more habitat areas. This term is commonly used as a synonym for a wildlife corridor (Meffe and Carroll 1997). Habitat linkages may themselves serve as source areas for food, water, and cover, particularly for small- and medium-size animals.

Travel routes are usually landscape features, such as ridgelines, drainages, canyons, or riparian corridors, within larger natural habitat areas that are frequently used by animals to facilitate movement and provide access to water, food, cover, den sites, and other necessary resources. A travel route is generally preferred by a species because it provides the least amount of topographic resistance in moving from one area to another yet still provides adequate food, water, or cover (Meffe and Carroll 1997).



Biological Resources Technical Report

5.0 Special-Status Biological Resources

Wildlife crossings are small, narrow areas of limited extent that allow wildlife to bypass an obstacle or barrier. Crossings typically are human-made and include culverts, underpasses, drainage pipes, bridges, tunnels to provide access past roads, highways, pipelines, or other physical obstacles. Wildlife crossings often represent "choke points" along a movement corridor because useable habitat is physically constricted at the crossing by human-induced changes to the surrounding areas (Meffe and Carroll 1997).

#### 5.5.1 Wildlife Movement in the BSA

The BSA is located in a heavily developed area but contains localized portions of open space and riparian habitat along the Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles River was identified as a potential riparian habitat connection by the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project (Spencer et al. 2010). Although, degraded and disturbed in many parts, the Los Angeles River is still an important wildlife corridor for many riparian and wildlife species (USACE 2015). Numerous species of fish, amphibians, mammals, waterfowl, songbirds, raptors, and invertebrates use the Los Angeles River corridor for foraging and movement.

Within the BSA, the level of surrounding urban development, presence of physical barriers, and lack of native habitat outside of the Los Angeles River, would significantly constrain the passage of most large terrestrial wildlife known to occur in the region. Terrestrial wildlife corridors between the BSA and other areas of open space are extremely constrained by roadways, and commercial and residential development. However, wildlife movement between the river corridor and the BSA would be relatively unconstrained if existing fencing near the upper riverbank is removed or modified to allow for wildlife passage.



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6.0 References

#### 6.0 REFERENCES

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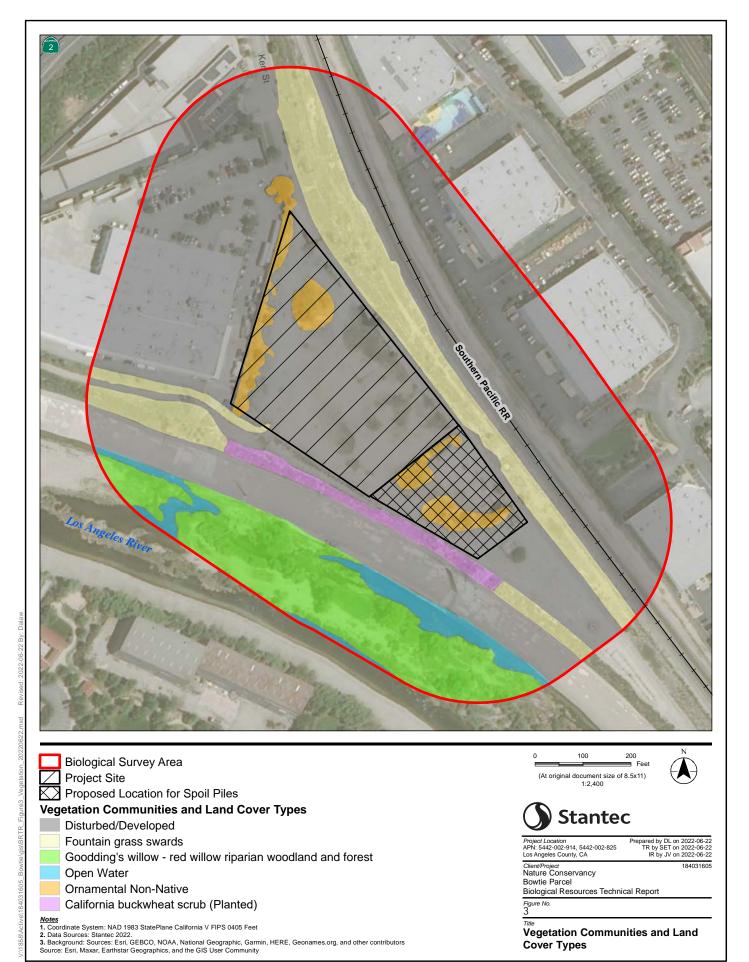
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## **APPENDIX A FIGURES**





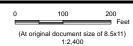


Biological Survey Area

**Project Site** 

Proposed Location for Spoil Piles

**Aquatic Feature** 







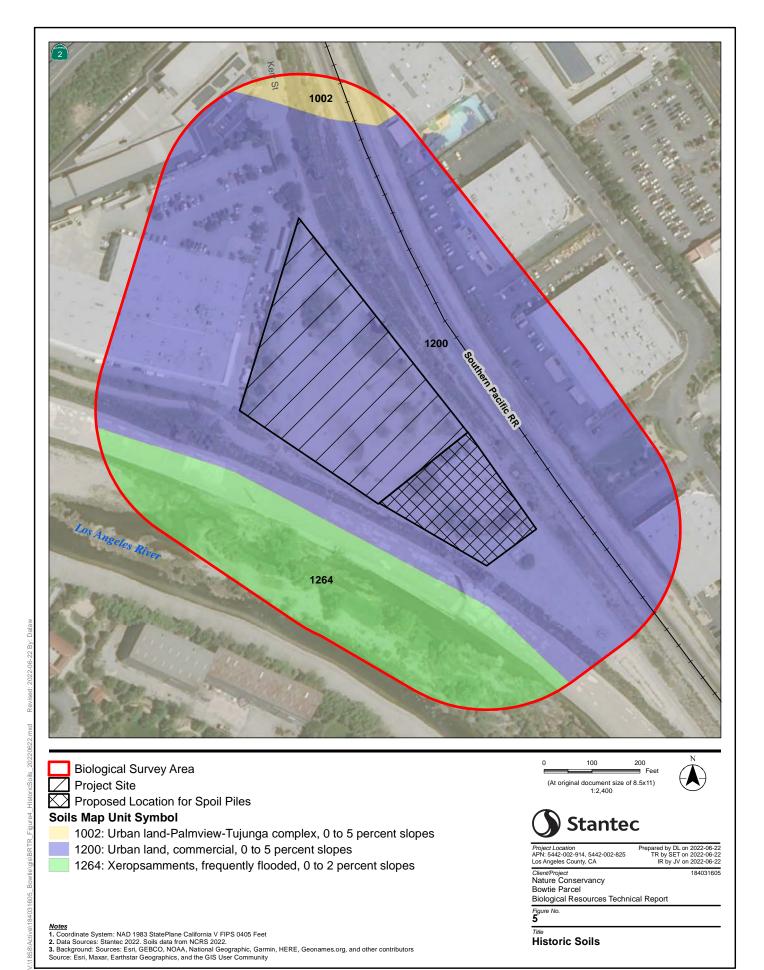
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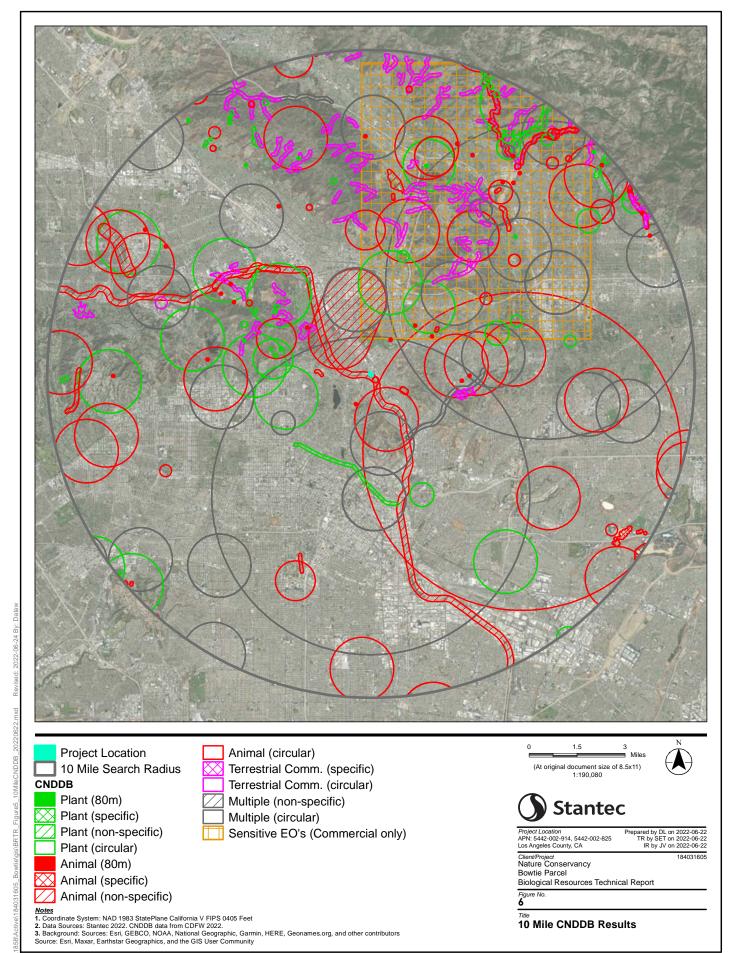
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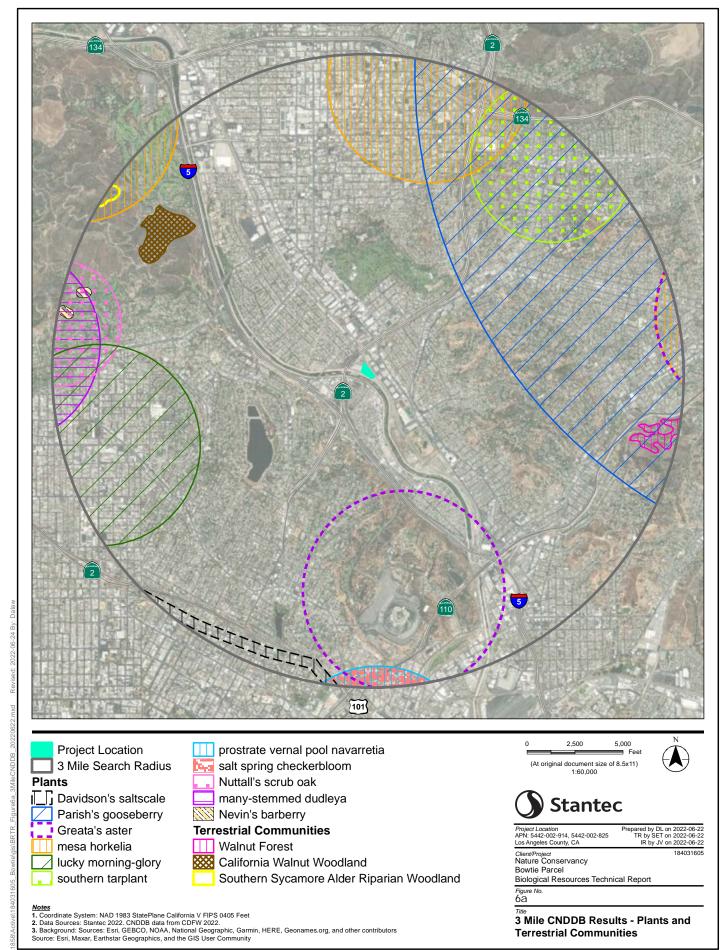
Client/Project
Nature Conservancy
Bowtie Parcel
Biological Resources Technical Report

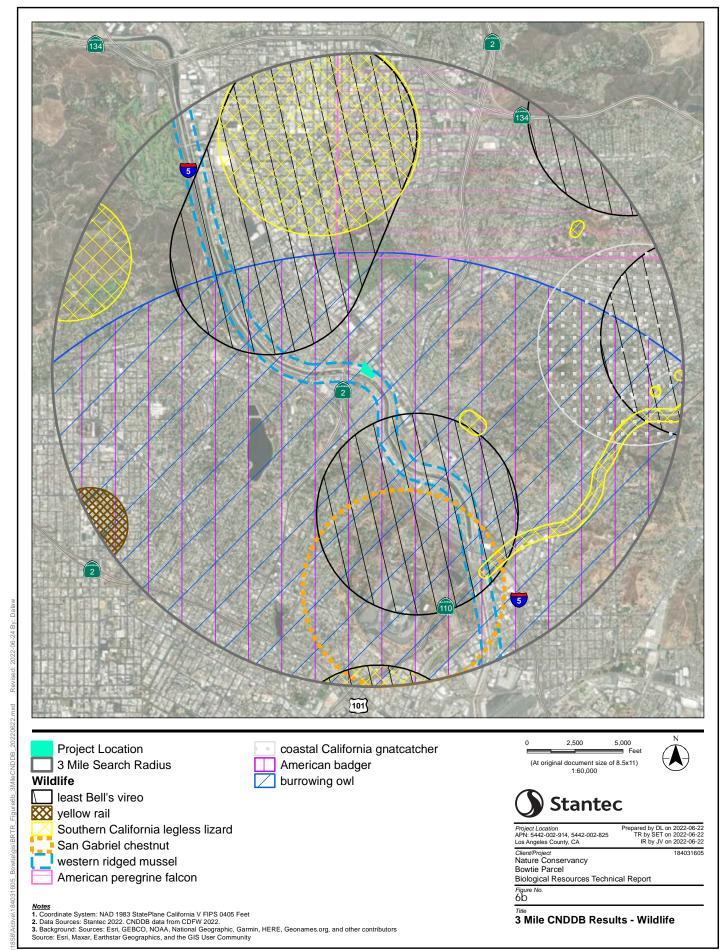
**Aquatic Resources** 

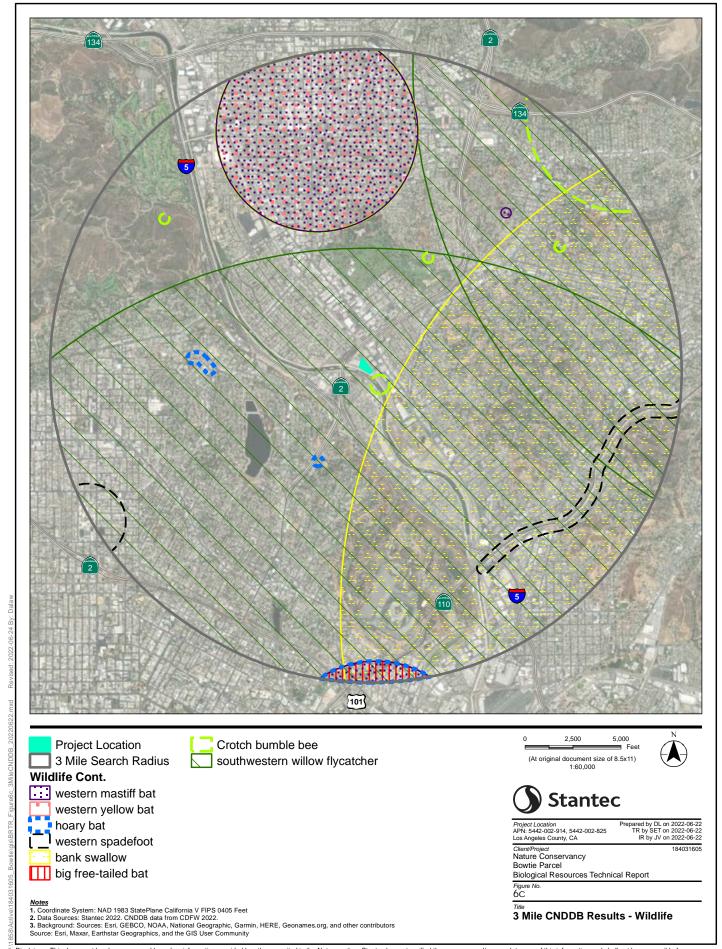
Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane California V FIPS 0405 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantee 2022. Soils data from NCRS 2022.
3. Background: Sources: Esri, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, Garmin, HERE, Geonames.org, and other contributors Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community











# Appendix B PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG





Client: The Nature Conservancy Project: Bowtie Demonstration Project
Site Name: Bowtie Parcel Site Location: 34° 6'32.21"N 118°14'45.29"W

Photograph ID: 1

Photo Location: Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

**Direction:** 

SE

**Survey Date:** 5/26/2022

Comments:

Distrubed/developed area within Project Area



Photograph ID: 2

**Photo Location:** 

Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

Direction:

Ν

**Survey Date:** 5/26/2022

Comments:

Distrubed/developed area within Project Area







Client: The Nature Conservancy Project: Bowtie Demonstration Project
Site Name: Bowtie Parcel Site Location: 34° 6'32.21"N 118°14'45.29"W

Photograph ID: 3

Photo Location: Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

---

Direction:

SE

**Survey Date:** 5/26/2022

Comments:

Disturbed/Developed area within Project Area



Photograph ID: 4

**Photo Location:** 

Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

Direction:

SE

Survey Date:

5/26/2022

Comments:

California buckwheat scrub (restored)







Client: The Nature Conservancy Project: Bowtie Demonstration Project
Site Name: Bowtie Parcel Site Location: 34° 6'32.21"N 118°14'45.29"W

Photograph ID: 5

**Photo Location:** 

Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

Direction:

SE

**Survey Date:** 5/26/2022

**Comments:** 

Gooding's willow – red willow riparian woodland and forest alliance along Los Angles River



Photograph ID: 6

**Photo Location:** 

Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles

**Direction:** 

NW

Survey Date:

5/26/2022

Comments:

Fountain grass swards







Client: **The Nature Conservancy** Project: **Bowtie Demonstration Project** Site Name: **Bowtie Parcel** Site Location: 34° 6'32.21"N 118°14'45.29"W Photograph ID: 7 NW NE **Photo Location:** Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles Direction: **Survey Date:** 5/26/2022 Comments: Ornamental non-native 26 May 2022, 12:53:10

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Proj	n ect
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	APPENDIX C CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
	APPENDIX C CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
	APPENDIX C CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT



# CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT FOR THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, BOWTIE DEMONSTRATION WETLANDS PROJECT

City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California

April 17, 2023

Prepared for:

The Nature Conservancy 445 South Figueroa Street Suite 1950 Los Angeles, California 90071

Prepared by:

Dean Reed, MPS CHRM Emily Rinaldi-Williams, MS HP, and Shannon Loftus, MA HP, RPA

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### **Project Summary**

Report Title: Cultural Resources Survey Report for The Nature Conservancy, Bowtie Demonstration

Wetlands Project

Principal Investigator: Shannon Loftus, MA HP, RPA

Field Director: Dean Reed, MPS CHRM

Report Author: Dean Reed, MPS CHRM, and Emily Rinaldi-Williams, MS HP, and Shannon Loftus, MA

HP, RPA

7.5-minute Quad(s): Los Angeles, CA USGS

**County:** Los Angeles County

Landowner(s): California State Parks – Rio de Los Angeles

Permit No.: DPR 22-53

Fieldwork Authorization No.: N/A Stantec Project No.: 184031605

Date(s) of Fieldwork: August 2, 2022

Survey Data Shapefile Provided: ■ Yes □ No

Site Data Shapefile Provided: ■ Yes □ No

Acres Surveyed: 3 acres
Miles Surveyed: N/A

**Total Cultural Resources: 1** 

**Newly Recorded Resources: 1** 

**Previously Recorded Resources:** 0

**Resources Recommended Eligible:** 0

**Resources Recommended Ineligible:** 0

**(** 

The conclusions in the Report titled Cultural Resources Survey Report for The Nature Conservancy Bowtie Demonstration Wetlands Project are Stantec's professional opinion, as of the time of the Report, and concerning the scope described in the Report. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the scope of work was conducted and do not take into account any subsequent changes. The Report relates solely to the specific project for which Stantec was retained and the stated purpose for which the Report was prepared. The Report is not to be used or relied on for any variation or extension of the project, or for any other project or purpose, and any unauthorized use or reliance is at the recipient's own risk.

Stantec has assumed all information received from the Nature Conservancy (the "Client") and third parties in the preparation of the Report to be correct. While Stantec has exercised a customary level of judgment or due diligence in the use of such information, Stantec assumes no responsibility for the consequences of any error or omission contained therein.

This Report is intended solely for use by the Client in accordance with Stantee's contract with the Client. While the Report may be provided to applicable authorities having jurisdiction and others for whom the Client is responsible, Stantec does not warrant the services to any third party. The report may not be relied upon by any other party without the express written consent of Stantec, which may be withheld at Stantee's discretion.

Pen J. Rul
Signature
Dean Reed, MPS CHRM - Archaeologist
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Emily Rimedow
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Emily Rinaldi, MS HP – Architectural Historian
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Shannon Loftus, MA HP, RPA Principal-Cultural Resources Lead

**Printed Name** 

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### **Executive Summary**

This report presents the results of a cultural resources Phase I study conducted by Stantec under contract to The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The work was conducted in support of the Bowtie Demonstration Wetlands Project (Project) in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. The study included a records search, review of historical United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps, Sanborn maps, and aerial imagery, and an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the 3-acre Project area.

The entire Project area makes up the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel (APN: 5442-002-914, 5442-002-825), which was historically part of the Taylor Yard, a Southern Pacific Railroad service railway station and classification yard. Southern Pacific occupied Taylor Yard from 1925 through 1985, after which time almost all the buildings and structures related to the site's railroad use were demolished. This Phase I study revealed that historical features of the Taylor Yard remain within the Project area including building foundations, a railroad sign, and an isolated railroad spike. Collectively, the features and the isolated artifact identified during the survey were given a temporary site number R220803-74-01 and documented on the appropriate California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms. No other cultural resources (prehistoric, tribal, of historic-era) were identified during the survey.

Taylor Yard has never been inventoried or evaluated for its eligibility for listing in the CRHR or NRHP. It is seemingly important to local regional history and contained several pieces of infrastructure that may have been critical to the development of the Los Angeles basin. A full investigation an evaluation of Taylor Yard would be needed to determine its historical significance. However, the newly recorded site, R220803-74-01, does not indicate a significant historical association with the yard.

The native sediment of the general area consists of unconsolidated alluvial sediments along the Los Angeles River. The background research, historical maps, and aerial images of the Project area indicate extensive ground disturbance starting as early as 1914 and well into the 1940s. The Project area was entirely paved, and buildings had been constructed by the 1960s, and were demolished by 1988. The entire Project area is highly disturbed and has been mechanically altered several times throughout the 20th-century, which has significantly undermined the integrity of the R220803-74-01.

The built-environment remains observed on the surface and the site's history suggest potential for presence of buried historic-era features related to the Taylor Yard as no soil remediation occurred in these areas. The built-environment remains should not affect the Project in terms of construction and design planning. The surviving components of the Taylor Yard within the Project area do not appear to constitute a historical resource, as defined under CEQA (i.e., resources eligible for the CRHR), or a historic property as defined under the NHPA. Therefore, they are recommended as not eligible for listing. However, given that the construction work will significantly impact R220803-74-01, Stantec is recommending that an archaeological monitor be present during ground disturbance activities. In addition, a worker environmental awareness program (WEAP) should be developed to provide workers with training for treating known cultural resources, and potential discoveries of presently undocumented resources, within the Project area, and instruction on compliance with mitigation measures developed for the Project.

With respect to prehistoric resources, identifications during construction is unlikely given the extensive disturbance to the Project area as a result of three-quarters of a century of railroad yard development and subsequent demolition. However, Stantec recommends the lead agencies continue engagement and consultation with the interested Native American tribes given ancestral homeland connection by the Gabrielino/Tongva People.



### **Acronyms / Abbreviations**

ACHP Advisory Council of Historic Preservation

AD anno domini

APE Area of Potential Effects

ARPA Archaeological Resources Protection Act

BC Before Christ

CCR California Code Regulation

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act
CRHR California Register of Historical Resources

DPR Department of Parks and Recreation

EO Executive Order

HCM Historic Cultural Monument

LARER Los Angeles River Ecosystem

Ma Mega-aanum (million years ago)

MLD Most Likely Descendant

NAGPRA Native American Graves Protection Act

NAHC Native American Heritage Commission

NHPA National Historic Preservation Act

NPS National Parks Service

NRHP National Register of Historic Places / Properties

PRC Public Resources Code

SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer

SOI Secretary of the Interior
TNC The Nature Conservancy

USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers

USGS United States Geological Survey

WEAP Worker Environmental Awareness Program



### 1 Project Location and Description

Stantec, under contract to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), conducted a cultural resources Phase I study in support of the Bowtie Demonstration Wetlands Project (Project). The Project is also a small segment of the Los Angeles River Ecosystem (LARER) Project, an overarching project meant to improve ecosystem function in, and along, approximately 11 miles of the Los Angeles River channel. The LARER project is being done in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the City of Los Angeles.

The Project is located on California State Parks land and proposed in partnership with State Parks and sponsored by The Nature Conservancy. The Project area is a 3-acre area in the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel (APN: 5442-002-914, 5442-002-825), a paved former industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River, in Rios de Los Angeles State Park / State Recreation Area, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. The Project is in Section 04, Township 01 South, Range 13 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) *Los Angeles, California* (1966) 7.5' topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

The Project is situated within a primarily industrial area, with some residential land uses to the north and east, along with a few commercial developments. The parcel was previously part of Taylor Yard, a Southern Pacific Railroad service railway station and classification yard. Active railroad tracks for Amtrak, Metrolink, and freight trains border the eastern boundary of the parcel.

The purpose of the Project is to maximize water quality for compliance with regional goals, to provide healthful public access to open space, and to recreate and protect natural habitat alongside the Los Angeles River. The existing design of the Project includes shallow soil removal (up to two feet deep) and the diverting water from an existing concrete storm drain that leads to the Los Angeles River. A diversion vault will divert 85% of storm water to a pump station, where it will be brought to the surface, and pretreated. The pre-treated water will flow into the wetland, where the water will be treated and stored to sustain the habitat. The wetland is designed to contain 0.46 acre-feet of storage in gravels and 2.98 acrefeet in surface water, treating 57 percent of the storm water. Water that is not treated will flow through the storm drain, bypassing the pre-treatment and wetland, to discharge into the Los Angeles River.

### 1.1 Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) encompasses the entire project site and proposed location for potential soil-spoil relocation area (Figures 1 through 3). The latter area is not confirmed at this time and is only part of the draft design. It is within the limits of the Project Area and the total area of the APE is 3 acres. The APE and the survey area are the same.

### 2 Regulatory Setting

### 2.1 Federal Regulatory Setting

### 2.1.1 Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC § 431 et seq).

Presidential authority was given for the establishment of national monuments as "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic and scientific interest" (34 Statute 225: Section 2). The act also specifics that violators are subject to criminal charges on lands managed by the federal government. Section 3 (34 Statute 225) of the Antiquities Act discusses allowance for permitted scientific and academic investigation for edification purposes.

#### 2.1.2 Historic Sites Act of 1935 (PI 74-292; 49 Stat. 666; 16 USC 461-467)

"An Act to Provide for the Preservation of Historic America Sites, Buildings, Objects, and Antiquities of National Significance," otherwise known as the Historic Sites Act of 1935 was enacted after the establishment of the National Parks Service (NPS) in 1916 as national policy giving the Secretary of the Interior (SOI) the authority to identify and evaluate or consideration of preservation those "...historic sites, building, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States."

### 2.1.3 National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended)

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) gives authority to the SOI to establish an Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects proposed undertakings may have upon historic properties, as well as tasking agencies with preservation of historic properties (80 Stat. 915). In addition, the ACHP is permitted to render opinion on the recommendations of effect on listed or eligible historic properties. Historic properties are defined as "districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture" (80 Stat. 915: Sec. 101(a)1(A)) that are listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), also established as part of the Act.

The 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic Properties, Regulation of the ACHP Government the Section 106 Review Process. was amended in 1992 and again in 1999, with Section 106 stating: 'The head of any Federal Agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking in any State and the head of any Federal department or independent agency having authority to license any undertaking shall prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, as the case may be, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The head of any such Federal agency shall afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation established under Title II of the Act a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking (80 Stat. 915: Sec. 106)."

The Section 106 process requires determination of an undertaking as part of (36 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] 800.3) and as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(y). Once established, 36 CFR 800.4 guides implementation of:



- determine the scope of identification efforts;
- · identify historic properties;
- evaluate historic significance;
- and provide the results of identification and evaluation efforts.

Historic properties, unless extenuating circumstances exist, must be a minimum of 50 years of age and meet one of the following criteria per 36 CFR 60.4:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

In addition, a historic property must retain an element of integrity, the measure by which the significance is conveyed. There are seven aspects of integrity to consider: *location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association*. Determination of eligibility in recognition of historic property status is decided in consultation between agency and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) through formal Section 106 compliance and/or formal nomination arising from a non-project related recommendation. Section 106 not only applies to historic buildings, structures, and objects. These were addressed during the 1986 amendment. Archaeological sites are also afforded "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800) pursuant to definition as an "archaeological resource" (54 U.S.C. 302902).

In addition to Section 106, Section 110 of the NHPA directs federal land managers to ensure the preservation of historic properties. Preservation of historic properties is implemented via agency-specific programs to identify, evaluate, nominate, and protect. Section 110 involves likened formal consultation with federal and state agencies.

Section 106 and 110 also require consultation with federally recognized Native American Tribes.

### 2.1.4 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Passed with the intent, in part, of preservation of "...important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage." Often implemented via the NHPA (Sections 101, 106 and 110).

# 2.1.5 Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (54 USC §312501 - 312503)

This act expanded upon the Historic Sites Act of 1935 to ensure that historic and archaeological data be preserved if subject to loss or destruction as a result of a federal or federally funded or licensed/permitted undertaking.

#### 2.1.6 American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978

This act was passed to acknowledge past violation of and with the intent to ensure in perpetuity that the Constitutional First Amendment rights of the American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, or Native Hawaiian are not violated. This act grants American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, and Native Hawaiians access to their sacred sites, freedom to worship and perform their ceremonial and traditional rites (even when incarcerated), and the repatriation and use and possession of objects considered sacred.

#### 2.1.7 Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979 was designed to address the earlier Antiquities Act of 1906 as means "to secure, for the present and future benefit of the American people, the protection of archaeological resources and sites which are on public lands and Indian lands" (93 Stat. 72: Sect. 2(b). Moreover, Section 3 of the ARPA provides for a more definitive explanation of what constituted and archaeological resource: "any material remains of past human life or activities which are of archaeological interest as determined under uniform regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act. Such regulations containing such determination shall include, but not be limited to: pottery, basketry, bottles, weaponry, tools, structures or portions of structures, pit houses, rock paintings, rock carvings, intaglios, graves, human skeletal material, or any portion or piece of any of the foregoing items. Nonfossilized and fossilized paleontological specimens, or any portion or piece thereof, shall not be considered archaeological resources, under the regulation under this paragraph, unless found in an archaeological context. No item shall be treated as an archaeological resource under regulations under this paragraph unless such item is at least 100 years of age (93 Stat. 72: Sec. 3(1)." Thereby, the ARPA requires a permit for excavation or removal of archaeological resources from public or Indian lands and carries civil and criminal penalties pursuant to violation."

#### 2.1.8 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 (PL 101-601) was implemented to reinstate the rights of Native Americans and Native Hawaiians when it comes to the disposition of decedent remains and cultural property identified or recovered on lands managed by federal agencies and Tribes. This act provided for the repatriation of such remains and funerary objects and transfer or ownership back to the Tribes from that of federal agencies or museums via Section 5, which states: "Each Federal agency and each museum which has possession or control over holdings or collections of Native American human remains and associated funerary objects shall compile an inventory or such items and, to the extent possible based on information possessed by such museum or Federal agency, identify the geographical and cultural affiliation of such item (104 Stat. 3050:Sec. 5(a). Once notification has been made, the Tribe may request that the remains or objects be returned to them, and pursuant to Section 7, this agency or museum "shall expeditiously return" any such remains, associated funerary objects, or other objects (104 Stat. 3050: Sec 7(a) (1-2).

#### **2.1.9 Executive Order No. 11593**

The Executive Order (EO) No. 11593 occurred in 1971 and was coined "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" (54 U.S.C. 300101; 16 U.S.C 470), requires that federal agencies implement Section 110 in 1973, and was subsequently the catalyst for the 1992 amendment to the NHPA.



#### 2.1.10 Executive Order No. 13007

In 1996, implementation of EO 13007, "Indian Sacred Sites" (61 FR 267711), directed federal land managing agencies to "accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners," and to "avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites." Additionally, "where appropriate, agencies shall maintain the confidentiality of sacred sites" (61 FR 26771 Sec. 1 (a) (1-2). Combined with NAGPRA, these two pieces of legislation go a long way to facilitating federal preservation of American Indian religious freedom and repatriation of their deceased and their deceased's grave and sacred goods.

### 2.2 State of California Regulatory Setting

### 2.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The proposed Project is subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the lead agency (California Department of Parks and Recreation [DPR]) is required to comply with the CEQA Statute and Guidelines (as amended through 2015). CEQA requires that the lead agency determine if cultural resources that could be affected by project activities are "historical resources," and whether project activities will have a significant impact on these resources (California Code Regulation [CCR], § 15064.5[b]).

A cultural resource is considered "historically significant" if the resource is 50 years old or older, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets the requirements for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) under any one of the following criteria (Title 14 CCR, § 15064.5):

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

Additionally, the CRHR consists of resources that are listed automatically and those that must be nominated through an application and public hearing process. The CRHR automatically includes the following:

- California properties listed in the NRHP and those formally Determined Eligible for the NRHP;
- California Registered Historical Landmarks from No. 770 onward; or,
- Those California Points of Historical Interest that have been evaluated by the Office of Historic Preservation and have been recommended to the State Historical Commission for inclusion on the CRHR.

Other resources that may be nominated to the CRHR include:

 Historical resources with a significance rating of Category 3 through 5 (those properties identified as eligible for listing in the NRHP, the CRHR, and/or a local jurisdiction register);



- Individual historical resources;
- Historical resources contributing to historic districts; or,
- Historical resources designated or listed as local landmarks, or designated under any local ordinance, such as an historic preservation overlay zone.

The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined to be eligible for, listing in the CRHR, or is not included in a local register of historical resources, does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be a historical resource. According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would have a significant effect on the environment if it would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5;
- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5; or,
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) also requires that excavation activities be stopped whenever human remains are uncovered and that the County Coroner assess the remains. If the County Coroner determines the remains are Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted within 24 hours. At that time, the lead agency must consult with the most likely descendant (MLD), if any, as identified by the NAHC. Section 15064.5 directs the lead agency (or project proponent), under certain circumstances, to develop an agreement with the MLD for the treatment and disposition of the remains, or to rebury the remains in an area not subject to further disturbance if the MLD fails to make a recommendation within 48 hours of being granted access to the remains. The historical significance of the artifacts discovered during monitoring of Project activities will be determined based on these criteria set by the CEQA.

#### 2.2.2 State of California Public Resources Code

Archaeological, paleontological, and historical sites are protected pursuant to policies and regulations enumerated under the California Public Resources Code (PRC). Sections of the PRC that pertain to cultural resource include:

- California PRC Sections 5020–5029.5 include reference to the State Historical Resources
   Commission. The commission oversees the administration of the CRHR and is responsible for
   the designation of State Historical Landmarks and Historical Points of Interest.
- California PRC Section 5024.1 requires evaluation of historical resources to determine their
  eligibility for listing in the CRHR. The purpose of the register is to maintain listings of California's
  historical resources and to indicate which resources are to be protected from substantial adverse
  change. The criteria for listing resources in the CRHR were expressly developed to be in
  accordance with previously established federal criteria for listing in the National Register of
  Historic Places (NRHP).
- California PRC 5024 and 5024.5 was enacted by the California State Legislature as part of a
  larger effort to establish a state program to preserve historical resources. These particular
  sections of the code require state agencies to take a number of actions to ensure preservation of
  state-owned historical resources under their jurisdictions. These actions include evaluating



resources for National Register of Historic Places (National Register) eligibility and California Historical Landmark (California Landmark) eligibility; maintaining an inventory of eligible and listed resources; and managing these historical resources so that that they will retain their historic characteristics.

- California PRC Sections 5079–5079.65 define the functions and duties of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). The OHP is responsible for the administration of federally and statemandated historic preservation programs in California and the California Heritage Fund.
- California PRC Sections 5097.9–5097.991 provide protection to Native American cultural resources and sacred sites and identify the powers and duties of the NAHC. It also requires notification to descendants of discoveries of Native American human remains and provides for treatment and disposition of human remains and associated grave goods.
- California PRC Section 21074 outlines the definition of "Tribal cultural resources," which are
  included or determined by a lead agency to be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR and/or local
  register of historical resources.
- California PRC Sections 21084.2-20084.3 states the requirement that public agencies avoid damaging effects to Tribal cultural resources, when feasible. It also provides examples of mitigation measures that may be implemented to avoid or minimize the significant adverse impacts to Tribal cultural resources, if said impacts are determined by the lead agency.

### 2.2.3 State of California Health and Safety Code

The California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b) specifies protocols when human remains are discovered. Specifically, burials or human remains are not to be disturbed or removed unless by authority of law, and the area of a discovery of human remains should remain undisturbed until the County Coroner is notified and has examined the remains prior to determining the appropriate course of action.

### 2.3 Local Regulatory Setting

#### 2.3.1 CITY OF LOS ANGELES HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

The Los Angeles City Council adopted the Cultural Heritage Ordinance in 1962 and amended it in 2018 (Ordinance No. 185472). The Ordinance created a Cultural Heritage Commission and criteria for designating Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM). The Commission comprises five citizens, appointed by the mayor, who have exhibited knowledge of Los Angeles history, culture, and architecture. The three criteria for HCM designation are stated below:

- 1. The proposed HCM is identified with important events of national, state, or local history, or exemplifies significant contributions to the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, state, or community; or
- 2. The proposed HCM is associated with the lives of historic personages important to national, state, or local history; or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Los Angeles Administrative Code §22.171 of Article 1, Chapter 9, Division 22.



Project Number: 184031605 7

3. The proposed HCM embodies the distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period, or method of construction; or represents a notable work of a master designer, builder, or architect whose individual genius influenced his or her age.

Unlike the National and California Registers, the Ordinance makes no mention of concepts such as physical integrity or period of significance. Moreover, properties do not have to reach a minimum age requirement, such as 50 years, to be designated as HCMs.

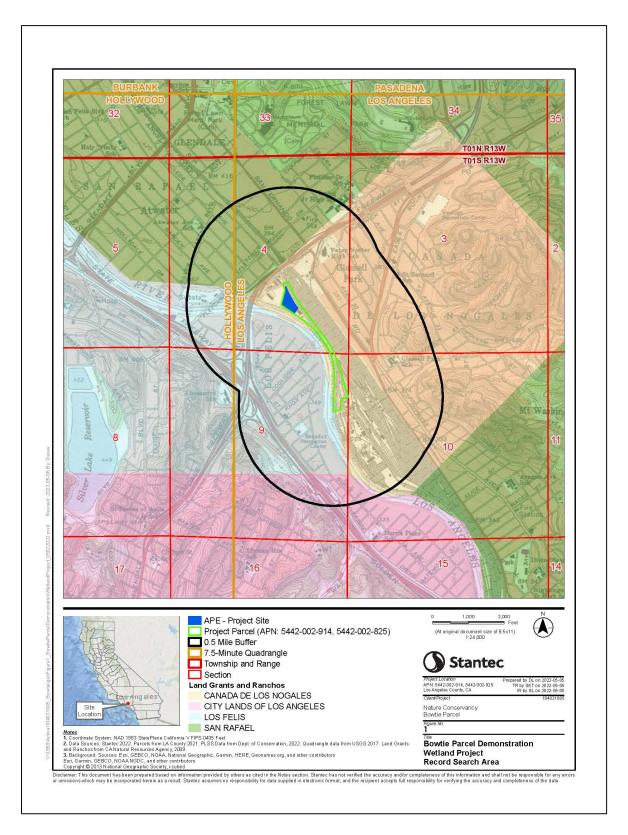


Figure 1. Project location within Bowtie Parcel, and 0.5-mile Records Search Area (Study Area)

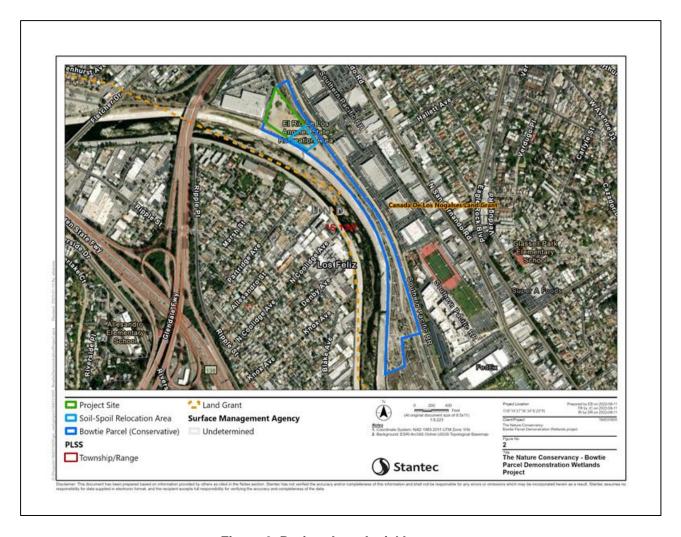


Figure 2. Project Area Aerial Image



Figure 3. Project Area Detail, Aerial Image

### 3 Setting

Brief summaries of the Project area environmental and cultural resources settings are provided below.

### 3.1 Environmental Setting

The Project area consists of a vacant segment of land within the northern portion of the Bowtie Parcel (APN: 5442-002-914, 5442-002-825), a concrete former industrial landscape on the east bank of the Los Angeles River, in Glassell Park, City of Los Angeles. The area stretches along the eastern boundary of the Los Angeles River and west of a railroad corridor and commercial industrial complex south of the Glendale Freeway (CA-2) and is within the "Glendale Narrows" region of the Los Angeles River. This region is one of the four sections of the Los Angeles River that has an earthen bottom.

The general topography of the project area is fairly flat and is at approximately 371 feet above mean sea level along the river valley floodplain. The pre-industrial landscape of the Los Angeles River corridor

would have supported riparian zone flora. Some of the native plant species would have included Arroyo Willows (*Saliz lasiolepsis*), Cattails (*Typha dominguinsis*), Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), Swamp sedge (*Carex senta*), Watercress (*Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*), Winkled rush (*Juncus fugulosus*), and Toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*). The river area as described above may support a variety of bird species including the egret, heron, and duck, the American White Pelican, Red-winged Blackbird, Black Phoebe, as well as migrating birds such as the Canadian goose (Linton 2005). Much of the area has been developed for industrial, commercial, and residential use. The regional climate is characterized as Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters.

The Project area is in the Los Angeles Basin, a structural depression approximately 50 miles long and 20 miles wide in the northernmost Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province (Ingersoll and Rumelhart 1999). The Los Angeles basin developed because of tectonic forces and the San Andreas fault zone, with subsidence occurring 18 – 3 million years ago (Ma) (Critelli et al. 1995). While sediments dating back to the Cretaceous (66 million years ago) are preserved in the basin, continuous sedimentation began in the Middle Miocene (around 13 million years ago) and continues today, resulting in thousands of feet of accumulation (Yerkes et al. 1965). Most of these sediments are marine which were overlain beginning in the Pleistocene when sea level dropped, and deposition was of alluvial sediments composing the uppermost geologic units in the Los Angeles Basin.

The Los Angeles Basin is subdivided into four structural blocks. The Project area is situated within the northernmost edge of the Central Block, where sediments range from 32,000 to 35,000 feet thick (Yerkes et al. 1965). The Central Block is wedge-shaped, and extends from the Santa Monica Mountains in the northwest, where it is about 10 miles wide, to the San Joaquin Hills in the southeast, where it widens to around 20 miles across (Yerkes et al. 1965). The Project area is in the Elysian Hills, a structural anticlinorium, or uplifted fold of bedrock, which formed from fault activity 2.9 Ma, resulting in the exposure of Miocene-aged marine rocks at the surface (Meigs and Cooke 2003).

The Project area surface geology is mapped by Dibblee and Ehrenspeck (1989) as alluvial sediment along the Los Angeles River. This is in keeping with the geotechnical study which found the Project area to be disturbed and a mix of alluvium and artificial fill (Geotek 2021). Mapping by Yerkes and Campbell (2005) identifies the soils as alluvial fan deposits, older alluvial deposits, and Puente Formation likely present. These sediments consist of unconsolidated silt, sand, and gravel deposited as a result of the early Holocene or late Pleistocene erosional processes of the surrounding highlands.

The artificial fill layer extends to a depth of about 4-feet and consists mostly of silty sands. While artificial fill overwhelmingly lacks sensitivity for prehistoric resources, it does not necessarily negate sensitivity for historic-era resources as the importing of the fill material may have occurred in association with historic-era human activity. Fill may have also come directly from the Los Angeles River during channelization.

### 3.2 Cultural Setting

A summary of the cultural setting is provided below to place the Project area within relevant temporal and ethnographic settings. These settings inform expectations of the types of resources that could be encountered and provide context for which cultural resources might be assessed for significance.



#### 3.2.1 PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

The chronology of southern California is typically divided into three general time periods: The Early Holocene (9,600 B.C. to 5,600 B.C.), the Middle Holocene (5,600 B.C. to 1,650 B.C.), and the Late Holocene (1,650 B.C. to A.D. 1769). This chronology is characterized in the archaeological record by the presence of particular artifacts and other practices that indicate specific technologies, economies, and trade networks.

#### Early Holocene (9,600 B.C to 5,600 B.C)

It is not certain when humans first came to California; however, human occupation in southern California is well documented by roughly 9,600 B.C. During the Early Holocene, the climate of southern California became much warmer and more arid. Human populations were made up of small hunter-gatherer groups, residing mainly in coastal or inland desert areas, and began exploiting a wider range of plant and animal resources (Byrd and Raab 2007).

#### Middle Holocene (5,600 B.C. to 1,650 B.C.)

During the Middle Holocene, there is evidence of a shift toward a more diverse economy, and subsistence systems focused on plant foods and foraging. The first confirmed evidence of human occupation in the Los Angeles area is associated with the Millingstone cultures that appeared in California around 6,000 to 5,000 B.C. (Byrd and Raab 2007; Wallace 1955; Warren 1968). Millingstone cultures were characterized by the collection and processing of plant foods, such as acorns, and the hunting of a wider variety of game animals (Byrd and Raab 2007; Wallace 1955). They also established more permanent settlements that were located primarily on the coast and in the vicinity of areas with an abundance of resources. Early Millingstone occupations are typically identified by the presence of handstones and millingstones, while those Millingstone occupations dating later than approximately 3,000 B.C. contain a mortar and pestle complex as well, signifying the exploitation of acorns in the region.

#### Late Holocene (1,650 B.C. to A.D. 1769)

During the Late Holocene, many aspects of Millingstone culture persisted, but several socioeconomic changes occurred (Erlandson 1994; Wallace 1955; Warren 1968). The native populations of southern California were becoming less mobile. Smaller and more sedentary villages with satellite resource-gathering camps became more common. An increasing population made it necessary to exploit more terrestrial and marine resources (Erlandson 1994). The exploitation of larger, higher-ranked food sources may have led to a shift in subsistence strategies, where there was more of a focus on acquiring greater amounts of smaller resources, such as shellfish and small-seeded plants (Byrd and Raab 2007). The Late Holocene also marks a period in which more specialized labor began to emerge, trading networks became an increasingly important means by which both utilitarian and non-utilitarian materials were acquired, and travel routes were extended. Trade during this period reached its zenith as asphaltum (tar), seashells, and steatite were traded from Catalina Island (*Pimu* or *Pimugna*) and coastal southern California to the Great Basin. The bow and arrow were introduced sometime after A.D. 500, replacing the dart and atlatl (Byrd and Raab 2007).

In Los Angeles, Orange, western Riverside, and southwestern San Bernardino Counties, the introduction of cremation, elaborate burial practices with grave goods, pottery, and small triangular arrow points are



thought to have resulted from Takic migration to the coast from inland desert regions. This Takic or Numic Tradition was formerly referred to as the "Shoshonean wedge" or "Shoshonean intrusion" (Warren 1968). This terminology, used originally to describe an Uto-Aztecan language group, is generally no longer employed to avoid confusion with ethnohistoric and modern Shoshonean groups who spoke Numic languages (Heizer 1978:5; Shipley 1978:88, 90).

#### 3.2.1 ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

The Project area is in the region known to have been occupied by the Gabrielino (also known as Tongva). The Gabrielino were one of several Takic-speaking groups in Southern California at the time of Spanish contact. The term "Gabrielino" came from the period of missionization with Mission San Gabriel Archangel, established in 1771.

### 3.2.1.1 Gabrielino/Tongva

The Gabrielino occupied the southern Channel Islands, the Los Angeles basin, much of Orange County, and extended as far east as the western San Bernardino Valley. They established villages located along rivers and at the mouths of canyons. Populations ranged from 50 to 200 inhabitants. Residential structures within the villages were domed, circular, and made from thatched tule or other available wood. Gabrielino society was organized by kinship groups, with each group composed of several related families who together owned hunting and gathering territories. Settlement patterns varied according to the availability of floral and faunal resources (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991).

The Gabrielino were fisher/ hunter-gatherers that exploited a wide array of marine and terrestrial game as well as acorns, Islay, pinion nut, and a wide array of seeds, roots, and other plant materials (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991). The Gabrielino utilized plank canoes (te'aat), dugout canoes, nets, shellfish hooks, harpoons, and traps to exploit a wide array of deep-sea fish, marine mammals, and shellfish. They hunted large game with bow and arrow, and used traps, nets and throwing sticks for small game. Plant processing was done with groundstone milling equipment, baskets, and seed beaters. The Gabrielino had a wide array of decorative and ceremonial objects made from steatite, brownware ceramics, bone, shell, asphaltum, and wood.

By the late 18th century, Gabrielino had significantly dwindled due to introduced European diseases and dietary deficiencies. Gabrielino communities disintegrated as families were taken to the missions (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991). However, current descendants of the Gabrielino are preserving Gabrielino culture. Of the Gabrielino groups or tribes, none are federally registered; however, the state does recognize several groups of Gabrielino descent. The nearest Gabrielino villages to the Project according to McCawley include Maungna, near Rancho Los Felis, and Haahamonga, near present-day Glendale (tongvapeople.org N.D.)

#### 3.2.2 HISTORIC-ERA OVERVIEW

The first European to visit California was Spanish maritime explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542. Cabrillo was sent north by the Viceroy of New Spain (Mexico) to look for the Northwest Passage. Cabrillo visited San Diego Bay, Catalina Island, San Pedro Bay, and the northern Channel Islands. The English adventurer Francis Drake visited the Miwok Native American group at Drake's Bay or Bodega Bay in



1579. Sebastian Vizcaíno explored the coast as far north as Monterey in 1602. He reported that Monterey was an excellent location for a port (Castillo 1978). Vizcaíno also named San Diego Bay to commemorate Saint Didacus. The name began to appear on European maps of the New World by 1624 (Gudde 1998:332). The historic era is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

#### Spanish Mission Period (1769–1821)

The return of Spanish presence in California was marked by the 1769 Serra-Portola Expedition, led by Junipero Serra along with Gaspar de Portola. Serra had led the expedition under the authorization of Jose de Galvez, the Visitador of New Spain. Serra was granted leadership of this expeditions because of the military's deep history of abusing the native people they were supposed to be protecting. Serra had experienced how the miliary abuse impeded, or often prevented, the Spanish Franciscans' missionization efforts (Hackel 2013; Sandos 2004; Treutlein 1968; Weber 2009). Shortly thereafter, Spain began to establish a system of pueblos, presidios, ranchos, and missions along the California coast to bolster Spanish settlement. The missionaries established a system of 21 missions along El Camino Real and enacted the practice of missionization or forced removal and "cultural education" of native people. The Missions of San Gabriel and San Fernando were founded in 1771 and 1797, respectively. Twelve families from the already missionized native peoples of what is now Sonora and Sinaloa were brought in to establish the Pueblo de Los Angeles in 1781, near the Los Angeles River in what is now downtown Los Angeles. They were given land tools for successful agricultural production, allowing a higher rate of profitability (Jones 2018; Starr 2015).

The Gabrielino were forcefully integrated into Mission San Gabriel. The Gabrielino worked as farmers or craftsmen or grazing herds in the valley. Integration devastated the Native American groups through the introduction of diseases to which they had no immunity and through the loss of traditional lifestyles. The Spanish period began a decline in 1821, when Mexico gained independence from Spain and subsequently secularized the missions (Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996; Miller 1991).

#### Mexican Rancho Period (1821–1848)

During the Spanish and subsequent Mexican periods, ranchos were a concession-granting system that awarded many military officers with large tracts of land for settlement and raising livestock. In 1821, the Mexican government closed the missions, and former mission lands were granted to retired soldiers and other Mexican citizens. Much of the land along the coast and in the interior valleys became part of Mexican ranchos used primarily as cattle ranches (Robinson 1948). In 1833, the government required land be set aside for each Native American family. But the requirement was quickly brushed aside by Californios who, with the help of those in power, acquired the church lands as grants. Native peoples were forced to work on the rancheros.

The ranchos established land-use patterns still used today. Rancho boundaries became the basis for California's land survey system and are found on modern maps and land titles. The rancheros (rancho owners) patterned themselves after the landed gentry of New Spain, primarily raising cattle or sheep (Robinson 1948).



The Project area is within a portion of land known as Rancho Cañada de Los Nogales, meaning "canyon of the walnut trees." It was established in 1844, when it was granted to José Maria Aguilar by Governor Manuel Micheltorena (Hoffman 1862). Aguilar was a Los Angeles official. His son, Cristobal Aguilar, would later become mayor of Los Angeles (Chaves 1999). In 1853, the land was sold to Lewis C. Granger, a lawyer native to Ohio who came to Los Angeles only three years prior. Granger traded the Rancho in 1854, to J.D. Hunter in exchange for Hunter's home. Granger then bought 2,700 acres of Rancho San Rafael along the Los Angeles River from Verdugos. J. D. Hunter came to California from Kentucky in 1847. He was a Captain of Company B in the lowa Volunteers, known as the Mormon Battalion. Hunter was discharged soon after he came to California and then posted at the San Luis Rey Mission after being appointed a U.S. Indian agent for Southern California. Prior to his arrival in Los Angeles, he resided in a Mormon settlement of San Bernardino until its abandonment. In Los Angeles he became a brick manufacture. Hunter owned portions of the adjacent Ranchos and sold Rancho Cañada de Los Nogales in 1882 to local developers (Vurtinus 1979).

#### American Period (1848–Present)

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican-American War (1846–1848), marks the beginning of the American period. In 1850, California became the 31st state in the American Union. In the late nineteenth century, droughts decimated the cattle industry in Southern California, which resulted in the purchase of many of the ranchos by American investors (Cleland 1941). The Los Angeles & San Pedro Railroad was completed in 1869. It was the first railway built in Southern California (Hoyt 1953; Robinson 1978).

On February 18, 1850, the County of Los Angeles was established as one of the 27 original counties in California. The City of Los Angeles grew exponentially in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The urban downtown sprawled outward incorporating much of the San Fernando Valley, major portions of the Los Angeles Basin, and parts of the Rancho Palos Verdes peninsula (Fogelson 1993:226–227). After World War II, when much of the Los Angeles Basin began to develop into dense residences and commercial areas for a burgeoning post-war economy. The Los Angeles basin has become a center for intensive and large-scale industry, logistics and warehousing, and petroleum development. Continued growth led to the formation of new communities and counties, including Orange County, which broke away from Los Angeles County on March 11, 1889.

#### 3.2.2.1 Historic Overview of the Taylor Yard

The Project area is located within the northwestern portion of the historic Taylor Yard, one of several Southern Pacific Railroad yards that were situated along the Los Angeles River.

The first Southern Pacific Railroad line to Los Angeles was completed in 1876, connecting the city to San Francisco via the Glendale Narrows. The original rail alignment ran adjacent to San Fernando Road into downtown Los Angeles. The company's first passenger station, freight depot, and classification yard, known as River Station, was located at North Spring Street, north of West College Street, within present-day Chinatown (now the site of the Los Angeles State Historic Park). The classification yard could originally hold as many as 225 freight cars. It was later relocated in the early 1900s almost 2.5-miles north of River Station and then expanded in the 1910s to ten tracks totaling 21,000 feet spread across both sides of the main line. In 1914, flooding along the Los Angeles River greatly damaged the Southern Pacific train yard. Following the 1914 floods, Southern Pacific began a major overhaul of their



classification yard, building a new earthen levee along the river's east bank. 900,000 yards of earth was imported onto the site to level the ground between the Pacific Fruit Facility and the main line, before adding 47,000 feet of track (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

A rapid increase in Los Angeles rail traffic after World War I motivated Southern Pacific to make a number of operational changes. In 1925, the company relocated its entire Los Angeles freight handling operations from River Station to Taylor Yard. The new classification yard was named after its previous owner, J. Hartley Taylor—an influential Los Angeles businessman and owner of the Taylor Grocery and Taylor Milling Company. Taylor had purchased the land in the 1890s, establishing a farm at the site that later included a grocery store as well as mill and grain storage facilities (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

Taylor Yard originally extended approximately 2-miles on the east bank of the Los Angeles River between Arvia Street and the present-day Glendale Freeway. The northern portion of the yard was originally occupied by approximately 15 tracks which widened out to around 20 tracks south of Division Street. There were also a number of warehouses and operation buildings located between Division Street and Elm Street, adjacent to the river. It was at Taylor Yard where Southern Pacific introduced several modern railroad infrastructure advancements, the most notable of which was the "hump-based" classification system. The system operated using small switch locomotives that shoved strings of freight cars to the top of an artificially created eight-foot-high hillock or "hump that were then allowed to roll down the opposite side to prearranged tracks. The hump at Taylor Yard was located west of Macon Street. The small switch locomotives were manned by car riders who used brake wheels to slow their descent. The cars were then rolled into a "classification bowl," where they were assembled into "consists<sup>2</sup>" (Bevil and Dallas 2004).

Despite the Great Depression, Southern Pacific continued to expand and improve Taylor Yard in the 1930s. The railroad constructed a new roundhouse, for maintenance and repair of the steam locomotives, and divisional shop facility. Due to the efforts to build up the levee after the 1914 flood, the site sat above the river's natural flood plain. Flooding in 1938 mostly spared the yard; however, because of the 1938 flood, the city soon embarked on one of its largest infrastructure projects, the channelization of the Los Angeles River. The riverbank to the west of Taylor Yard was subsequently reconfigured within a permanent channel and encased with concrete by the mid-1950s. The fill material used to construct the channel was placed on undeveloped portions of the north end of Taylor Yard. Following World War II, Los Angeles emerged as the West Coast's primary manufacturing center and leader of the defense and aerospace industries in the United States.

The resulting growth in local industries and transition from steam to diesel-electric rail engines spurred Southern Pacific to upgrade Taylor Yard beginning in 1949. The company expanded to twenty-five receiving tracks, upgraded the hump to include pneumatically controlled retarders, and expanded the roundhouse and engine repair facilities to maintain the newer, larger, and heavier locomotives (Bevil and Dallas 2004). Included in the 1949 modernization, the old Taylor Yard office was replaced with a new structure near Fletcher Avenue at the yard's north end, in what is now called the Bowtie section (Mullaly and Petty 2002).

Southern Pacific began to slowly phase out operations at Taylor Yard after the completion of a modern automated freight classification yard at West Colton in 1973. For 12 years, Taylor Yard was used for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Consists are the total number of locomotives or rail cars that make up a train. Railroad Glossary (american-rails.com)rain Conductor HQ Accessed September 1, 2022.



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engine and car repair before finally closing the yard in 1985. Southern Pacific prepared the northern portion of Taylor Yard for sale, demolishing buildings, and structures as well as remediating contaminated soil. Southern Pacific was sold to Union Pacific in 1996 in parcels for other development (Mullaly and Petty 2002). The parcel that Union Pacific sold was to Los Angeles for the Metrolink. It was this sale that launched the extensive public effort to reserve the bulk Taylor Yard for public use as a park and greenspace. A total of 40 acres of the former yard were subsequently acquired by the California Department of Parks and Recreation in December 2001.

#### 3.3 Records Search Methods

A records search was requested from the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System at California State University, Fullerton. The request was submitted on May 11, 2022, and the results were received on July 19, 2022. The purpose of the records search was to identify previously recorded cultural resources, if any, within the Project area and a 0.5-mile radius surrounding the Project area. The records search resulted in identification of previous investigations and site records of previously recorded resources within the Project area and the 0.5-mile search radius.

The Built Environment Resources Directory was also reviewed to identify historic-era resources listed on or determined eligible for listing on the NRHP, the CRHR, and local registers. It also included a review of resources listed as California Historical Landmarks and California Points of Historical Interest.

### 3.4 Records Search Results

The records search found that 22 previous cultural resources investigations have been completed within a 0.5-mile of the Project area (Table 1). The projects were conducted between 1986 and 2013; two of the surveys were conducted in the last ten years and most were conducted in between 2000 and 2010. These projects supported a variety of undertakings, including private developments, railways, roadways, telecommunications, and water or sewer, and several involved archaeological monitoring. Two of the previous investigations overlapped a portion of the Project APE; however, most of the Project area has not been previously surveyed for cultural resources.

Table 1. Previously conducted investigations

Report No.	Year	Author(S)	Title	Affiliation	Proximity To Project
LA- 08252	1986	Snyder, John W., Mikesell, Stephen, and Pierzinski	Request for Determination of Eligibility for Inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places/Historic Bridges in California: concrete Arch, Suspension, Steel Girder and Steel Arch	Caltrans	Outside
LA- 02156	1989	White, Robert S., and David Van Horn	A Phase I Cultural Resources Study of the 18-4- acre Proposed Etna Commercial Plaza Site, City of Los Angeles	Archaeological Associates, Ltd.	Outside
LA- 02517	1991	Wlodarski, Robert J.	,		Overlaps a portion



Report No.	Year	Author(S)	Title	Affiliation	Proximity To Project
LA- 02950	1992	Anonymous	Consolidated Report: Cultural Resource Studies for the Proposed Pacific Pipeline Project	Peak & Associates, Inc.	Outside
LA- 03647	1996	Wlodarski, Robert J.	A Phase I Archaeological Study for the Telacu Pointe Project Located at 3100 Fletcher Drive, City and County of Los Angeles, California	Historical, Environmental, Archaeological, Research, Team	Outside
LA- 04046	1996	Wlodarski, Robert J.	A Phase I Archaeological Study for the Telacu Pointe Project Located 3100 Fletcher Drive, City and County of Los Angeles, California	Historical, Environmental, Archaeological, Research, Team	Outside
LA- 05414	2000	Smith, Philomene C.	Negative Archaeological Survey Report: 07-la-2 Kp22.5/36.7-170-21370k	Caltrans District 7	Outside
LA- 05449	2000	Unknown	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation at Lennar Taylor Yard	Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.	Outside
LA- 05441	2001	Sylvia, Barbara	Negative Archaeological Survey Report: 07-la-134- 9.8/10.9-174-21780k	Caltrans District 7	Outside
LA- 06353	2001	Bonner, Wayne H.	Records Search Results for Telecommunication Facility La-	Michael Brandman Associates	Outside
LA- 06466	2002	Hale, Alice E.	Archaeological Survey Report Los Angeles River Bikepath at Fletcher Drive Bridge Los Angeles, California	Greenwood and Associates	Outside
LA- 06086	2003	Wlodarski, Robert J.	A Phase I Archaeological Study for Property Located at 2945-2951 Marsh Street (proposed Elysian Valley United Skate Park) City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, California	Historical, Environmental, Archaeological, Research, Team	Outside
LA- 06837	2003	Greenwood, Roberta S.	Cultural Resources Monitoring: Northeast Interceptor Sewer Project	Greenwood and Associates	Outside
LA- 07425	2004	McMorris, Christopher	City of Los Angeles Monumental Bridges 1900- 1950: Historic Context and Evaluation Guidelines	JRP Historical Consulting	Outside
LA- 07901	2006	Dietler, Sara	LAUSD Glassell Park Project 06260226.01 Archaeological and Historical Phase 1 Results	EDAW	Outside
LA- 08054	2006	McKenna, Jeanette A.	Results of a Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for the Proposed Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Taylor Yard Park Water Recycling Project, Located in the Glendale and Glassell Park Areas of Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	Outside
LA- 08255	2006	Arrington, Cindy, and Nancy Sikes	Cultural Resources Final Report of Monitoring and Findings for the Qwest Network Construction Project State of California: Volumes I and II	SWCA Environmental Consultants, Inc.	Outside
LA- 09608	2008	Bonner, Wayne H., Sarah A. Williams, and Kathleen A. Crawford	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile candidate SV11418D (CA Paving & Grading), 3253 Verdugo Road, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	Michael Brandman Associates	Outside

Report No.	Year	Author(S)	Title	Affiliation	Proximity To Project	
LA- 10638	2010	Tang, Bai "Tom"	Preliminary Historical/ Archaeological Resources Study, Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) River Subdivision Positive Train Control Project, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California	CRM Tech	Outside	
LA- 10642	2010	Tang, Bai "Tom"	Preliminary Historical/Archaeological Resources Study, Antelope Valley line Positive Train Control (PTC) Project Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Lancaster to Glendale, Los Angeles County, California	CRM Tech	Overlaps a portion	
LA- 12515	2012	Zalarvis-Chase, Dimitra	Verizon Wireless Future, 1600 North San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90065	URS Corp	Outside	
LA- 12526	2013	Ehringer, Candace, Ramirez, Katherine, and Vader, Michael	Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District Chloride TMDL Facilities Plan Project, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment	ESA	Outside	
Bold text	Bold text and gray highlighting indicate previous projects that overlap a portion of the Project area					

The records search results found no previously recorded cultural resources within the Project area. A total of five previously documented cultural resources are within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area (Table 2). These resources include three historic-era buildings, and two historic-era structures. None of the historic-era resources were recommended eligible for the CRHR.

Table 2. Previously recorded resources

Primary No.	Trinomial	Age and Type	Resource Description	Proximity to Project
P-19-170772	Unknown	Historic Building	Religious Building	Outside
P-19-170773	Unknown	Historic Building	Single Family Property	Outside
P-19-188007	Unknown	Historic Structure	Highway/ Trail	Outside
P-19-188088	Unknown	Historic Building	Educational Building	Outside
P-19-190897	Unknown	Historic Structure	Canal/Aqueduct; Lake/River/Reservoir	Outside

### 3.5 Historical Map Review

Historical USGS maps were reviewed to identify if historic-era structures or features had previously been present in the Project area. Maps from 1894, 1896, 1898, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1913, 1915, 1920, 1927, 1928, 1931, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1948, 1956, 1968, and 1975 were reviewed using the online source historicaerials.com. In addition, Sanborn maps for the City of Los Angeles from 1906 to January 1951, Volume 40, 1930 to January 1951, and 1906 to January 1951 Volume 11, 1919 to 1950 were reviewed using the ProQuest digital Sanborn Map database via the Los Angeles Public Library. The railroad is depicted on all the maps; however, the rail development was relatively minimal until 1928 at which time Taylor Yard development began to rapidly transform the landscape. No structures appear within the Project area until 1966. No structures appear in the Sanborn maps, and the parcel is only noted as being owned by the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Historical aerial photography from 1927, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1960, 1976, 1980, 1985, 1987, and 1988 were reviewed using the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Library online database, "Frame Finder Air Photos." The 3-acre portion of Taylor Yard, which makes up the Project APE, was largely undeveloped in the 1920s through 1940s, except for two sets of tracks that extended in a north-south direction outside the boundaries of the project area. By 1940, a culvert appears to cut east-west across the 3-acre project area, likely at the location of the Sycamore Wash. The Project area also appears to have been used as a fill placement area during the Los Angles river channelization. Between 1940 and 1952, the tracks were expanded eastward, but were still located outside the boundaries of the Project area. A large warehouse-type building with a flat roof was constructed on the site between 1952 and 1960 (Figure 4), which is likely the Taylor Yard office building constructed after the Yard's 1949 modernization efforts. A surface parking lot is pictured around the building to the north, west, and south. Two paved roads with two-way traffic extended in a north-south direction immediately to the east of the building and to the west of the surface parking lot. There were also smaller ancillary buildings located to the north and south of the warehouse. The building to the north appears to have had a flat roof and the building to the south appears to have had a front gabled roof. The south ancillary building is located outside the boundaries of the project area. No alterations appear to have occurred between 1960 and 1987, after which the buildings appear to have been demolished. Aerial images suggest that the Project area was used for stockpiling and/or left vacant throughout the 1990s and 2000s.



Figure 4. 1952 historical aerial photograph (historicaerials.com, accessed December 13, 2022)



Figure 5. 1964 historical aerial photograph (UCSB, accessed August 31, 2022)

### 4 Field Survey

Stantec archaeologist, John Sneddon, BA, conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the Project area under the supervision of Shannon Loftus, MA HP, RPA (Principal Investigator) and Dean Reed, MPS CHRM (Field Director). The survey was conducted on August 2, 2022. The methods and results of the survey are described below.

### 4.1 Survey Methods

The Project area was surveyed using systematic, parallel transects spaced 15-meters apart. The goal of survey was to identify artifacts, archaeological features (such as foundations and other historic structures), anthropogenic sediments, or other evidence of cultural remains. All areas were examined, and noted the environment, disturbances, access, and the presence or absence of cultural resources.

The Project area was converted to a background shapefile and the shapefile was uploaded to a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) unit. The GPS unit was used to verify the Project location and guide the survey. The setting and disturbances were recorded and photo-documented using a digital camera. Field notes were recorded on the Wildnote application and electronic field notes were saved to Stantec's confidential cultural resource project folder post-fieldwork. All photographs and notes are on file at Stantec's Monrovia, California office. They can also be viewed in Appendix A.

All cultural resources identified were determined to be associated with the historic Taylor Yard, thus considered to be components of a single site. Stantec competed a California DPR 523 form for the resources identified during the survey (see Appendix B).

### 4.2 Survey Results

The Project area is a vacant lot, characterized by broken pavement and gravel, and areas of heavy graffiti. Concentrations of palm trees, native and invasive grasses and bushes were observed to be present around the north and east margins of the Project area. The proposed soil-spoil relocation area has more vegetation concentrated near the center. An asphalt road is present along the Project area's eastern border. A dirt and gravel transmission easement are situated along the northwestern Project boundary. Modern debris is present throughout the site, primarily concentrated in the proposed soil-spoil relocation area. The debris ranges from common household trash, furniture, shopping carts, miscellaneous metals and plastics, and dilapidated k-rail barriers.

Several historic-era features and one artifact were observed within the Project area. These consist of:

- 1. A railroad sign with a signpost consisting of two steel posts topped by a crossbeam. The signpost is topped with a circular sign that reads "B1."
- 2. An I-beam structure and pole topped by a circular metal shade.
- 3. A building foundation consisting of three steel bars embedded in the ground forming a 15-foot square.
- 4. A second building foundation consisting of a 72-foot wide by 170-foot long concrete slab.
- 5. A third building foundation consisting of a concrete pad measuring 6.9-feet wide by 12.5-feet long.
- 6. A fourth building foundation consisting of a row of three steel I-beams embedded in the ground and cut off at the ground surface.
- 7. One isolated railroad spike.

The railroad sign, the I-beam structure, and one of the foundations (items 1 through 3 above) were identified within the project site, along its eastern boundary. The remaining foundations and the railroad spike (items 4 through 7 above) were identified within the proposed location for the shallow soil removal, up to two feet, as discussed in Section 1, during site preparation activities. These historic-era cultural resources appear to be associated with the use of the Taylor Yard, were likely constructed sometime after 1952, and were originally located adjacent to a road based on the historical aerial images. The research did not determine the specific use of the railroad sign. Only one of the foundations (item 4 above) can be linked to a specific building that existed on the lot previously: Taylor Yard office building constructed after the Yard's 1949 modernization efforts, seen in Figure 4. Due to their association with Taylor Yard, the features and artifact identified during the survey were documented under the same temporary site number, R220803-74-01. No other cultural resources were identified during the survey.



### 5 Summary and Recommendations

Stantec conducted a cultural resource Phase I study in support of the Project. The assessment included a records search, review of historic USGS maps, Sanborn maps, aerial imagery, and an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the 3-acre Project area.

The Phase I study revealed that the historical features of Taylor Yard remain within the APE, including building foundations, a railroad sign, and an isolated railroad spike. No other historic-era cultural resources were identified, and no prehistoric-era cultural resources were identified during the survey.

Taylor Yard has never been inventoried or evaluated for its eligibility for listing in the CRHR or NRHP. It is seemingly important to local regional history and contained several pieces of infrastructure that may have been critical to the development of the Los Angeles basin. A full investigation an evaluation of Taylor Yard would be needed to determine its historical significance. However, the newly recorded site, R220803-74-01, does not indicate a significant historical association with the yard. The components of the site do not appear to be associated with any facilities that characterized the yard's technological achievements or primary operations and merely exemplify ongoing developments within the yard during the mid-20th century. Therefore, the site does not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1. There is no evidence that the components of the site have any important association with any person or persons who made significant contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Therefore, the site does not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. The components of the site to not embody any distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, that represent the work of a master engineer/builder. Therefore, the side does not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3. Under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4, site R220803-74-01 is not significant as a source, or likely source, of important information regarding history, building materials, construction techniques, or advancements in design or engineering.

The native sediment of the general area consists of unconsolidated alluvial sediments along the Los Angeles River. The background research, historical maps, and aerial images of the Project area indicate extensive ground disturbance starting as early as 1914 and well into the 1940s. The Project area was entirely paved, and buildings had been constructed by the 1960s, and were demolished by 1988. The entire Project area is highly disturbed and has been mechanically altered several times throughout the 20th-century, which has significantly undermined the integrity of the R220803-74-01.

The built-environment remains observed on the surface and the site's history suggest potential for presence of buried historic-era features related to the Taylor Yard as no soil remediation occurred in these areas. The built-environment remains should not affect the Project in terms of construction and design planning. The surviving components of the Taylor Yard within the Project area do not appear to constitute a historical resource, as defined under CEQA (i.e., resources eligible for the CRHR), or a historic property as defined under the NHPA. Therefore, they are recommended as not eligible for listing. However, given that the construction work will significantly impact R220803-74-01, Stantec is recommending that an archaeological monitor be present during ground disturbance activities. In addition, a worker environmental awareness program (WEAP) should be developed to provide workers with training for treating known cultural resources, and potential discoveries of presently undocumented resources, within the Project area, and instruction on compliance with mitigation measures developed for the Project.

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With respect to prehistoric resources, identifications during construction is unlikely given the extensive disturbance to the Project area as a result of three-quarters of a century of railroad yard development and subsequent demolition. However, Stantec recommends the lead agencies continue engagement and consultation with the interested Native American tribes given ancestral homeland connection by the Gabrielino/Tongva People.



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### **APPENDICES**



# Appendix A Photographs





Project area overview, from the northeast corner; view southeast.



Project area overview, from the southeast corner; view northwest.



Project area overview, from the eastern boundary; view west.

## Appendix B (Confidential) DPR 523 Site Forms

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Decla Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland	ration d Project
	APPENDIX D DAI CONTOL COLOAL DECOLIDOR ACCESCMENT
	APPENDIX D PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT



Final Paleontological Resource Assessment for The Nature Conservancy Bowtie Demonstration Project, Los Angeles, California

Results of an Analysis of Existing Data

September 26, 2022

Prepared for:

The Nature Conservancy 445 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1950 Los Angeles, CA 90071

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Prepared by

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Michael Weber, Senior Principal Scientist



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### **Executive Summary**

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) conducted a paleontological resources assessment on behalf of The Nature Conservancy for the Bowtie Demonstration Project (the Project) on portions of an approximately 2.5 acres of land in the City of Los Angeles, California. This paleontological study was conducted in support of The Nature Conservancy for the proposed habitat enhancement and stormwater treatment improvements.

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and City of Los Angeles requirements regarding the Project's potential impacts on paleontological resources. As part of this compliance, a paleontological resources assessment was conducted to assess potential impacts of the proposed Project on paleontological resources.

This paleontological resource investigation consisted of a museum records search from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County of the Project area and vicinity, as well as a review of the results of geotechnical studies conducted on the site (Geotek 2021, Converse Consultants 2022), the most recent geologic mapping, and relevant scientific literature. This research was used to assign paleontological potential rankings of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) to the geologic units present in the Project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface. The results of this assessment indicate that the surface of the Project area consists of alluvial fan sediments with low-to-high paleontological potential, increasing with depth, likely underlain by the Puente Formation, with high paleontological potential, at an undetermined depth.

Currently available Project plans do not include complete specifications for depth or type of ground disturbance but do include stormwater vaults buried at depths of up to 33 feet below grade. Ground disturbance that occurs into geologic units with high paleontological potential may encounter paleontological resources. While the exact depth of high potential sediments in the subsurface is undetermined, given the depths of other fossil localities in the area, depths of 10 feet below ground surface is reasonable for the transition from low to high potential sediments. In order to avoid impacts to paleontological resources, Stantec recommends the following mitigation activities for the Project:

1. A paleontologist meeting professional standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) shall be retained as the project paleontologist to oversee all aspects of paleontological mitigation, including the development and implementation of a Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PMMP) tailored to the Project plans that provides for paleontological monitoring of earthwork and ground disturbing activities into undisturbed geologic units with high paleontological potential to be conducted by a paleontological monitor meeting industry standards (Murphey et al. 2019). The PMMP should also include provisions for a Workers' Environmental Awareness Program training that communicates requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of paleontological resources during construction, to be delivered by the paleontological



- monitor to the construction crew prior to the onset of ground disturbance. As the Project is on California State Parks lands, a permit will be required from State Parks for this work.
- Paleontological monitoring will be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor for ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area. The project paleontologist may reduce the frequency of monitoring should subsurface conditions indicate low paleontological potential.
- 3. Should a potential paleontological resource be identified in the Project area, whether by the monitor or a member of the construction crew, work should halt in a safe radius around the find (usually 50 feet) until the project paleontologist can assess the find and, if significant, salvage the fossil for laboratory preparation and curation at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Based on the findings in this study and the implementation of the above mitigation activities, the proposed Project would not adversely impact paleontological resources. Therefore, no additional paleontological resource studies are recommended or required at this time. Changes to the Project location or plans from those assessed in this study will require additional assessment for impacts to paleontological resources.



### **Abbreviations**

bgs Below ground surface

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

City City of Los Angeles

LACM Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Project Bowtie Demonstration Project

SVP Society of Vertebrate Paleontology



### **Glossary**

Paleontological Monitor A person meeting or exceeding the following qualifications: B.S. or

B.A. degree in geology or paleontology and one year of experience monitoring in the state or geologic province of the specific project. An associate degree and/or demonstrated experience showing ability to recognize fossils in a biostratigraphic context and recover vertebrate

fossils in the field may be substituted for a degree.

Paleontological Monitoring Full-time observation of construction activities in high potential

geologic units by a paleontological monitor, under supervision of the

project paleontologist.

Paleontological Resource Any evidence of ancient life. This includes the remains of the body of

an organism, such as bones, skin impressions, shell, or leaves, as well as traces of an organism's activity, such as footprints or

burrows, called trace fossils, and relevant associated geologic data.

Also referred to as fossils.

Project Paleontologist An individual who is recognized in the paleontological community as

a professional and can demonstrate familiarity and proficiency with paleontology in a stratigraphic context, including fossil identification and recovery, with the equivalent of the following qualifications: a graduate degree in paleontology or geology, and/or a publication record in peer reviewed journals; demonstrated competence in field techniques, preparation, identification, curation, and reporting in the state or geologic province in which the project occurs; at least two full years professional experience as assistant to a Project Paleontologist with administration and project management

Paleontologist with administration and project management experience; experience collecting vertebrate fossils in the field.

Spot check A short inspection of excavations and subsurface conditions

conducted by the paleontological monitor in order to confirm

excavations are impacting low potential geologic units.



Introduction

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) conducted a paleontological resources assessment on behalf of the Nature Conservancy for the Bowtie Demonstration Project (the Project) on portions of an approximately 2.5 acres of land in the City of Los Angeles, California. This paleontological study was conducted in support of the Nature Conservancy for the proposed habitat enhancement and stormwater treatment improvements.

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the City of Los Angeles (the City) requirements regarding the Project's potential impacts on paleontological resources. As part of this compliance, a paleontological resources assessment was conducted to assess potential impacts of the proposed Project on paleontological resources.

#### 1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Led by The Nature Conservancy in partnership with California State Parks, the Project will capture stormwater and enhance habitat. The Project is a 2.5-acre stormwater demonstration project located on the California State Parks 18-acre "Bowtie" Parcel along the Glendale Narrows stretch of the Los Angeles River in the City (Figure 1). The project will be treating dry weather stormwater runoff from a 2,775-acre drainage area that encompasses the City of Los Angeles, Glendale, and Pasadena. The Project includes a diversion structure from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's storm drain, stormwater vaults, pre-treatment units, a utility shed, and a constructed wetland. Stormwater vaults will all be located within a centralized area on the north-northwest portion of the site. Although the design of vaults is not yet complete, the vaults are anticipated to have lengths and widths of about 10 to 12 feet and will be founded at depths ranging from about 20 to 33 feet below grade. In addition, some surficial landscaping and hardscaping are proposed on the subject site. Wetland excavations are planned to be approximately 7 feet below grade, with an estimated 85,000 square foot area for basin construction. Treated flows will outfall into the County storm drain and into the Los Angeles River.

### 1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Project is located at in the City of Los Angeles, California, bound by the Los Angeles River on the west and the Southern Pacific Railroad on the east, between the communities of Glassell Park and Elysian Valley, approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the Interstate 5 and Glendale Freeway intersection (Figure 1). The Project area is located on Los Angeles County Assessor Parcel Numbers 5442-002-914 and 5442-002-825. Specifically, the Project area is located in portions of Section 4, Township 1 South,



Introduction

Range 13 West, as depicted on the Los Angeles, California USGS 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle, on lands owned by California State Parks.



Introduction

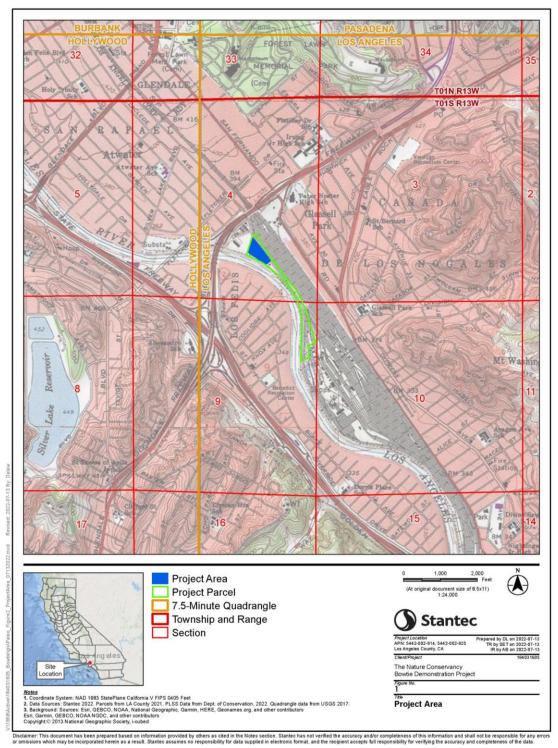


Figure 1. Project area



Introduction

### 1.3 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Paleontological resources, or fossils, are any evidence of ancient life. This includes the remains of the body of an organism, such as bones, skin impressions, shell, or leaves, as well as traces of an organism's activity, such as footprints or burrows, called trace fossils. In addition to the fossils themselves, geologic context is an important component of paleontological resources, and includes the stratigraphic placement of the fossil as well as the lithology of the rock in order to assess paleoecologic setting, depositional environment, and taphonomy. Fossils are protected by federal, state, and local regulations as nonrenewable natural resources.

While CEQA does not define a significance threshold for paleontological resources, the standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) are often used in the absence of a legal definition of significance. The SVP defines significant paleontological resources as:

identifiable vertebrate fossils, large or small, uncommon invertebrate, plant, and trace fossils, and other data that provide taphonomic, taxonomic, phylogenetic, paleoecologic, stratigraphic, and/or biochronologic information. Paleontological resources are considered to be older than recorded human history and/or older than middle Holocene (i. e., older than about 5,000 radiocarbon years). [SVP 2010: 11].

It should be noted that the threshold for significance varies with a variety of factors, including geologic unit, geographic area, and the current state of scientific research, and may also vary between different agencies (Murphey et al. 2019). Numerous paleontological studies have developed criteria for the assessment of significance for fossil discoveries (e.g., Eisentraut and Cooper 2002, Murphey et al. 2019, Murphey and Daitch 2007, Scott and Springer 2003). In general, these studies assess fossils as significant if one or more of the following criteria apply:

- The fossils provide information on the evolutionary relationships and developmental trends among organisms, living or extinct.
- The fossils provide data useful in determining the age(s) of the rock unit or sedimentary stratum, including data important in determining the depositional history of the region and the timing of geologic events, through biochronology or biostratigraphy and the correlation with isotopic dating.
- The fossils provide ecological data, such as the development of biological communities, the interaction between paleobotanical and paleozoological biotas, or the biogeography of lineages.
- · The fossils demonstrate unusual or spectacular circumstances in the history of life.
- The fossils provide information on the preservational pathways of paleontological resources, including taphonomy, diagenesis, or preservational biases in the fossil record.



Regulatory Framework

- The fossils are in short supply and/or in danger of being depleted or destroyed by the elements, vandalism, or commercial exploitation, and are not found in other geographic locations.
- · The fossils inform our understanding of anthropogenic affects to global environments or climate.

A geologic unit known to contain significant paleontological resources is considered sensitive to adverse impacts if there is a high probability that earth-moving or ground-disturbing activities in that rock unit will either disturb or destroy fossil remains directly or indirectly. This definition of sensitivity differs fundamentally from the definition for archaeological resources as follows:

It is extremely important to distinguish between archaeological and paleontological (fossil) resource sites when defining the sensitivity of rock units. The boundaries of archaeological sites define the areal extent of the resource. Paleontological sites, however, indicate that the containing sedimentary rock unit or formation is fossiliferous. The limits of the entire rock formation, both areal and stratigraphic, therefore define the scope of the paleontological potential in each case. [SVP 2010: 2].

Many archaeological sites contain features that are visually detectable on the surface. In contrast, fossils are often contained within surficial sediments or bedrock and are therefore not observable or detectable unless exposed by erosion or human activity.

In summary, in the absence of observable fossil resources on the surface, paleontologists must assess the potential of geologic units as a whole to yield paleontological resources based on their known potential to produce significant fossils elsewhere. Monitoring by experienced paleontologists greatly increases the probability that fossils will be discovered during ground-disturbing activities and that, if these remains are significant, successful mitigation and salvage efforts may be undertaken to prevent adverse impacts to these resources.

### 2.0 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

California and the City have enacted multiple laws and regulations that provide for the protection of paleontological resources. This investigation was conducted to meet these requirements regarding paleontological resources on the lands proposed for development.

### 2.1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### 2.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq) requires that before approving most discretionary projects, the Lead Agency must identify and examine any significant adverse environmental effects that may result from activities associated with such projects. As updated in 2016, CEQA separates the



Regulatory Framework

consideration of paleontological resources from cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21083.09). The Appendix G checklist (Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, California Code of Regulations [CCR] 15000 et seq.) requires an answer to the question, "Will the proposed project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?" Under these requirements, Stantec has conducted a paleontological resources assessment to determine impacts of the proposed project on paleontological resources within the Project area.

#### 2.1.2 Public Resources Code

The California Public Resources Code (PRC) (Chapter 1.7, Sections 5097 and 30244) includes additional state-level requirements for the assessment and management of paleontological resources. These statutes require reasonable mitigation of adverse impacts to paleontological resources resulting from development on state lands, define the removal of paleontological sites or features from state lands as a misdemeanor, and prohibit the removal of any paleontological site or feature from state land without permission of the applicable jurisdictional agency.

### 2.2 LOCAL REGULATIONS

### 2.2.1 City of Los Angeles

The Conservation Element of the City of Los Angeles General Plan recognizes paleontological resources in Section 3: "Archeological and Paleontological" (II-3), specifically the La Brea Tar Pits, and identifies protection of paleontological resources as an objective (II-5). The General Plan identifies site protection as important, stating, "Pursuant to CEQA, if a land development project is within a potentially significant paleontological area, the developer is required to contact a bona fide paleontologist to arrange for assessment of the potential impact and mitigation of potential disruption of or damage to the site. If significant paleontological resources are uncovered during project execution, authorities are to be notified and the designated paleontologist may order excavations stopped, within reasonable time limits, to enable assessment, removal or protection of the resources" (City of Los Angeles 2001).

While the Project is on California State Parks land, they do not have codified significance guidelines for paleontological resources under CEQA. Therefore, Stantec is applying guidance from the City of Los Angeles' CEQA Thresholds Guide (City of Los Angeles 2006) or this Project. Section D:1 specifies that the determination of significance for paleontological resources shall be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the following factors:

- Whether, or the degree to which, the project might result in the permanent loss of, or loss of access to, a paleontological resource; and
- Whether the paleontological resource is of regional or statewide significance. [City of Los Angeles 2006].



Professional Standards

### 3.0 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (2010), the Bureau of Land Management (2016) and a number of scientific studies (Eisentraut and Cooper 2002; Murphey et al. 2019; Scott and Springer 2003) have developed guidelines for professional qualifications, conducting paleontological assessments, and developing mitigation measures for the protection of paleontological resources. These guidelines are broadly similar, and include the use of museum records searches, scientific literature reviews, and, in some cases, field surveys to assess the potential of an area to preserve paleontological resources. Should that potential be high, accepted mitigation measures include paleontological monitoring, data recordation of all fossils encountered, collection and curation of significant fossils and associated data, and in some cases screening of sediment for microfossils.

This study has been conducted in accordance with these guidelines and the recommendations provided herein meet these standards.

### 4.0 GEOLOGIC SETTING

The Project area is located in the Los Angeles Basin, a structural depression approximately 50 miles long and 20 miles wide in the northernmost Peninsular Ranges geomorphic province and just to the south of the Transverse Ranges geomorphic province (Ingersoll and Rumelhart 1999). The Los Angeles Basin developed as a result of tectonic forces and the San Andreas fault zone, with subsidence occurring 18 to 3 million years ago (Ma) (Critelli et al. 1995). While sediments dating back to the Cretaceous (66 Ma) are preserved in the basin, continuous sedimentation began in the middle Miocene (around 13 Ma) (Yerkes et al. 1965). Since that time, sediments have been eroding into the basin from the surrounding highlands, resulting in thousands of feet of accumulation (Yerkes et al. 1965). Most of these sediments are marine, until sea level dropped in the Pleistocene and deposition of the terrestrial alluvial sediments that compose the uppermost units in the Los Angeles Basin began.

The Los Angeles Basin is subdivided into four structural blocks, with the Project area occurring in the Central Block, where sediments range from 32,000 to 35,000 feet thick (Yerkes et al. 1965). The Central Block is wedge-shaped, extending from the Santa Monica Mountains in the northwest, where it is about 10 miles wide, to the San Joaquin Hills to the southeast, where it widens to around 20 miles across (Yerkes et al. 1965).

### 5.0 METHODOLOGY

The paleontological resource assessment reported herein consisted of a records search from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM) as well as a review of the relevant scientific literature and



Methodology

the most recent geologic mapping. To assess if paleontological resources are likely to be encountered in any given area, the paleontological potential of the geologic units present in the area is assessed. Paleontological potential of a geologic unit consists of both (a) the potential for yielding abundant vertebrate fossils or for yielding significant fossils, large or small, vertebrate, invertebrate, plant, or trace fossils and (b) the importance of recovered evidence for new and significant taxonomic, phylogenetic, paleoecologic, taphonomic, biochronologic, or stratigraphic data (SVP 2010). Unlike archaeological resources that often have a limited aerial extent, paleontological resources may occur throughout a geologic unit, and so paleontological potential is assessed for the unit as a whole. Provided below is the methodology used during the current study to assess the potential of the Project to impact paleontological resources.

The paleontological assessment presented here was conducted by Stantec Principal Paleontologist Alyssa Bell, Ph.D. GIS maps and figures were drafted by GIS technician Danny Law, B.S. This report was authored by Alyssa Bell and peer reviewed by Business Center Practice Leader Geraldine Aron, M.S. Senior Principal Scientist Michael Weber coordinated all work and provided quality assurance and control of this report.

### 5.1 RECORDS SEARCH

A records search of the Project area and vicinity was requested from the LACM on May 28, 2022, with the results received on May 29, 2022. The search returned the closest known paleontological localities of the LACM to the Project area from geologic units that are present at the Project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface.

### 5.2 SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE REVIEW

In order to assess the paleontological potential of the Project area, the most recent geologic mapping was consulted to identify all geologic units present at the surface or likely present in the subsurface. The scientific literature was then consulted to determine the history of each of these units for preserving fossil resources.

### 5.3 GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

Geotechnical assessments were conducted of the Project area by Geotek (2021) and Converse Consultants (2022). Geotek's (2021) work consisted of two exploratory borings with a hollow-stem auger to a maximum depth of approximately 51 feet below ground surface (bgs). Converse Consultants (2022) work consisted of six cone penetration test soundings. The results of these studies were incorporated into this assessment to evaluate the subsurface geologic conditions in the Project area and the likelihood of the Project's activities encountering geologic units with high paleontological potential.



Methodology

### 5.4 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

The results of the museum records search and the scientific literature review were used to assign the paleontological potential rankings of the SVP (2010) to the geologic units present in the Project area. These rankings are designed to inform the development of appropriate mitigation measures for the protection of paleontological resources and are widely accepted as industry standards in paleontological mitigation (Murphey et al. 2019; Scott and Springer 2003). These rankings are as follows:

**High Potential.** Rock units from which vertebrate or significant invertebrate, plant, or trace fossils have been recovered are considered to have a high potential for containing additional significant paleontological resources. Rock units classified as having high potential for producing paleontological resources include, but are not limited to, sedimentary formations that are temporally or lithologically suitable for the preservation of fossils (e. g., middle Holocene and older, fine-grained fluvial sandstones, argillaceous and carbonate-rich paleosols, cross-bedded point bar sandstones, fine-grained marine sandstones, etc.), some volcaniclastic formations (e. g., ashes or tephras), and some low-grade metamorphic rocks.

**Undetermined Potential**. Rock units for which little information is available in the literature or museum records concerning their paleontological content, geologic age, and depositional environment are considered to have undetermined potential. Further study and field work is necessary to determine if these rock units have high or low potential to contain significant paleontological resources.

**Low Potential**. Rock units that are poorly represented by fossil specimens in institutional collections or based on general scientific consensus, only preserve fossils in rare circumstances (e. g., basalt flows or Recent colluvium) have low paleontological potential.

**No Potential**. Some rock units have no potential to contain significant paleontological resources, for instance high-grade metamorphic rocks (such as gneisses and schists) and plutonic igneous rocks (such as granites and diorites).

### 5.5 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

Impacts to paleontological resources can be classified as direct, indirect, or cumulative. Impacts can also be considered as adverse impacts or as positive impacts. Direct adverse impacts on paleontological resources are the result of damage or destruction of these nonrenewable resources by surface disturbing actions including construction excavations. Therefore, in areas that contain paleontologically sensitive geologic units, ground disturbance has the potential to adversely impact paleontological resources, by damaging or destroying them and rendering them permanently unavailable to science and society. Positive direct impacts, however, may result when paleontological resources are identified during construction and the appropriately documented and salvaged, thus ensuring the specimens are protected for future study and education.



**RESULTS** 

Indirect adverse impacts typically include those effects which result from the continuing implementation of management decisions and resulting activities, including normal ongoing operations of facilities constructed within a given Project area. They also occur as the result of the construction of new roads and trails in areas that were previously less accessible. This increases public access and therefore increases the likelihood of the loss of paleontological resources through vandalism and unlawful collecting, thus constituting an adverse indirect impact. Human activities that increase erosion also cause indirect impacts to surface and subsurface fossils as the result of exposure, transport, weathering, and reburial.

Cumulative adverse impacts can result from incrementally minor but collectively significant actions taking place over time. The incremental loss of paleontological resources over time from construction-related surface disturbance or vandalism and unlawful collection would represent a significant cumulative adverse impact, because it would result in the destruction of non-renewable paleontological resources and the associated irretrievable loss of scientific information.

Positive impacts can result from the preservation of significant paleontological resources identified during construction, a direct impact, or following Project activities, an indirect impact. By successfully identifying, salvaging, and curating significant paleontological resources in a federally accredited repository, they are preserved in perpetuity and may contribute to scientific understanding and public education and awareness.

The impact assessment conducted here takes into consideration all planned project activities in terms of aerial and subsurface extents, including the possibility of subsurface geologic units having a different paleontological potential than surficial units. For example, younger surficial sediments (alluvium, lacustrine, eolian, etc.) have low potential to preserve fossil resources due to their age; yet sediments increase in age with depth and so these surficial deposits often overly older units that have high paleontological potential. In areas with this underlying geologic setting surficial work may be of low risk for impacting paleontological resources while activities that require excavations below the depth of the surficial deposits would be at greater risk of impacting paleontological resources. For this reason, the impact assessment takes into consideration both the surface and subsurface geology and is tailored to Project activities.

### 6.0 **RESULTS**

The results of the paleontological potential and impacts assessments are described below, with the results of the records search from the LACM summarized in Table 1 and the summary of the geology of the Project area in Table 2.



**RESULTS** 

### 6.1 PROJECT AREA GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY

The geotechnical studies found the surface of the Project area to be disturbed, with a mix of alluvium and artificial fill (Geotek 2021, Converse Consultants 2022). Geologic mapping by Yerkes and Campbell (2005) indicates the Project area consists of alluvial fan deposits, with older alluvial deposits and the Puente Formation likely present in the subsurface (Figure 2). These geologic units range in age from the Recent to the late Miocene and are described below.

**Artificial Fill.** The geotechnical studies found a layer of artificial fill up to 6 feet thick underlying the Project area (Converse Consultants 2022). Artificial fill consisted of silty sand and was interpreted to include debris and rubble (Geotek 2021, Converse Consultants 2022). As artificial fill has been extensively disturbed and deposited by human activity, it does not include geologic context and is unlikely to preserve significant fossils. Therefore, it is assessed as having low paleontological potential.

Alluvial fan deposits (Qf in Figure 2). Alluvial fan deposits are mapped across the surface of the Project area. These sediments consist of varying proportions of unconsolidated cobbles, gravel, sand, and clay on active and recently active alluvial fans (Yerkes et al. 2005), identified by Geotek (2021) as predominantly silty sand, sand, and sandy clay with varying proportions of gravel. Alluvial sediments represent terrestrial deposition of water-transported sediments from the surrounding highlands. These sediments are relatively young in age, dating from the Holocene to the Recent, and likely overlie older alluvial sediments that date to the Pleistocene. One of the geotechnical studies identified alluvium to the total depth of the borings, 51 feet bgs, but was unable to differentiate younger versus older alluvium (Geotek 2021).

As defined by the SVP (2010), paleontological resources must be over 5,000 years in age, corresponding to the middle part of the Holocene. Therefore, the alluvial sediments near the surface in the Project area are too young at the surface to preserve fossils. However, as sediments increase in age with depth, the subsurficial sediments in the Project area may date to the early Holocene or late Pleistocene, and therefore be of an age to preserve paleontological resources.

The locality search from the LACM indicates there are several fossil localities known to the LACM in the vicinity of the Project area from older alluvial sediments similar to those that are likely present in the subsurface of the Project area at an undetermined depth. The closest of these is from Highland Park, approximately 1.5 miles from the Project area where mammoth and bison fossils were found from 14 feet bgs (LACM 2022). Another locality is known from near downtown Los Angeles, where fossils from a variety of animals, including a sabertooth cat, were recovered during storm drain excavations (LACM 2022).



**RESULTS** 

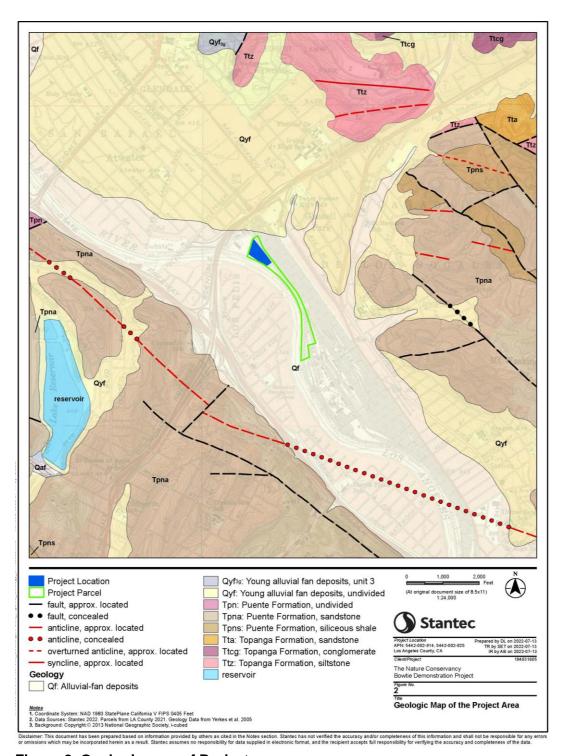


Figure 2. Geologic map of Project area



**RESULTS** 

Additionally, a review of the scientific literature indicates that older alluvial sediments are well known for the preservation of fossils representing a rich Ice Age fauna in the Los Angeles Basin and vicinity. These include animals still found in North America today, such as deer, bison, sheep, and horses; creatures no longer found in North America, such as camels, lions, cheetahs, and sloths; and extinct creatures such as mammoths, dire wolves, and saber-toothed cats (Jefferson 1991 a and b, Graham and Lundelius 1994, McDonald and Jefferson 2008, Miller 1971, Reynolds and Reynolds 1991). In addition to these iconic large animals, a wide variety of small animals can be preserved, including reptiles such as frogs, salamanders, snakes (Hudson and Brattstrom 1977), and birds (Collins et al. 2018, Jones et al. 2008, Miller 1941). These fossils are important for recreating the history of Southern California, in particular studying climate change (e.g., Roy et al. 1996), extinction (e.g., Barnosky et al. 2004, Jones et al. 2008, Sandom et al. 2014, Scott 2010), and paleoecology (e.g., Connin et al. 1998, Trayler et al. 2015).

Given the extensive record of significant fossils recovered from the older layers of surficial sediments, the alluvial fan deposits in the Project area has low-to-high paleontological potential, increasing with depth. The exact depth at which this transition occurs cannot be determined precisely in the Project area; however, the records of the LACM and reports in the scientific literature (i.e., Jefferson 1991a and 1991b, Reynold and Reynolds 1991) indicate depths of as little as 10 feet to 15 feet bgs may yield paleontological resources.

Puente Formation (Tpna, Tpns, Tpn in Figure 2). The Puente Formation is not mapped at the surface within the Project area, but three different facies are mapped at the surface to the south and northeast of the Project area (Figure 3). Therefore, this unit is likely present in the subsurface underlying the alluvial fan deposits at depths greater than tested during the geotechnical study (51 feet bgs). The Puente Formation consists of marine sandstone (Tpna in Figure 2) and siltstone (Tpns in Figure 2) that records the deposition of submarine fans at bathyal depths during the early Pliocene and Miocene (Critelli et al. 1995). The member is highly variable laterally, with thick-bedded to massive medium- and coarse-gained sandstone, thin-bedded and poorly bedded siliceous siltstone, and lenses of massive conglomerate (Morton and Miller 2006).

The Puente Formation has an extensive record of fossil preservation across Southern California. The nearest locality known to the LACM is approximately 3.6 miles southwest of the Project area, where a variety of fish and invertebrates were collected (LACM 2022). In addition to this locality, the Puente Formation has been well-documented as preserving a wide range of significant fossils, such as cephalopods (Saul and Stadum 2005), crustaceans (Feldmann 2003), fishes (Carnevale et al. 2008, Huddleston and Takeuchi 2006), and other marine and terrestrial vertebrates (Barboza et al. 2017, Leatham and North 2017). One particularly interesting site has been published from which a possible mass death assemblage of decapod crustaceans was collected along with land plants, bivalves, fish, and marine mammals as a result of mitigation activities at the Corona Country Club Estates in the city of Corona, California (Feldman 2003). Given the extensive record of fossil preservation in the Puente Formation, it is assessed here as having high paleontological potential.



**RESULTS** 

Table 1 Summary of the records search from the LACM

Locality Number	Geologic Unit	Age	Таха	Approximate Location	Depth
LACM VP CIT342	Unnamed formation	Pleistocene	Mammoth ( <i>Mammuthus</i> ), Bison ( <i>Bison</i> )	Highland Park, approximately 1.8 miles from the Project area	14 feet bgs
LACM VP 1023	Unnamed formation	Pleistocene	Sabertooth cat ( <i>Smilodon</i> ), horse ( <i>Equus</i> ), deer ( <i>Odocoileus</i> ), turkey ( <i>Meleagris</i> )	Workman and Alhambra Streets; approximately 3.6 miles from the Project area	Unknown (excavations for storm drain)
LACM VP 6946 to LACM VP 6948, LACM VP 3250	Puente Formation	Pliocene to Miocene	Herring (Xyne, Ganolytes), smelt (Bathylagus), bristlemouth (Cyclothone), lanternfish (Myctophidae), drum family (Sciaenidae), mackerel/tuna/bonito family (Scombridae), croaker (Genyonemus), viperfish (Chauliodus), porgies (Plectrites), bonito (Sarda), drumfish (Lompoquia), perch-like fish (Thyrsocles), jack (Decapterus), rock bass (Paralabrax), argentine (Argentina); invertebrates	Vermont Avenue and Beverly Boulevard; approximately 3.5 miles from the Project area	60 to 80 feet bgs

### Table 2 Paleontological potential of geologic units within the Project area

Geologic Unit	Age	Occurrence within Project area	Paleontological Potential*
Artificial fill	Recent	Surface and up to 4 feet bgs, variable across the Project area	Low
Alluvial fan deposits	Holocene to Pleistocene	Surface (variable across the Project area) and subsurface; starting at depths of 0 to 4 feet bgs and extending to over 51 feet bgs	Low-to-High, increasing with depth
Puente Formation	Pliocene to late Miocene	Subsurface (at depths of greater than 51 feet bgs)	High

<sup>\*</sup>ranking based on the SVP (2010) classifications



recommendations and management considerations

#### 6.2 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

The paleontological potential assessment presented above indicates that the Project area consist of up to 4 feet of artificial fill with low paleontological potential and over 51 feet of alluvium, with low potential that transitions to high potential at around 10 feet to 15 feet bgs, underlain by the high potential Puente Formation, which is likely present in the subsurface at over 51 feet bgs. Should paleontological resources preserved in the high potential units be damaged or destroyed by Project activities it would constitute a direct adverse impact under CEQA. Therefore, an impacts assessment was conducted to evaluate planned Project activities and their likelihood to pose an adverse impact to paleontological resources.

The Project plans to install a diversion structure for stormwater, stormwater vaults, a utility shed, and habitat restoration. This work is expected to entail ground disturbance. The vaults are expected to be 10 feet to 12 feet wide and buried 20 feet to 32 feet below grade. The wetland excavations are expected to be approximately 7 feet deep. Of these, the vault excavations may impact paleontological resources, while the wetland excavations are too shallow to impact the high potential units in the subsurface. Following construction, operations and maintenance activities are not anticipated to involve additional ground disturbance.

Ground disturbing activities over 10 feet in depth may extend into the high sensitivity, older layers of alluvium. Such disturbances therefore risk posing a direct adverse impact to paleontological resources. Following construction, operations and maintenance are not expected to pose an impact to resources. Because this Project has the potential to cause direct adverse impacts, Stantec has developed recommendations for mitigating these impacts, presented below.

## 7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

As part of the current paleontological assessment, a records search from the LACM, review of the geotechnical study, and a review of geologic mapping and the scientific literature were conducted in order to assess the potential of the geologic units in the Project area to preserve paleontological resources.

The results of this assessment show that geologic units with high paleontological potential may be present at depths of over 10 feet bgs. Project plans include excavations up to 33 feet below grade. Should Project-related activities encounter paleontological resources, the damage or destruction of those resources would constitute an adverse impact under CEQA. In order to adhere to State and City guidelines regarding paleontological resources, Stantec recommends the following:

 A paleontologist meeting professional standards of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) shall be retained as the project paleontologist to oversee all aspects of paleontological mitigation, including the development and implementation of a Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation



recommendations and management considerations

Plan (PMMP) tailored to the Project plans that provides for paleontological monitoring of earthwork and ground disturbing activities into undisturbed geologic units with high paleontological potential to be conducted by a paleontological monitor meeting industry standards (Murphey et al. 2019). The PMMP should also include provisions for a Workers' Environmental Awareness Program training that communicates requirements and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of paleontological resources during construction, to be delivered by the paleontological monitor to the construction crew prior to the onset of ground disturbance.

- Paleontological monitoring will be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor for ground disturbance that exceeds 10 feet in depth across the Project area. The project paleontologist may reduce the frequency of monitoring or spot checks should subsurface conditions indicate low paleontological potential.
- 3. Should a potential paleontological resource be identified in the Project area, whether by the monitor or a member of the construction crew, work should halt in a safe radius around the find (usually 50 feet) until the project paleontologist can assess the find and, if significant, salvage the fossil for laboratory preparation and curation at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

These recommendations meet the standards of the SVP (2010) and conform to industry best practices (e.g., Murphey et al. 2019; Scott and Springer 2003). Based on the findings in this study the proposed project will not cause an adverse impact to paleontological resources with the incorporation of the above mitigation recommendations. Therefore, no additional paleontological resources studies are recommended or required at this time. Should the project location or plans change, this assessment will need to be revised to address those changes.



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# **APPENDIX A**

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Paleontological Records Search Results



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Research & Collections

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May 29, 2022

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Attn: Alyssa Bell

re: Paleontological resources for the Bowtie Demonstration Project

# Dear Alyssa:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for proposed development at the Bowtie Demonstration Project area as outlined on the portion of the Los Angeles USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on May 28, 2022. We do not have any fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area, but we do have fossil localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area, either at the surface or at depth.

The following table shows the closest known localities in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLA).

Locality				
Number	Location	Formation	Taxa	Depth
	Along the slope			
	between Quail Drive			
	& Pheasant Drive; E	Monterey Formation		
LACM VP	of Mt Washington	(yellowish tan		found in
6934	Elementary School	siltstone)	Baleen whale (Mysticeti)	hillslope rubble
	3320 Seymour St.,			
LACM VP	W of Mt.	Modelo Formation		
1880	Washington	(orange shale)	Fish (Osteichthyes)	Surface
	Sparkletts property			
LACM VP	near 45th & Lincoln	Unrecorded	Mammoth ( <i>Mammuthus</i> ),	
CIT342	in Highland Park	(Pleistocene)	Bison ( <i>Bison</i> )	14 feet bgs
				31-32 m bgs
				(collected
				during
				excavations of
	Near intersection of			the Humboldt
LACM VP	San Fernando Rd.			Street Sewer
7507	& Humbolt St.	Monterey Formation	Fish ( <i>Thyrsocles kriegeri</i> )	Shaft)
	Workman &		Sabertooth cat (Smilodon),	Unknown
LACM VP	Alhambra Sts, Los	Unknown formation	horse ( <i>Equus</i> ), deer	(excavations
1023	Angeles	(Pleistocene)	(Odocoileus), turkey	for storm

			(Meleagris)	drains)
			Herring (Xyne, Ganolytes),	,
			smelt (Bathylagus),	
			bristlemouth (Cyclothone),	
			lanternfish (Myctophidae),	
			drum family (Sciaenidae),	
			mackerel/tuna/bonito family	
			(Scombridae), croaker	
			(Genyonemus), viperfish	
			(Chauliodus), porgies	
			( <i>Plectrites</i> ), bonito (Sarda),	
			drumfish (Lompoquia),	
	Metrorail Red Line	Puente Formation	perch-like fish ( <i>Thyrsocles</i> ),	
	Vermont Ave. /	(weathered	jack ( <i>Decapterus</i> ), rock	
LACM VP	Beverly Blvd.	yellowish brown thin	bass ( <i>Paralabrax</i> ),	
6946 - 6948,	subway station	bedded siltstone	argentine ( <i>Argentina</i> );	
3250	entrance	shale)	invertebrates	60-80 feet bgs

VP, Vertebrate Paleontology; IP, Invertebrate Paleontology; bgs, below ground surface

This records search covers only the records of the NHMLA. It is not intended as a paleontological assessment of the project area for the purposes of CEQA or NEPA. Potentially fossil-bearing units are present in the project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface. As such, NHMLA recommends that a full paleontological assessment of the project area be conducted by a paleontologist meeting Bureau of Land Management or Society of Vertebrate Paleontology standards.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Bell, Ph.D.

Alyssa Bell

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

enclosure: invoice

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project	
	APPENDIX E REMOVAL ACTION WORK PLAN

# amicus



# REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN NATURE CONSERVANCY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Taylor Yard Los Angeles, California

# **PREPARED FOR:**

The Nature Conservancy 445 South Figueroa Street, Suite 1950 Los Angeles, CA 90071

# **PREPARED BY:**

Amicus – Strategic Environmental Consulting 580 Second Street Suite 260 Oakland, CA 94607

August 19, 2022

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH – LOS ANGELES RIVER AT THE TNC DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

#### 1 SUMMARY

This Removal Action Workplan has been prepared in support of The Nature Conservancy "Demonstration Project" planned for construction in 2023. The approximately three-acre Demonstration Project is located on land owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (California State Parks) at the northernmost end of the former Union Pacific (UPRR) Taylor Yard. The 18-acre State Parks property upon which the Demonstration Project is located is referred to as the "Bowtie parcel" or by its former UPRR "G-1" parcel designation, and identified by the Los Angeles Assessor as parcel number (APN) 5442-002-914.

As detailed herein, the TNC project will "daylight" water from a subterranean storm sewer to a constructed flow-through feature designed to resemble a natural system. The storm sewer effluent presently drains untreated during precipitation events to the adjacent Los Angeles River. The Demonstration Project will transform the terminus of this storm system into a meandering ephemeral wetland, planted with native species and enhanced with viewing platforms and landscaping to provide a verdant landscape at the northern end of the former industrial railyard. The land is presently bare, vacant, and unutilized.

An environmental assessment was performed to determine site environmental quality during the early project planning phase as this property was once a part of a railyard and adjacent to historic industry and a transportation corridor. Results of site testing confirmed the presence of common urban contaminants (primarily lead and petroleum hydrocarbons) in several samples of shallow Demonstration Project soil. Contaminant concentrations were high enough to warrant removal of shallow soil prior to the construction; this RAW describes the evaluative process and selection of the most appropriate removal action alternative.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Removal Action Process

# 2.1.1 Regulatory Basis for RAW

California HSC 25323.1 defines a RAW as "a workplan prepared or approved by the Department (DTSC) or a California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) which is developed to carry out a removal action, in an effective manner, that is protective of the public health and safety and the environment."

A RAW describes mitigation objectives and methodology for cleanup actions estimated to cost less than \$2,000,000. If the estimated capital cost of implementing the chosen action exceeds \$2,000,000, a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) should be prepared. The estimated cost of the selected removal alternative recommended in this RAW is estimated to be less than \$2,000,000.

# 2.1.2 Objectives of the RAW

The objectives of this RAW are to:

- Describe the context of the planned project in terms of historic land use and future development plans, environmental conditions, and project outcomes;
- Summarize results of environmental investigations and present a Conceptual Site Model that describes site characteristics and environmental quality;
- Identify human and non-human ecologic receptors potentially at risk due to the presence of environmental contamination;
- Evaluate remedial alternatives appropriate for mitigating potential risk to receptors; and
- Establish removal action objectives and identify a final recommendation for a removal action at the site that is protective of human health and the environment.

It is anticipated that the recommended remedial alternative will be most cost-effectively implemented at the time of Demonstration Project construction. As such, this RAW will be followed at the appropriate time by an implementation plan that will be accompanied by the customary supporting documentation described later in this report (Health & Safety Plan, Transportation Plan, etc.). These documents will be submitted to DTSC for review and comment prior to commencement of removal activities.

#### 2.1.3 Elements of the RAW

To accomplish the objectives stated in the preceding section, and satisfy regulatory requirements, this RAW includes the following elements:

- A description of the nature and extent of the contaminants of concern (COCs) at the Site;
- The goals to be achieved by the removal action;
- An analysis of the alternatives considered and rejected, and the basis for the rejection, including a discussion of effectiveness, implementability, and cost of each alternative;
- A description of the recommended alternative; and
- A description of the process associated with the development of the implementation plan.

#### 2.2 Site Description

## 2.2.1 TNC Demonstration Project Description

A priority of TNC's Urban Program is working to demonstrate the utility of incorporating nature and ecology into the built urban environment. In Los Angeles, TNC has recently focused on natural infrastructure – infrastructure based on natural systems and processes – to transform aspects of urban life. The TNC Demonstration Project is part of this undertaking, with its objective being the construction of a feature modeled after nature to improve the quality of urban stormwater as it flows from the surrounding community to the Los Angeles River. The Taylor Yard Bowtie G-1 parcel (Figure 1) was one of ten sites studied by TNC as they evaluated optimal locations for their project (TNC, 2018).

Figure 2 shows the preliminary concept plan for the Demonstration Project. As depicted, the project daylights the storm drain near the northern project area boundary and diverts stormwater to a series of vaults designed to remove trash, debris and suspended solids, then to a constructed arroyo planted with native vegetation selected for its ability to thrive in the wet and dry seasons of the Los Angeles environment. The project is being designed to accommodate the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event; stormwater will be directed to the storm drain during times of precipitation in excess of this threshold. It should be noted that layout details may change during the final design process. The removal action will marry to the final design.

When completed, the project footprint will be occupied largely by the constructed arroyo and planted berms. Public access will be limited to walking paths, a boardwalk, viewing platforms and a small parking lot. The project design includes no structures for occupation or use by humans.

Note that the demonstration project is to be constructed on land owned by California State Parks. As such, the approximate 3-acre project footprint has no customary legal description; its boundaries are somewhat approximate and have evolved over the last two years. The present boundary and the boundary drawn in the 2020 Weston Solutions (Weston) Phase I/II Targeted Brownfield Assessment report are presented in Figure 3 for comparison.

# 2.2.2 Current Land Use

The property is presently vacant and free of any structural development. It is not presently officially used for any purpose as it awaits redevelopment as the TNC Demonstration Project. Photographs of the land in its present state are presented in Figures 4 and 5.

# 2.2.3 Historic Land Use

Historic development and use of the project property and neighboring land is documented in technical reports available on the DTSC Envirostor portal and is most recently described in the June 2020 Weston report. The area to be occupied by the TNC Demonstration Project was once owned by Southern Pacific Railroad Company, then by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR), ultimately being acquired by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) in 2003 as part of the larger Bowtie G-1 18-acre parcel transaction.

The project area is located at the northern boundary of the former Taylor Yard, a historic rail yard and rolling stock fueling and maintenance facility (Figure 6). As discussed by Weston, this portion of Taylor Yard remained structurally undeveloped for the span of years the yard was active. No buildings, tracks, or any other feature associated with intensive rail use was identified in the available public record.

Aerial photographs are presented in the Weston TBA. The 1923 aerial photograph (the oldest photograph in the record reviewed by Weston) shows the project area in a natural state as part of the Los Angeles River floodplain. The 1938 photograph shows the land in the process of being "reclaimed" by the US Army Corps of Engineers as they channelize the river. More recent photographs depict historic project area uses as largely for parking, materials storage, and a contractor's yard.

The aerial photographs from the Weston report are provided for convenient reference in Appendix A of this report.

#### 2.2.4 Adjacent Properties

The aerial record also depicts the transformation of a lightly developed, primarily residential river community in the early 1900s to the more dense mixed-use community observed today. The residential community to the north was eliminated with the construction of the Glendale Freeway (California State Route 2) in 1959. As shown on the 1964 aerial photograph, the freeway truncated the community, and the houses left on its southern side were gone by

1979, replaced by light industrial development including the Nelson Nameplate facility immediately to the northwest of the project boundary.

The Los Angeles River borders the property to the southwest with the residential community of Elysian Valley on the far side of the river. Land to the southeast is an undeveloped portion of the Bowtie G-1 parcel that, similar to the project parcel, was not previously occupied by rail-intensive uses. Plans for redevelopment of the balance of G-1 by State Parks for recreational space are presently being developed.

The UPRR rail corridor and the Metrolink light rail border the property to the east. Land to the east of the rail corridor, previously occupied by numerous yard rail spurs, has been redeveloped for commercial/light industry use over the years following decommissioning of this portion of the rail facility.

#### 2.3 Site Owner

The approximate 3-acre Demonstration Project is part of the 18-acre G-1 Bowtie parcel owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks). State Parks acquired this parcel from the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) in 2003.

## 2.4 Purpose of Removal Action

As described later in this report, concentrations of identified contaminants exceed conservative "screening levels" relied upon by California environmental regulatory agencies during the evaluation of risk to human and environmental health. The contaminants of concern have been shown to be present in the shallow soil horizon; removal of this soil before or during construction of the Demonstration Project will ensure the property is demonstrably safe for any future visitor or user.

The first iteration of this RAW shall be submitted to DTSC as a Draft document for review and comment. Following this review and revision process, a second iteration of the RAW shall be published, a public comment period noticed, and a community meeting convened to receive and resolve mitigation-related questions and concerns. It is noted that other community meetings will be arranged by TNC to provide regular project updates as the RAW is being prepared.

Following completion of the public comment period, DTSC will consider and respond to the comments received. The RAW will be revised as necessary in response to comments and provided again for review. Following resolution of all outstanding issues DTSC will then approve the RAW for implementation. When the remedy has been implemented, a removal action completion report will be submitted to DTSC for review and certification.

#### 3 CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL

#### 3.1 Investigations

Site investigation and response actions at Taylor Yard were historically initiated and managed by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company. Following their merger with UPRR in 1996, UPRR became the party responsible for directing response activity; reports and correspondence were subsequently addressed to them. The oldest document posted to the DTSC Envirostor portal is the "Site Investigation Report" by Environmental Resources Management (ERM). It is important to note that the Envirostor portal containing the oldest project-property documentation is that created for UPRR Parcel G-2; documentation up to the 2003 acquisition of the G-1 Bowtie Parcel by State Parks addresses both G-1 and G-2 in their pre-divided state. More recent project-property documentation is loaded to the Envirostor portal for "G-1."

ERM conducted site assessment and remediation work for UPRR to prepare G-1 for acquisition by State Parks. As documented in the August 2003 "Soil Excavation and Preliminary Endangerment Assessment Workplan" and the November 2003 "Removal Action Workplan" ERM advanced borings and collected soil samples for the purposes of pre-sale G-1 characterization. This site assessment informed the 2003 RAW, which proposed excavation and removal of soil in four specific sub-areas of which one, referred to by ERM as Area 1, was located near the northern tip of the TNC Demonstration Project. The basis for the excavation in Area 1 was the presence of arsenic in soil in excess of background levels. ERM identifies no feature or use in the vicinity of Area 1 or the Demonstration Project boundaries as a perceived source of contamination.

More recent episodes of site characterization on and near the TNC Demonstration Project area have been completed by Leighton and Associates (Leighton) and Weston Solutions (Weston). Leighton's 2015 sampling points were distributed across the G-1 parcel; seven sampling locations were near the Demonstration Project footprint but none were actually advanced on the project property itself. Weston's work, conducted under a USEPA Brownfield Grant, focused exclusively on the Demonstration Project area; their findings are documented in the 2020 Final Phase I/II Investigation Targeted Brownfield Assessment report.

Weston collected only soil samples; no boring was advanced deeper than 20 feet below ground surface (depth to groundwater is approximately 30 feet beneath the Demonstration Project footprint). Leighton also did not collect samples of groundwater from their borings advanced near the project property. They did, however, collect soil vapor samples from borings B-1 and B-3 located on G-1 property bordering the Demonstration Project footprint to the north.

Weston collected samples of surficial soil and subterranean sediment samples at depths of five, 10, 15 and 20 feet below ground surface (bgs) from each of 12 investigative borings ad-

vanced across the property. As described below, hydrocarbons and lead were only detected in the surficial soil samples; the samples at five feet bgs and deeper were shown to contain no concentrations of contaminants of concern.

In their July 2020 Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) report, Weston identifies excavation and removal or sequestration of shallow contaminated soil as the most appropriate remedial methodology but also acknowledged that remedial planning requires development of an understanding of a more precise lower boundary of the affected interval.

Data gap sampling was conducted on March 9 and 10, 2022 in accordance with the Amicus October 2021 "Final Work Plan for Data Gap Soil Sampling." As described in the workplan, the sampling plan was designed to evaluate the interval between the Weston surficial samples and five feet below grade. Citadel EHS (Citadel) implemented the workplan, collecting samples adjacent to each prior Weston sampling location at depths of two, four and five feet below ground surface.

Samples were transported under chain of custody control to the project laboratory for analysis of:

Lead – EPA Method (EPAM) 6010B Polycyclic hydrocarbons – EPAM 8270SIM Diesel-range hydrocarbons – EPAM 8015B

Citadel sampling methodology is presented in their April 15, 2022 report (RAW Appendix B).

# 3.2 Findings

# 3.2.1 Geology and Hydrogeology

The project property is located near the eastern edge of the channelized Los Angeles River in an area colloquially known as the Glendale Narrows, a relatively steep-sided portion of the river's alluvial plain bordered by the Elysian Hills to the west and the Repetto Hills to the east. As described by Leighton, the valley fill is relatively coarse near its contact with underlying bedrock; sediments encountered during the various site investigations are finergrained, with interbedded silty sand and fine-grained sand the most prevalent sediment type in the shallow subsurface.

Unconfined groundwater was encountered by Leighton at approximately 33 feet below ground surface; the direction of groundwater flow in the study area was determined to be to the south-southeast, similar to the trend of the valley and the flow direction of the Los Angeles River.

#### 3.2.2 Nature and Extent of Contamination

Physical assessment of the project property and other areas of Taylor Yard have shown the presence of use-related hazardous substances in soil and groundwater as well as encroachment of contamination migrating in groundwater from off-site sources.

#### Groundwater

Groundwater beneath and around the Demonstration Project area is inferred to contain contamination, namely the volatile organic compounds (VOC) trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) migrating from source areas in the valley to the north (in and around the cities of Burbank and Glendale). Taylor Yard is included in the boundary of what is referred to as Area 4 of the San Fernando Valley Superfund Site (US EPA, 2008). No indication of a source of groundwater contamination on or near the Demonstration Project area has been identified and none is believed to exist.

As described above, Leighton did not collect samples of groundwater from the borings advanced near the project property. They did, however, collect soil vapor samples from borings B-1 and B-3 located on G-1 property approximately 100 feet north of the Demonstration Project footprint. Low concentrations of PCE were detected in the samples collected in both locations with values increasing with depth. VOC concentration and signature was consistent in vapor probes advanced across the length of the Bowtie parcel. Leighton concluded that the pattern of VOC in soil vapor is indicative of volatilization of VOC from underlying groundwater.

## Shallow Soil

Both the 2020 Weston and 2015 Leighton investigations describe the detection of hydrocarbon compounds and lead in near-surface soil at concentrations exceeding natural background levels and, in some of their samples, at concentrations exceeding regulatory agency (RWQCB and EPA) screening levels. Results of analysis of the 2022 Citadel sampling event show no concentrations of target analytes above the conservative regulatory residential screening levels at any interval tested (two, four or five feet below ground surface).

Concentrations and distribution of hydrocarbons and lead appear to be consistent with deposition from an aerial source, likely by-products of fuel combustion (diesel and leaded gasoline by highway traffic, diesel and coal by railroad engines).

Results of analysis showed the lower boundary of contamination in areas identified by Weston to contain elevated concentrations of contaminants of concern as between ground surface and two feet bgs. The physical nature of the contaminants (solids) and the nature of their deposition suggest that concentrations likely attenuate rapidly with depth and in the locations detected do not exceed conservative screening levels uniformly from ground surface to the two-foot Citadel sampling horizon. The vertical extent of contamination has been delineated.

As described in the workplan and discussed with DTSC staff, the results of analysis of Citadel data gap samples will also satisfy requirements for removal action confirmation sampling; no additional sampling of the area containing contamination above screening levels will be required.

Tables and figures from the Leighton and Weston reports showing specific contaminant concentrations and distribution are presented in Appendix C of this report.

# 3.3 Human Health Risk Assessment

# 3.3.1 Identification of Chemicals of Concern

As described in the preceding sections, subsurface media near and beneath the Demonstration Project footprint has been studied over the course of four episodes of assessment. Two of the investigations were conducted outside the boundaries of the demonstration project (ERM and Leighton); two were completed inside the footprint (Weston and Citadel).

Results of investigation have been generally consistent, and contaminants in excess of the applicable Residential Screening Levels were shown by the Weston and Citadel efforts to exist only in surficial soil:

- Lead (in two of 12 surface soil samples)
- Diesel-range hydrocarbons (in four of 12 surface samples)
- Benzo(a)pyrene (in one of 12 surface samples)
- Benzo(b)flouranthene (in one of 12 surface samples)
- Benzo(k)flouranthene (in one of 12 surface samples)
- Ideno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene (in three of 12 surface samples)
- PCE and TCE (inferred presence in groundwater)

#### 3.3.2 Receptors and Exposure Assessment

The Demonstration Project property is presently vacant and undeveloped; access is limited (and monitored by State Parks). When completed, the Demonstration Project will be developed as a meandering channel mostly underlain by an impermeable liner (Figure 2). Berms constructed of excavated clean soil and imported certified clean fill for make-up as necessary will rise several feet above original ground surface and an elevated viewing platform is planned for the southern corner. A small parking lot and access road are also planned for the southern project boundary. No above-ground structures for human occupation will be constructed; subterranean vaults associated with the stormwater system will be installed near the northern property corner. As noted previously, the location of certain design elements may change as the project layout is finalized.

Potential receptors include project construction workers (both during project construction and post-construction maintenance/utility workers), neighboring residents (during construction) and future feature visitors. Uptake mechanisms for receptor exposure include dermal contact with surficial soil, inhalation of dust during or after construction (if the post-construction surface consists of the same surficial soil as today), and ingestion.

#### 3.3.3 Risk Evaluation

As described above, concentrations of contaminants in surficial soil exceed conservative environmental agency residential screening levels in several places. Consideration of these environmental conditions, receptors, and the uptake mechanisms described above indicates the possibility of surficial soil with identified contamination posing a potentially unacceptable risk. Approaches to hazard mitigation are evaluated in this report.

#### 4 REMOVAL ACTION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A "removal action" is intended to mitigate risk posed to receptors by the presence of environmental contamination. The nature of the action is a function of the physical and chemical properties of the contaminants themselves, the characteristics of the potentially exposed human and non-human ecologic population, and the uptake mechanisms by which receptors may come in contact with the identified contaminants.

## 4.1 Removal Action Objectives

As described in this RAW and in previously published technical reports, certain contaminants presumably associated with historic aerial deposition from the proximal transit corridors have been detected in the uppermost shallow sediment horizon within the Demonstration Project footprint. The concentrations of these contaminants in some samples are above screening levels for residential land use, the most conservative traditional screening level used to evaluate property environmental quality.

Upon its completion, the Demonstration Project footprint will be largely occupied by constructed channels and berms planted with native vegetation and inaccessible to foot traffic. A smaller portion of the footprint will be accessible to visitors adjacent to parking areas, along the project margins and at trail connections and viewing platforms.

As shallow soil has been shown to contain concentrations of lead and hydrocarbons above conservative Residential screening levels, its removal prior to Demonstration Project construction will facilitate both project implementation and community confidence regarding soil quality in the accessible areas post-construction.

# 4.2 Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements

With regard to the proposed Demonstration Project removal action, applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) are federal and state environmental statutes, regulations, and standards that specifically address the hazardous substance that is the subject of the removal action and the action itself. "To be considered (TBC)" criteria are also customarily referenced during the design of a remedial action and are identified here.

As described by Weston in their ABCA:

"ARARs or TBCs are usually health- or risk-based numerical values or methodologies used to determine acceptable concentrations of chemicals that may be found in, or discharged to, the environment. Location-specific ARARs or TBCs restrict actions or contaminant concentrations in certain environmentally sensitive areas."

With respect to cleanup goals, Section 25355.7 of the California Health and Safety Code establishes the processes and procedures to be employed by DTSC in association with assessment/mitigation of releases of hazardous substances to the environment. Cleanup standards for individual hazardous substances are not codified in statute; DTSC operating as authorized has discretion and latitude with respect to approving the selection of certain cleanup standards by project proponents.

Federal statutes with respect to RAW implementation apply, and all removal action contractors will adhere to the requirements of the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) standard codified in 29 CFR 1910.120 during conduct of cleanup activities. The HAZWOPER standard applies to cleanup operations required by a federal, state, local, or other governmental body involving hazardous substances. State and federal regulations apply to the transport and disposal of material removed during RAW implementation.

Local South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) rules shall also be adhered to during soil disturbance/excavation activities. Specifically, airborne dust monitoring shall be conducted in conformance with SCAQMD Rule 403. Equipment and procedures associated with compliance shall be submitted under separate cover following selection of the RAW implementation contractor.

# 4.3 Removal Goals

Surficial soil has been shown to contain concentrations of hydrocarbons and lead in excess of conservative residential screening levels in several project property locations. As it is common for the strictest screening levels to be used as remedial objectives in lieu of a site-specific risk assessment, it is proposed these levels be used here.

For the Demonstration Project, DTSC and TNC will rely primarily upon "Environmental Screening Levels" (ESL) developed by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for the establishment of hydrocarbon-range cleanup goals and upon the EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSL) for polyaromatic hydrocarbon cleanup goals. For lead, this RAW relies upon the DTSC Human and Ecological Risk Office (HERO) Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note Number 4 conservative residential screening level.

Removal goals, therefore, are as follows:

Contaminant Removal Goal

Lead 80 PPM (DTSC Residential SL)

Diesel-range hydrocarbons (TPH-D)

Benzo(a)pyrene

110 PPM (EPA RSL)

Benzo(b)flouranthene

1,100 PPM (EPA RSL)

Benzo(k)flouranthene

11,000 PPM (DTSC SL)

Ideno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene 1,100 PPM (EPA RSL)

# 5 REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION

# 5.1 Weston Identification and Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives

Weston identified and evaluated four remedial alternatives in their July 2020 ABCA. The Weston remedial alternative evaluation was based on the understanding of environmental conditions and historic uses documented in their TBA and the relationship between these environmental conditions and the project planned by TNC.

Weston's analysis was similar in detail and approach to that evaluation typically undertaken during the preparation of a RAW; their evaluative process and recommendations are examined here.

# As described by Weston:

Those alternatives deemed potentially capable of achieving the overall project goal were evaluated for effectiveness, implementability, and cost. Based on the planned reuse for the Site, the following cleanup alternatives were evaluated:

- Alternative 1: No Action
- Alternative 2A Excavation to 2 ft bgs, Disposal, Backfill, and ICs
- Alternative 2B Excavation to 2 ft bgs, Disposal, Capping, and ICs
- Alternative 3 Excavation to 1 ft bgs, Disposal, Capping, and ICs
- Alternative 4 Excavation, Capping, and ICs

Weston's assumptions and criteria for alternative consideration were evaluated during preparation of this RAW. As summarized above, with the exception of the No Action alter-

native, the remedial alternatives evaluated by Weston all involved some form of excavation, removal, capping and Institutional Controls (IC).

Other methods for in-situ or on-site remediation/stabilization of residual hydrocarbons and metals in shallow soil were considered by Weston and rejected. Rejection was due primarily to the fact that the TNC undertaking itself will excavate a substantial portion of the property for the creation of channels and other elements of the bioswale flow-through feature. Additionally, given the timetable for the TNC Demonstration Project, an in-situ solution that requires a long period of time to complete is impracticable.

Remedial Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 all involve excavation and off-site disposal. The alternatives differ however, in terms of the depth of the cut and the reuse of a portion of the excavated material on-site. For example, Alternatives 2B, 3, and 4 all involve some manner of long-term residual contaminated soil management on the project property following the completion of shallow soil excavation and removal. Alternative 2A assumes that contamination in shallow soil extends no deeper than two-feet below grade and that a two-foot excavation, removal and replacement with clean fill is protective to site users will completely remove contaminants of potential concern from the project property.

#### 5.2 Additional Removal Action Alternatives

This RAW considered two additional approaches to contaminant removal from the Demonstration Project parcel:

- 1. In situ contaminant removal via plant/crop propagation (either on the Demonstration parcel or on adjacent State Parks-owned Bowtie land);
- 2. Shallow soil removal from the Demonstration Project footprint and relocation onto adjacent State Parks-owned property for maintained storage until such time that the material could be incorporated into the redevelopment of the remainder of G-1 Bowtie for its future public use.

The appealing aspect of these on- or near-property remediation/management solutions is the elimination of potentially neighborhood-disrupting truck trips for off-site disposal and consequent lower emission-generation (from truck exhaust).

As the construction of project features is planned to commence in 2023, phyto-remediation within the project footprint is impractical due to the multiple growing seasons required for remedial success (if pilot studies demonstrated feasibility).

Relocation of soil from the project parcel to the adjoining portion of the G1 Bowtie property is feasible, and would produce a lower amount of carbon-emissions than those generated by truck trips to an off-site disposal facility.

It would be logistically more complicated, however, and the equipment/disturbance required for material relocation to a more distant (even if still proximal) location would likely generate a greater quantity of dust and particulate than that created by loading and off-site transport/disposal. Strong community sentiment with respect to hazards potentially posed by dust has been expressed on numerous occasions during the project planning outreach process. Additionally, the community to date has expressed a preference for this material to be removed in its entirety; relocation for a longer-duration phyto-remedial effort or for longer-term management within adjacent Bowtie amenity features (beneath elevated land-scaped areas or beneath parking areas, for example) is expected to not be a community-preferred remedial solution.

# 5.3 Evaluation of Removal Action Alternatives

The nine criteria documented in the National Contingency Plan (NCP - 40CFR300.430 (e) (9)) are commonly utilized during the evaluation of remedial action alternatives:

#### Threshold Criteria

- 1. Overall protection of human health and the environment.
- 2. Compliance with ARARs (applicable or relevant and appropriate standards).

# Primary Balancing Criteria

- 3. Long-term effectiveness and permanence.
- 4. Reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume
- 5. Short-term effectiveness
- 6. Implementability.
- 7. Cost.

# **Modifying Criteria**

- 8. State acceptance.
- 9. Community acceptance.

The removal and off-site disposal alternatives rank high amongst each of the nine criteria as they are all protective, satisfy project priorities around toxicity reduction, are comparable in cost and satisfactory to regulatory and community stakeholders.

Excavation and relocation and reuse on adjacent Bowtie property ranks high on eight of the nine, but this alternative is less likely to be embraced by the community as a whole. Community members have made their preferences clear with respect to the removal of soil contamination in its entirety from their neighborhood. They are also very concerned about dust generation, and the real or perceived issues associated with dust generation from additional handling, lowers the "community acceptance" ranking for this alternative. Additionally, as material excavated below two feet to create channels and pools is already

planned for use creating berms, adding shallow excavated soil requiring an additional two feet of cover may result in excessive berm elevation, detracting from the Demonstration Project aesthetic.

#### 5.4 Recommended Removal Action Alternative

For the reasons described above, on-site contaminant reduction options or remediation/management on adjacent State Parks-owned G1 Bowtie property is either not practicable or less preferable to the community.

In their ABCA, Weston notes their objective of evaluating remedial alternatives, but underscore that their charge is not to select or recommend a specific approach, particularly as the site assessment was incomplete at the time of their ABCA. Considering that the Citadel data gap sampling affirmed that the interval beneath two feet is free of contaminants of concern, a modified version of Weston Alternative 2A is recommended for project selection:

- 1. While the results of analysis show certain sample locations to contain no concentrations of COC above cleanup goals (Weston boring location B-07, B-10 and B-12) removal of the shallow soil across the entire project footprint to a depth of 1.5 feet below ground surface is proposed out of an abundance of caution (Figure 7). The basis for the 1.5-foot removal calculation is the expectation that given the atmospheric depositional regime and the physical nature of the COC (solids), contaminant concentrations attenuate rapidly with depth.
- 2. In light of the potential for VOC contamination in underlying groundwater, recordation of a deed restriction requiring DTSC consultation prior to the construction of structures for human occupancy is proposed. As there is no cost associated with maintaining this restriction, no Financial Assurance documentation should be required.

#### 6 REMOVAL ACTION IMPLEMENTATION

As discussed in Section 2.2, the TNC Demonstration Project involves the construction of an engineered wetland designed to receive flow from a subterranean stormwater system presently draining untreated effluent to the LA River. As shown on Figure 2 (conceptual plan), the meandering channel will occupy approximately 80% of the project area footprint, with the remaining area either between channel meanders or narrow landscaped areas bordering the wetlands. Public access will be primarily concentrated near the small parking lot and interpretative observation point and near the border nearest the LA River along the future Paseo del Rio walking path.

Shallow soil in the areas identified by sampling to contain concentrations of contaminants of concern in excess of remedial objectives will be excavated to a depth of 1.5 feet below ground surface prior to Demonstration Project feature development. As all shallow sedimentary material containing contamination will be removed prior to Demonstration Project

development, construction and post-construction workers, park visitors and maintenance workers will be free from potential exposure to site contamination.

The removal action itself will be undertaken by an appropriately trained and licensed remediation contractor under the guidance of a project specific Health and Safety Plan. The removal contractor shall be selected following a competitive bidding process. A specifications package prepared by TNC consultants will be the basis for the bidding document and will be issued at the same time as or before the solicitation for construction contractors for the Demonstration Project itself. A copy of the specifications package shall be provided to DTSC upon its completion.

All appropriate precautions will be taken to ensure safe materials handling, and robust dust monitoring is planned as a component of the remedial undertaking to ensure against off-property impact by fugitive particulate during soil removal. Both the Health and Safety and Dust Monitoring Plan shall be prepared by the selected contractor and reviewed and approved by DTSC prior to the commencement of the removal action.

# 6.1 Permitting and Site Preparation

Grading, air quality (AQMD dust monitoring), and all other required permissions shall be obtained prior to the commencement of any field activity.

# 6.2 Excavation Methodology

Shallow soil shall be removed using conventional excavation equipment (grader, loader, and excavator) and either temporarily stockpiled or direct-loaded into trucks for transport to the selected landfill. The disposal facility shall be chosen by the remediation contractor based on acceptance criteria, location, and tipping fee at the time of project commencement.

# 6.3 Control Measures/Environmental Quality Monitoring During Excavation

The remediation contractor shall deploy all appropriate control measures (including but not limited to measures associated with dust and stormwater control) prior to the commencement of the removal action. These measures and methodologies for monitoring and recordkeeping during site work shall be documented and summarized in post removal action closure documentation.

#### 7 SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS PLAN

# 7.1 Confirmation Sampling of Excavated Areas

As described in Section 3 of this RAW, the vertical definition of the contaminated soil horizon established by the Citadel data-gap sampling satisfies the requirement for post-removal confirmation sampling. No additional confirmation sampling shall be conducted.

# 7.2 Profiling for Off-Site Disposal

The selected removal action implementation contractor shall determine what additional analysis, if any, of soil targeted for removal and off-site disposal is required for disposal facility acceptance.

#### 8 OTHER PLANS

Health and safety plans, construction specifications and other related documents will be prepared by the construction contractor after the bid for that undertaking is awarded.

# 9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CEQA

Community engagement has been robust throughout the project planning process. Meetings and presentations addressing all aspects of the Demonstration Project are ongoing, and a formal meeting at the beginning of the 30-day comment period will be scheduled following DTSC review and conditional approval of this RAW.

DTSC is the lead agency for the evaluation of the remedial action in terms of CEQA requirements. State Parks is the lead agency for the CEQA review of the Demonstration Project itself. DTSC and TNC will coordinate their respective reviews to leverage the areas of project commonality.

#### 10 REFERENCES

DTSC, 2022. HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT (HHRA) NOTE NUMBER 4: Guidance for Screening Level Human Health Risk Assessments

Amicus, 2021. Workplan for Data Gap Sampling, TNC Demonstration Project, Los Angeles, CA.

The Nature Conservancy, 2018. LOS ANGELES RIVER: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS

Weston, 2020. Final Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives.

Weston, 2020. Final Phase I/II Investigation Targeted Brownfield Assessment Report, 2780 West Casitas Avenue, Los Angeles, CA

Leighton, 2015. Site Investigation Report, Former Taylor Yard Parcel G-1.

Leighton, 2014. Site Investigation Workplan, Former Taylor Yard Parcel G-1 (Bow Tie Parcel), 2800 Kerr Street, Los Angeles, CA

CDM, 2011. Revised Feasibility Study, Taylor Yard Parcel G-2

USEPA, 2008. Focused Feasibility Study North Hollywood Operable Unit San Fernando Valley Area 1 Superfund Site Los Angeles County, California

# 11 AFFIRMATION AND SIGNATURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL

This Removal Action Workplan has been prepared by the undersigned:

FINAL TO BE SIGNED AND STAMPED

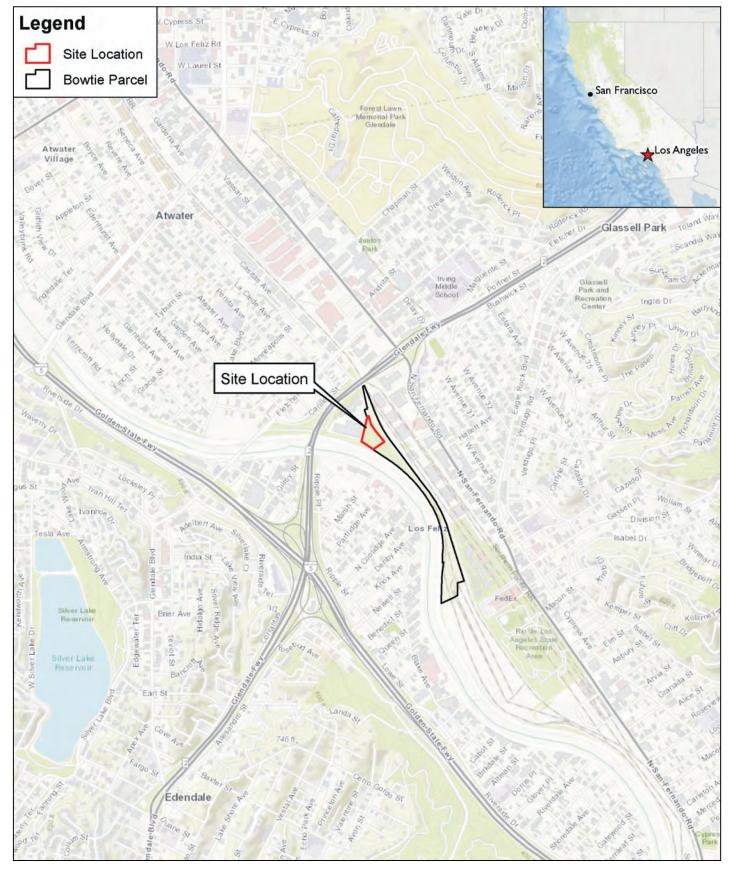
Markus B. Niebanck, PG Principal

# **ATTACHMENTS**

**FIGURES** 

# **APPENDICES**

- A AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS
- **B CITADEL DATA GAP SAMPLING REPORT**
- **C LEIGHTON AND WESTON DATA TABLES**



Base figure from Weston TBA

Figure 1 - Site Location

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Removal Action Workplan

August 19, 2022



**BOWTIE PROJECT** 

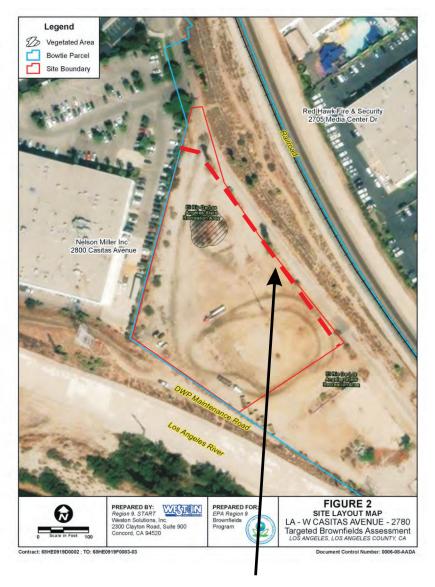
# WETLAND & PATH ILLUSTRATIVE



Figure 2 - Demonstration Project Conceptual Design

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Removal Action Workplan

August 19, 2022





Revised boundary in red dashed line. Setback from access road is approximately 15 feet.

# Figure 3 - Concept Design and Footprint

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Taylor Yard Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles, CA

August 19, 2022



Photograph 1 - View north along eastern project boundary.



Photograph 2 - View west across project footprint towards LA River.

# Figure 4 - Site Photographs

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Removal Action Workplan

August 19, 2022



Photograph 3 - View of area between project boundary and top of LA River wall.



Photograph 4 - Maintenance road; project boundary behind fence on left.

# Figure 5 - Site Photographs

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Removal Action Workplan

August 19, 2022

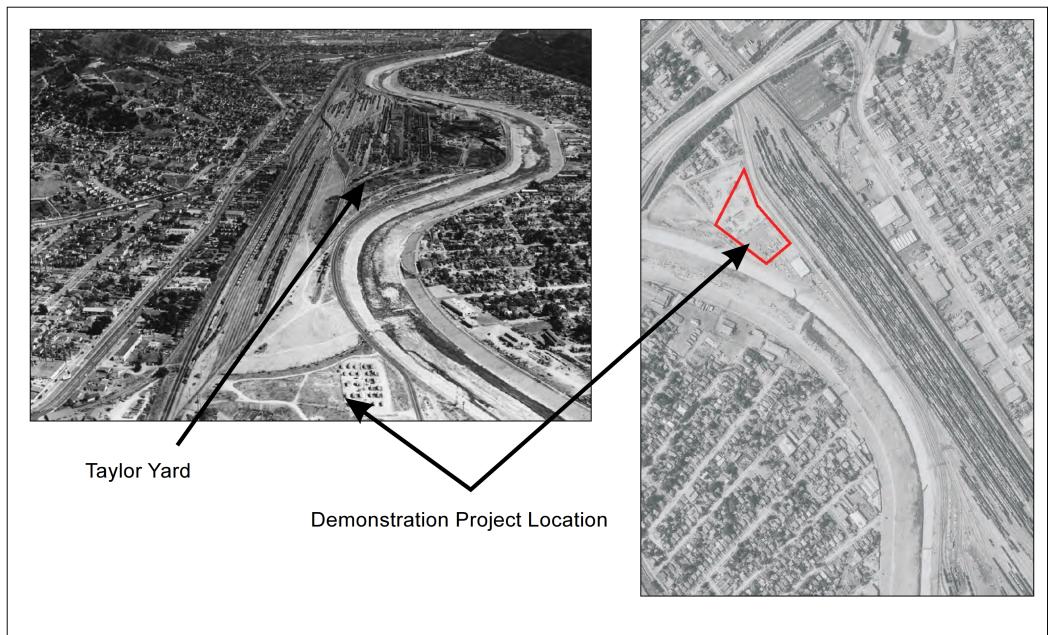


Figure 6 - Taylor Yard Features and Demonstration Project Location

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Removal Action Workplan

August 19, 2022

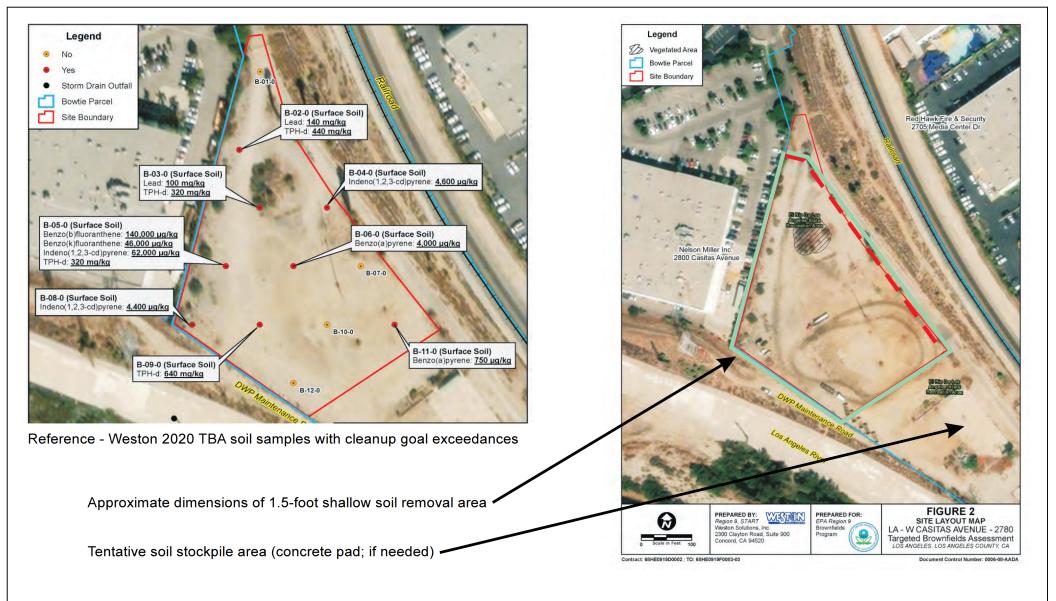


Figure 7 - Shallow Soil Removal Areas

The Nature Conservancy Demonstration Project Taylor Yard Bowtie Parcel, Los Angeles, CA

August 19, 2022

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Bowtie Parcel Demonstration Wetland Project	
	APPENDIX F CONSTRUCTION NOISE WORKSHEET

#### **Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project**

#### **Construction Noise Worksheet**

Construction Noise Source (Point Source)	Acoustical Usage Factor	Maximum Sound Pressure @50 feet (dBA)	Distance to Receptor (Feet)	Point Source Noise Level Attenuation with Distance (dBA)	Ground Attenuation with Distance (dBA)	Total Noise Level Attenuation (dBA)
Backhoe	0.4	80	250	64.2	3.7	60.5
Crane	0.16	85	250	68.5	3.7	64.8
Forklift (Gradall)	0.4	85	250	69.2	3.7	65.5
Forklift (Gradall)	0.4	85	250	69.2	3.7	65.5
Forklift (Gradall)	0.4	85	250	69.2	3.7	65.5
Front End Loader	0.4	80	250	64.2	3.7	60.5
Generator	0.5	82	250	66.5	3.7	62.8
Tractor	0.4	84	250	68.2	3.7	64.5
Truck	0.4	55	250	39.2	3.7	35.5
Truck	0.4	55	250	39.2	3.7	35.5
Welder	0.4	73	250	57.2	3.7	53.5

#### Notes:

- Equipment types and numbers from Appendix A (CalEEMod Output)
- Equipment noise levels and acoustical usage factors from Federal Highway Administration Construction Handbook, August 2006
- Ground attenuation estimates assume soft sites, average transmission path of 2 meters above the ground.

Construction Scenario	Total Noise Level at Nearest Wildlife Receptor (Leq dBA)	Wildlife Threshold of Significance (Leq dBA)	Exceed Wildlife Threshold of Significance?
Unmitigated Construction Noise	73.2	60	Yes
Mitigated Construction Noise with Temporary Sound Barrier	58.2	60	No

# Notes:

 Temporary sound barrier is placed along entirety of the western limits of site construction and is constructed of a design and materials/acoustic insulation to achieve a minimum 15 dBA noise level reduction.