APPENDIX C

Biological Resources

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October 3, 2018 10649-27

Brian Gonzalez
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: ***Biological Resources Letter Report for the LADWP De Soto Tanks Project, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California***

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing to replace the existing 3 million-gallon (MG) De Soto Reservoir located at 11200 De Soto Avenue (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 2706-007-901), with two buried, pre-stressed circular concrete storage tanks immediately north of the existing reservoir site (APN 2701-003-907). The combined operating storage capacity upon completion of the new storage tanks would be approximately 20 MG, and would provide additional local storage to increase operational effectiveness, reliability, and flexibility, system redundancy, and emergency supply to the West San Fernando Valley.

The purpose of this report is to (1) describe the conditions of biological resources at the proposed road repair site and surrounding area in terms of vegetation communities, plants, wildlife, wildlife habitats, and wetlands; (2) quantify potential direct and indirect impacts to biological resources that will result from the proposed project; (3) discuss those impacts in terms of biological significance in view of federal, state, and local laws and policies; and (4) specify measures to avoid and mitigate any impacts that would occur to biological resources.

1 PROJECT LOCATION AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

This biological technical report describes the existing biological conditions of the approximately 17.9-acre proposed De Soto Tanks Project (project). The project site is located at 11200 De Soto Avenue, within the Chatsworth community of City of Los Angeles (City), Los Angeles County, California (Figure 1; all figures are provided in Attachment A), and is generally bounded by State Route (SR) 118 to the north, De Soto Avenue to the west, Rinaldi Street to the south and east. This biological report includes an assessment of the undeveloped public easement (APN 2707-001-904) and privately owned parcels of land (APNs 2707-001-058, 2707-001-059, 2707-001-060) located east of the existing De Soto Reservoir properties that would be acquired in order to facilitate construction of the proposed project.

The biological evaluation includes the project site, approximately 17.9 acres, plus a surrounding 500-foot buffer, herein referred to as the "study area," totaling 87.8 acres. The study area is located in the southeastern portion of the Oat Mountain U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle within Section 8, Township 2 North, Range 16 West. The project site is characterized by relatively flat areas with some rolling hills in the northeast corner and along the northern extent of the property with elevations on site ranging approximately between 1,088 and 1,191 feet above mean sea level. The site is accessible via De Soto Avenue from the west and Rinaldi Street from the east. Figure 1 shows the regional and local vicinity of the study area.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The existing De Soto Reservoir, located in the northwestern area of the San Fernando Valley, was built in 1941. It has a base elevation of 1,100 feet above mean sea level and a high water level of 1,123 feet. In order to maintain appropriate operating pressure, the two proposed buried pre-stressed concrete tanks would have a base elevation of 1,100 feet, a high water level of 1,130 feet, and a top of tank elevation of 1,140 feet. Excavation at the proposed project site would be required to bury the tanks, which would be approximately 240 feet in diameter and 40 feet in height, below existing grade level in order to achieve these target elevations.

Construction of the De Soto Tanks Project would also require the installation of new inlet pipelines that would connect to the LADWP Rinaldi Trunk Line and outlet pipelines that would connect to the LADWP De Soto Trunk Line and Granada Trunk Line (see Figure 2: Site Plan). These new lines would be a total of approximately 2,500 linear feet and would be located within the proposed project site on LADWP property, and within public rights-of-way associated with Rinaldi Street and De Soto Avenue. A new regulator station would also be required to reduce water pressure from the Rinaldi Trunk Line originating at the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant, which is located in Sylmar and has a 1,190-foot-high water elevation.

Upon completion of the De Soto Tanks, a new pump station (the De Soto Pump Station) would be constructed in the location of the De Soto Reservoir, which would be removed. The pump station would be used to more efficiently and effectively supply water to various pressure zones in the distribution system of the west San Fernando Valley.

Construction Methods

The proposed project involves excavation of the site north of the existing De Soto Reservoir to a depth of approximately 50 feet, followed by the construction of two pre-stressed concrete tanks, each of which would be approximately 240 feet in diameter and approximately 40 feet in height. Excavated material would be hauled from the project site via the 118 Freeway to a facility

permitted to accept excavated soil materials. Upon completion of the tanks, the existing reservoir would be demolished in order to facilitate construction of the future pump station.

Excavation for the tanks would involve the use of heavy equipment, including excavators, front loaders, and dozers. Based on preliminary estimates, approximately 350,000 loose cubic yards of soil would need to be excavated at the project site to accommodate the tanks. Some of this material would be used to backfill around the tanks once they are constructed. However, the majority of the excavated material would be hauled off site, requiring several thousand truck trips. Excavation and hauling would occur over a period of about 8 months. After excavation, the tank construction would entail the installation of inlet/outlet pipes, a reinforced concrete floor, the erection of scaffolding for the walls and roof, the installation of wall and roof panels, the construction of columns to support the roof, wrapping the tanks with pre-stressing cables, and the application of concrete on the walls and roof. This process would involve the delivery of materials and concrete and the use of heavy equipment, including cranes and concrete pump trucks.

After completion of the tanks, the area surrounding the tanks would be backfilled, and a perimeter road would be constructed around the tanks for maintenance access. All cut slopes from excavation would be properly stabilized and revegetated. Although the tanks themselves would be buried, the roof of the tanks would not be covered. However, the top of the tanks would be approximately 10 feet below the surrounding grade.

New pipelines, the inlets, and outlets pipelines of the tanks would be constructed on site and within the rights-of-way associated with Rinaldi Street and De Soto Avenue. After completion of the tanks and pipelines, the existing De Soto Reservoir would be demolished and the new pump station would be constructed.

Access to and egress from the site during construction would be from Rinaldi Street on the east and/or De Soto Avenue on the west. Construction of the proposed project would take approximately 6 years to complete, beginning in late-2020.

Operations

As discussed above, the proposed tanks would store potable water to increase operational effectiveness, reliability, and flexibility; system redundancy; and emergency supply to the West San Fernando Valley. The proposed pressure regulator station would reduce the water pressure coming from Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant, which has a 1,190-foot-high water elevation, to the De Soto Tanks, which have a 1,130-foot-high water elevation. The proposed De Soto Pump Station would pump water from the De Soto Tanks to the 1,305-foot pressure zone in the southwest

valley. No workers would be required to operate these facilities on a daily basis; however, these facilities would require regular maintenance. As such, operational activities would be essentially the same as those that occur under existing conditions.

3 METHODS

3.1 Literature Review

A literature and database review was conducted to evaluate the environmental setting of the project and to identify potential special-status biological resources that may be found in the project site and surrounding study area. The most recent versions of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB; CDFW 2018a) and special-status species lists (CDFW 2018b–2018e), as well as the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) *Inventory of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants* (CNPS 2018) were reviewed to identify sensitive biological resources present or potentially present for the USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle on which the project site is located (i.e., Oat Mountain) and the eight surrounding quadrangles (i.e., Val Verde, Mint Canyon, Newhall, Santa Susana, San Fernando, Calabasas, Canoga Park, and Van Nuys). The USFWS occurrence data (USFWS 2018a) was queried in ArcGIS to determine other species present in the region with potential to occur on site, as well as for any federally designated critical habitat in the area (USFWS 2018a).

Potential and/or historic drainages and aquatic features were investigated based on a review of USGS topographic maps (1:24,000 scale), aerial photographs, the USFWS National Wetland Inventory database (USFWS 2018b), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA 2018a).

3.1.1 USGS Topographic and Watershed Map Review

The USGS 7.5-minute Oat Mountain, California topographic map was utilized to identify natural and man-made features occurring within the study area. Information obtained from the map included contour lines, streets, streams, structures, and vegetation.

One unnamed flume and/or underground pipeline occurs just south of the project site and crosses the project site along its southeast corner. No other aquatic features or significant structural features are identified on the map within the study area's boundaries.

The study area occurs 50 feet east of the Browns Canyon Wash (USGS HUC18: 180701050202) of the Los Angeles River watershed (USGS HUC18: 18070105). The Los Angeles River

watershed extends from the Santa Susana Mountains and San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean and occurs almost entirely within Los Angeles County.

3.1.2 Soil Survey Review

According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey (USDA 2018), the project site occurs within the soil survey conducted for Los Angeles County, California within the West San Fernando Valley Area (USDA et al. 1980). Nine different soil types and land covers are mapped within the study area (Figure 3) and described as follows:

- **Anacapa sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes (100).** These soils support a well-drained, young alluvium that is derived mostly from sandstone and shale.
- **Badland (102).** This mapping unit is made up of un-vegetated, steep slopes that support weakly consolidated shale and sandstone.
- **Balcom silty clay loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes (103).** These well-drained, strongly sloping soils support material weathered in place from soft shale and sandstone.
- **Balcom silty clay loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes (104).** These well-drained, moderately steep soils support material weathered in place from soft shale and sandstone.
- **Chualar-Urban land complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes (109).** This mapping unit mainly supports a well-drained, old alluvium that is derived mainly from sandstone and granitic rock. This unit also supports urban land covered by roads, parking lots, and buildings, under which extensive cutting and filling has occurred during urban development.
- **Gaviota sandy loam, 9 to 30 percent slopes (116).** These shallow, well-drained soils support material weathered in place from hard sandstone.
- **San Emigdio-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes (127).** This mapping unit mainly supports a well-drained soil formed in young alluvium from mixed rock sources. This unit also supports urban land covered by roads, parking lots, and buildings, under which some grading and filling has occurred during urban development.
- **Soper gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes (132).** These well-drained, moderately steep soils were formed in material that was weathered in place from conglomerate and sandstone.
- **Water (144).** This mapping unit consists of areas with 100% water generally found associated with reservoirs and ponds.

3.1.3 National Wetlands Inventory Review

After reviewing the National Wetlands Inventory dataset, no wetland types were identified within the project's study area (USFWS 2018b). Two wetland types associated with Browns Canyon Creek occur within the general vicinity of the project, approximately 50 feet west of the project's study area.

The following two wetland types correspond with Browns Canyon Creek:

- **R4SBCr (Riverine, intermittent, streambed, seasonally flooded, artificial substrate)** – This type of wetland includes artificial channels/streambeds that support flowing water periodically. Surface water is present for extended periods but absent by the end of the growing season in most years. The water table typically occurs well below the soil surface. This resource does not occur within the study area and is not mapped.
- **R4SBAr (Riverine, intermittent, streambed, temporarily flooded, artificial substrate)** – This type of wetland includes artificial channels/streambeds that support flowing water periodically. Surface water is present for brief periods during the growing season. The water table usually occurs well below the soil surface for most of the season. This resource does not occur within the study area and is not mapped.

Browns Canyon Creek or Browns Canyon Wash is a concrete-lined channel that does not support vegetation. It generally flows from north to south when surface water is present. This drainage is a tributary to the Los Angeles River with its confluence into Los Angeles River located approximately 1.7 miles south of Roscoe Boulevard. Browns Canyon Creek is located outside of the study area, approximately 550 feet from the project site, where no impacts are anticipated to occur, and therefore is not analyzed further.

3.2 Field Surveys

Dudek conducted several biological surveys between April 2018 and July 2018, including general plant and wildlife surveys, vegetation mapping, habitat assessment for special-status species, a formal jurisdictional delineation, focused special-status/rare plant surveys, and focused surveys for special-status/regulated wildlife species (Table 1). Protocol-level presence/absence surveys were conducted for the following listed species: coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*; CAGN), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*; BUOW). Survey schedule and conditions are listed below in Table 1.

Table 1
Survey Dates and Conditions

Date	Time	Personnel	Focus	Conditions
6/20/2017	0700–1101	JP	General Biological Survey, Vegetation Mapping, Habitat Assessments	76°F–95°F, 0% cc, 0–1 mph wind
4/4/2018	0745–930	JP, TP	BUOW Habitat Assessment BUOW Focused Survey Pass 1	52°F–61°F, 95–100% cc, 0–2 mph wind
4/4/2018	0930–1350	JP, TP	Special-Status Plants Survey, April Pass Jurisdictional Delineation	61°F–75°F, 0–95% cc, 0–5 mph wind
4/25/2018	0930–1140	PL	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 1	66°F–73°F, 5–10% cc, 0–3 mph wind
5/2/2018	0725–0940	MB	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 2	56°F–59°F, 100% cc, 0–2 mph wind
5/9/2018	1025–1200	PL	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 3	73°F–79°F, 0% cc, 1–5 mph wind
5/23/2018	1005–1150	PL	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 4	60°F–63°F, 100% cc, 1–4 mph wind
5/29/2018	0615–0645	TP	BUOW Focused Survey Pass 2	62°F–64°F, 100% cc, 0–3 mph wind
6/4/2018	0930–1145	PL	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 5	73°F–78°F, 0% cc, 1–4 mph wind
6/19/2018	0720–0848	MB	CAGN Focused Survey Pass 6	62°F–64°F, 5% cc, 0–1 mph wind
6/21/2018	0545–0610	JP	BUOW Focused Survey Pass 3	61°F, hazy skies with good visibility, 0–3 mph wind
7/13/2018	0700–0730	TP	BUOW Focused Survey Pass 4	72°F–74°F, 5% cc, 0–2 mph wind
7/13/2018	0745–1100	TP, TM	Special-Status Plants Survey, July Pass	75°F–91°F, 0–5% cc, 0–2 mph wind

Personnel: JP = Johanna Page; TP = Tracy Park; PL = Paul Lemons; MB = Melissa Blundell; TM = Tommy Molioo
Conditions: °F = degrees Fahrenheit; cc = cloud cover; mph = miles per hour

3.2.1 Biological Reconnaissance-Level Survey

Dudek biologist Johanna Page conducted a general biological survey of the study area on June 20, 2017. All native and naturalized plant species encountered in the study area were identified and recorded. Representative site photographs of the project site were taken and are included in Attachment B. The potential for special-status plant and wildlife species to occur within the study area was evaluated based on the vegetation communities and soils present. Dudek used the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW')s *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (CDFW 2009) and *List of Vegetation Alliances and Associations* (CDFG 2010), also referred to as the Natural Communities

List, to map the entire study area. Vegetation communities and land covers were delineated to the vegetation alliance level, and where appropriate the association level. Some modifications were incorporated to accommodate the lack of conformity of the observed communities to those included in these references.

Latin and common names for plant species with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) follow the CNPS *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants* (CNPS 2018). For plant species without a CRPR, Latin names follow the *Jepson Interchange List of Currently Accepted Names of Native and Naturalized Plants of California* (Jepson Flora Project 2018) and common names follow the U.S. Department of Agriculture's NRCS Plants Database (USDA 2018). Latin and common names of animals follow Crother (2008) for reptiles and amphibians, American Ornithologists' Union for birds (AOU 2016), Wilson and Reeder (2005) for mammals, North American Butterfly Association (NABA 2016) or San Diego Natural History Museum for butterflies (SDNHM 2002), and Moyle (2002) for fish.

3.2.2 Jurisdictional Delineation

Dudek biologists Johanna Page and Tracy Park conducted a delineation of jurisdictional wetlands and waters within the study area on April 4, 2018, for the following types of features:

- Waters of the United States, including wetlands, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), pursuant to Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act
- Waters of the state under the jurisdiction of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, pursuant to Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Streambeds under the jurisdiction of CDFW, pursuant to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code

Non-wetland waters of the United States were delineated based on the presence of an ordinary high water mark as determined using the methodology in *A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) in the Arid West Region of the Western United States* (USACE 2008a). Wetland waters of the United States were delineated based on methodology described in the 1987 *Wetlands Delineation Manual* (USACE 1987) and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region* (USACE 2008b). In accordance with the California Fish and Game Code, streambeds are determined based on the presence of a definable bed and bank and are delineated from top of bank to top of bank or the extent of associated riparian vegetation. Drainage features were delineated using a GPS handheld

unit with sub-meter accuracy. The delineation was completed in support of a Preliminary Approved Determination from the USACE.

Dudek GIS specialist Spenser Lucarelli mapped biological resources into a GIS coverage, and provided figures using ArcGIS software.

3.2.3 Focused Special-Status Plant Surveys

Special-status plant surveys were conducted to determine the presence or absence of plant species that are considered endangered, rare, or threatened under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, Section 15380 (14 CCR 15000 et seq.).

Dudek biologists Johanna Page, Tracy Park, and Tommy Molioo conducted early spring and late summer plant survey passes to maximize detection of blooming special-status plants (Table 1). Focused surveys were conducted in April and July 2018, during the blooming period of special-status plant species with a moderate to high potential to occur within the vicinity of the study area.

All plant species encountered during the surveys were recorded and identified to subspecies or variety, if applicable and feasible, to determine sensitivity status. Latin and common names for plant species with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) follow the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Inventory of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2018). For plant species without a CRPR, Latin names follow the Jepson Interchange List of Currently Accepted Names of Native and Naturalized Plants of California (Jepson Flora Project 2018), and common names follow the USDA NRCS PLANTS Database (USDA 2018). A cumulative list of plant species observed on the study area is presented in Attachment C.

3.2.4 Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys

Focused breeding season burrowing owl surveys were conducted in accordance with the March 7, 2012, Staff Report on Burrowing Owl mitigation (CDFW 2012). Dudek biologists Johanna Page and Tracy Park conducted four survey passes between April 2018 and July 2018, under suitable weather conditions, between morning civil twilight and 10:00 a.m. (Table 1). Surveys were scheduled at least three weeks apart as per CDFW protocol, with the first survey visit between February 15 and April 15, two survey visits between April 15 and June 15, and one survey visit after June 15. The first visit included a habitat assessment concurrent with searching for suitable burrows and burrowing owls.

Dudek biologists conducted the survey on foot by slowly walking transects to inspect all vegetation for evidence of burrowing owl within the project site as well as the surrounding 500-foot buffer area.

The surveys covered all portions of site that included suitable burrowing owl habitat (i.e., short, sparse vegetation with few shrubs, level to gentle topography and well-drained soils). Pauses were taken to scan the area with appropriate binoculars (10x42 magnification) to search for burrowing owls. Any potentially suitable burrows or burrow surrogates (e.g., rock cavities, pipes, culverts, debris piles with crevices) greater than 11 centimeters in diameter were mapped using a GPS handheld unit with sub-meter accuracy and inspected for burrowing owl sign (e.g., owl pellets, white wash, abundant insect remains, feathers).

3.2.5 Focused California Gnatcatcher Surveys

The presence/absence focused survey for coastal California gnatcatcher (CAGN) was conducted for the project between April 25 and June 18, 2018 (Table 1). The survey area for CAGN included suitable coastal scrub habitat within the project site and a 500-foot buffer, as depicted in figures included in Attachment D. USFWS-designated critical habitat for this species is located approximately 0.2 miles northwest of the Project site, north of SR-118.

The survey was conducted following the currently accepted USFWS protocol, *Coastal California Gnatcatcher (Polioptila californica californica) Presence/Absence Survey Protocol* (USFWS 1997). The survey included six visits at a minimum of 7-day intervals. In accordance with the protocol, no more than 80 acres of suitable habitat were surveyed by a single biologist during each site visit. Survey routes allowed for complete audible and visual coverage of all suitable CAGN habitat on site.

A 200-scale topographic map (1 inch = 200 feet) overlain with vegetation polygons and the study area was utilized during the survey. Additionally, digital mobile maps were utilized during the surveys to assist in navigating each survey area and mapping gnatcatchers, if present. Weather conditions, time of day, and season were appropriate for the detection of gnatcatchers and are provided in Table 1. Appropriate binoculars (e.g., 10x50 magnification) were used to aid in detecting and identifying bird species. A recording of gnatcatcher vocalizations was played approximately every 100 to 200 feet to induce responses from potentially present gnatcatchers. Vocalization-playback would have been terminated immediately upon detection of any gnatcatchers to minimize the potential for harassment. All other avian species detected during surveys were recorded and are included in Attachment D.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Vegetation Communities and Land Covers

Eight vegetation communities and land cover types were identified within the 87.8-acre study area during the biological resource evaluation: California buckwheat scrub, eucalyptus groves, non-native grassland, upland mustards, concrete-lined channel, disturbed habitat, ornamental vegetation, and urban/developed. These vegetation communities and land cover types are described below, their acreages are presented in Table 2, and their spatial distributions are presented on Figure 4. No special-status vegetation communities occur within the study area.

Table 2
Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

Vegetation Community or Land Cover Type	Acreage within Project Site	Acreage within the Surrounding 500-foot Buffer
Upland Native or Naturalized Vegetation Types		
California Buckwheat Scrub (ERIFAS)	4.37	6.57
Eucalyptus Groves [EG(SNS)][1]	---	2.31
Non-Native Grassland (NNG)	3.46	0.53
Upland Mustards [UM(SNS)][1]	4.87	3.74
Subtotal	*12.70*	*13.15*
Non-Natural Land Cover Types		
Concrete-Lined Channel (CC)	0.03	0.14
Disturbed Habitat (DH)	2.54	2.64
Ornamental Vegetation (ORN)	0.72	18.17
Urban/Developed (DEV)	1.92	35.83
Subtotal	*5.21*	*56.78*
Total[2]	**17.92**	**69.93**

Notes:
1 The term semi-natural stands (SNS) vs. alliance is used in the Manual of California Vegetation to distinguish between native vegetation communities and vegetation types dominated by non-native plants.
2 Total may not sum due to rounding.

4.1.1 California Buckwheat Scrub

California buckwheat scrub is an herbaceous coastal scrub dominated or co-dominated by California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) that typically occurs on dry slopes, washes, and canyons and coastal bluffs (Gordon and White 1994). Characteristic plant species in this community include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), chaparral mallow (*Malacothamnus fasciculatus*), goldenbush scrub (*Isocoma menziesii*), coyote brush (*Baccharis*

pilularis), deer weed (*Acmispon glaber*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*) (Sawyer et al. 2009).

Plant species recorded within California buckwheat scrub habitat include Eastern Mojave buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *foliolosum*), California sagebrush, clustered tarweed (*Deinandra fasciculata*), laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens*), common deerweed (*Acmispon glaber* var. *glaber*), Maltese star-thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*), black sage, winecup clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea*), blue elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *caerulea*), slender oat (*Avena barbata*), California four o'clock (*Mirabilis laevis*), and chaparral yucca (*Hesperoyucca whipplei*). California buckwheat scrub occurs within the hillsides that dominate the northwestern portion and northern extent of the project site. California buckwheat scrub alliance has a rank of G5S5, which means it is secure (i.e., community demonstrably secure due to common and widespread abundance) globally and sub-nationally. This vegetation community is not considered sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies.

4.2.2 Eucalyptus Groves Semi-Natural Stands

Eucalyptus grove (semi-natural stands) is a distinct naturalized vegetation type that is fairly widespread in Southern California and is considered a woodland habitat. It typically consists of monotypic stands of introduced Australian eucalyptus tree (*Eucalyptus* spp.), where the understory is either depauperate or absent (Holland 1986). The following nine species of eucalyptus species are commonly found in California: river redgum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), lemonscented gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*), sugargum (*Eucalyptus cladocalyx*), bluegum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), redbox (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*), silver-leaved mountain gum (*Eucalyptus pulverulenta*), red ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), forest redgum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*), and manna gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) (Sawyer et al. 2009).

Plant species recorded within eucalyptus groves habitat include river redgum and lemonscented gum. These stands of eucalyptus occur north of the project site, adjacent to SR-118.

4.2.3 Non-native Grassland

Non-native grassland is a general habitat that is characterized by a dense to sparse cover of weedy introduced annuals. It typically occurs within fine-textured clay soils, adjacent to roads or other developed areas where there has been some historic disturbance. Characteristic plant species in this community include wild oats, bromes (*Bromus* spp.), fescue (*Festuca* spp.), Italian ryegrass

(*Lolium multiflorum*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), filaree (*Erodium* spp.), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) (Holland 1986).

Plant species recorded within non-native grassland habitat include red brome, ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), slender oat (*Avena barbata*), dove weed (*Croton setiger*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), common fiddleneck (*Amsinckia intermedia*), Maltese star-thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*), vinegarweed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*), redstem stork's bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), common sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), sacred thorn-apple (*Datura wrightii*), common deerweed, and common sand aster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*). On site, non-native grassland occurs immediately west, north, and northeast of the existing reservoir. The vegetation community appears to be routinely disturbed by mowing, which was indicative during the June 2017 and July 2018 site visit. This vegetation community is not considered sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies.

4.2.4 Upland Mustards Semi-natural Stands

Upland mustard (semi-natural stands) is a naturalized vegetation community dominated by a thick layer of herbaceous mustard plants and few other plant species interspersed within an open to continuous canopy. Emergent trees and shrubs may be present at low cover (Sawyer et al. 2009). This habitat often occurs in fallow fields, grasslands, roadsides, levee slopes, disturbed coastal scrub riparian areas, and dumping sites. Characteristic plant species in this community include black mustard, field mustard (*Brassica rapa*), Asian mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*), shortpod mustard, dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*), and cultivated radish (*Raphanus sativus*) (Sawyer et al. 2009).

Plant species recorded within upland mustard habitat include shortpod mustard, black mustard, red brome, doveweed, Eastern Mojave buckwheat, common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), common sowthistle, redstem stork's bill, and clustered tarweed (*Deinandra fasciculata*). Upland mustard (semi-natural stands) occurs in the northern portion of the project site. The vegetation community appears to be routinely disturbed as evidenced by compacted soils and was dominated by overgrown mustard stands during the June 2017 and July 2018 site visit. This vegetation community is not considered sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies.

4.2.5 Concrete-Lined Channel

The concrete-lined channel mapping unit is not recognized by *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2009). Concrete-lined channels are characterized by un-vegetated engineered channels lined with concrete that are designed to convey low-frequency, high-volume surface

water flows. A concrete-lined v-ditch occurs along the base of a hillside immediately west and south of the graded parking lot in the eastern portion of the project site. Another concrete-lined v-ditch occurs along the northeastern border of the project site. Concrete-lined channels are not wetlands due to the lack of hydrophytic vegetation and/or soils.

4.2.6 Disturbed Habitat

Disturbed habitat refers to areas that are not developed yet lack vegetation and generally are the result of severe or repeated mechanical perturbation. Areas mapped as disturbed land may include unpaved roads, trails, and graded areas. Vegetation in these areas, if present at all, is usually sparse and dominated by non-native weedy herbaceous species.

Disturbed habitat within the study area is limited to dirt roads, trails, gravel areas, and bare ground adjacent to roads. Disturbed habitat occurs across the center of the project site and continues as large patches within the eastern portion of the project site and 500-foot buffer. Disturbed habitat is not considered sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies.

4.2.7 Ornamental Vegetation

Ornamental vegetation consists of introduced plantings of exotic species as landscaping, including greenbelts, parks, and horticultural plantings (Jones and Stokes 1993). Ornamental plantings within the study area are dominated by Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), Washington fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), Indian laurel fig (*Ficus microcarpa*), various ornamental pines (*Pinus* spp.), blue jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), river redgum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), lemon-scented gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*), European olive (*Olea europaea*), Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*, oleander (*Nerium oleander*), and regularly maintained lawns and sports fields (i.e., baseball field, football field). Ornamental plantings occurs within the western and northern portion of the study area and is also scattered along the southern extent of the project site. Ornamental vegetation is not considered sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies.

4.2.8 Urban/Developed Land

Developed lands consist of buildings, structures, homes, parking lots, paved roads, and maintained areas. This land cover type does not support native vegetation. Developed land is dominant within the 500-foot buffer area that surrounds the project site. This mapping unit is composed of residential development, paved well-traversed city roads, and SR-118. These areas support limited

natural ecological processes, native vegetation, or habitat for wildlife species and, thus, are not considered sensitive by local, state, or federal agencies.

4.3 Floral Diversity

A total of 90 species of vascular plants were recorded within the study area, consisting of 47 native (52%) and 43 non-native (48%) species. Plant species observed within the study area are listed in Attachment C.

4.4 Wildlife

A total of 54 species of wildlife were recorded within the study area (Attachment E). Due to the diurnal nature of the field surveys conducted for this project, most species observed were birds. Common species observed include, but are not limited to Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Cassin's kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), and white-throated swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*). No active bird nests were observed within the study area during the reconnaissance survey; however, the ornamental and native vegetation within the study area could support nesting birds.

No amphibian species were observed within the study area. Reptile species observed include western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*) and common side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*). Seven mammal species were detected during the survey: Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), brush rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmani*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and woodrat (*Neotoma* sp.). All wildlife species recorded within the study area are listed in Attachment E.

4.5 Special-Status Plant Species

Special-status plants include those listed, or candidates for listing, as threatened or endangered by USFWS or CDFW, or species identified as rare by CNPS (particularly CRPR 1A – Presumed extinct in California; CRPR 1B – Rare, threatened, or endangered throughout its range; and CRPR 2 – Rare or Endangered in California, more common elsewhere). A total of 50 special-status plant species were reported in the CNDDB, USFWS, and CNPS databases as occurring in the vicinity of the study area. Figure 5 depicts Special-Status Species Occurrences. Attachment F summarizes

the special-status plant species that were included in these databases and evaluated as part of this assessment. For each species evaluated, a determination was made regarding the potential for the species to occur on site based on information gathered during the field reconnaissance, including the location of the site, habitats present, current site conditions, and past and present land use.

No special-status plant species were detected within the study area. Additionally, there is no USFWS-designated critical habitat for listed plant species within the study area (USFWS 2018).

Of the 50 special-status plant species listed in the CNDDB, CNPS, and USFWS databases as occurring in the vicinity of the study area, 25 species were determined to have no potential to occur within the study area based on an evaluation of species ranges/elevation and known habitat preferences. The remaining 25 special-status species were determined to have a low potential to occur due to limited suitable habitat within the study area. No species were determined to have at least a moderate potential to occur within the study area based on the negative results of focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018.

4.6 Special-Status Wildlife Species

Special-status wildlife include those listed, or candidates for listing, as threatened or endangered by USFWS or CDFW, or designated as a Species of Special Concern by CDFW. A total of 42 special-status wildlife species were reported in the CNDDB and USFWS databases as occurring in the vicinity of the study area. Attachment G summarizes the special-status wildlife species that were included in these databases and evaluated as part of this assessment. For each species evaluated, a determination was made regarding the potential use of the site based on information gathered during the field reconnaissance, known habitat preferences, and knowledge of their relative distributions in the area.

No wildlife species listed or proposed for listing as rare, threatened, or endangered by either CDFW or USFWS were detected within the study area during surveys conducted for the project.

Of the 42 special-status wildlife species listed in the CNDDB and USFWS databases as occurring in the vicinity of the study area, 22 species were determined to have no potential to occur within the study area based on an evaluation of species ranges/elevation and known habitat preferences. Additionally, species such as coastal California gnatcatcher and burrowing owl are not expected to occur due to negative findings during focused surveys. A total of 11 special-status species were determined to have a low potential to occur due to limited suitable habitat within the study area. Two special-status wildlife species have a moderate potential to occur within the study area based on the vegetation communities (habitat) present, elevation range, and previous known locations:

Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*), and San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) (Table 3).

Table 3
Special-Status Wildlife Species Detected or with a Moderate to High Potential to Occur within the Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal/State Status	Potential to Occur within Study Area
Birds			
Accipiter cooperi	Cooper's hawk	None/WL	Moderate
Mammals			
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	None/SSC	Moderate

Federal Status
None: No federal status.
State Status
WL: CDFW Watch List Species
SSC: California Species of Special Concern

4.7 Focused Burrowing Owl Surveys

There were no burrowing owls or BUOW signs detected within the study area (project site plus 500-foot buffer). Therefore, burrowing owls are considered to be absent from the study area. A full list of bird species observed during the survey is included in Attachment E.

4.8 Focused California Gnatcatcher Surveys

There were no California gnatcatchers or CAGN nests detected within the study area. Therefore, California gnatcatchers are considered to be absent from the study area. No brown-headed cowbirds were detected during CAGN surveys. A full list of bird species observed during the survey is included in Attachment D.

4.9 Jurisdictional Waters

The formal jurisdictional delineation conducted for the project identified two non-jurisdictional concrete v-ditches. No jurisdictional waters or wetlands were identified within the study area.

The investigated non-jurisdictional features are located within the eastern portion of the project site, mapped as concrete channels (CC) in Figure 4. Based on review of USGS and NHD data, a drainage historically occurred just south of the project site and crossed the project site along its southeast corner. A flume and/or underground pipeline has now replaced this drainage. According

to review of historical aerial imagery, there is no indication of surface flow on the project site, dating back to 1994 (Google Earth 2018). Grading within the eastern portion of the project site took place in 2006 and 2007, during which the investigated v-ditches were constructed to collect run-off from the pad slopes and to direct water towards the stormwater system. These v-ditches were constructed in uplands, confirmed by surrounding vegetation that is typical of the California buckwheat scrub vegetation community, and is limited to upland plant species. Therefore, due to a lack of a clearly defined OHWM, continuous bed and bank, and associated indicators (e.g., sediment flow, shelving, water marks, and wetland vegetation), Dudek determined these features to be not subject to regulatory agency (USACE/RWQCB and CDFW) jurisdiction.

4.10 Nesting Birds

The vegetation on site provides potentially suitable habitat for commonly occurring nesting birds, including Anna's hummingbird or California towhee. In addition, the tall trees (e.g., eucalyptus trees) scattered throughout the study area provide potential nesting habitat for raptor species such as red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, and Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). Suitable nesting habitat exists within the project site and surrounding areas; thus, birds could nest within the study area.

4.11 City of Los Angeles Protected Trees

The City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance, as modified by Ordinance 177404, provides guidelines for the preservation of native Southern California tree species measuring 4 inches or more in cumulative diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground from the base of the tree (City of Los Angeles 2006). Trees protected under this ordinance include all oak trees indigenous to California (excluding scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*)), Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica* var. *californica*), California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), and California bay (*Umbellularia californica*).

One protected valley oak tree as defined in the City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance occurs within the project site, located east of the existing De Soto Reservoir (Figure 4).

Six protected California sycamores are located within the study area. Three of these sycamores are located along the southeastern boundary of the project, while the other three sycamores are located east of the graded parking lot (Figure 4).

4.12 Regional Resource Planning Context

The project site and surrounding study area is located in the City of Los Angeles (City), within the neighborhood of Chatsworth. The City of Los Angeles General Plan provides city-wide context for 35 community plans, which together establish the Land Use Element of the City's General Plan. The project site has a generalized land use of 'very low II residential' within the Chatsworth-Porter Ranch Community Plan.

4.13 Wildlife Corridors and Habitat Linkages

Wildlife corridors are linear features that connect large patches of natural open space and provide avenues for the migration of animals. Wildlife corridors contribute to population viability by assuring continual exchange of genes between populations, providing access to adjacent habitat areas for foraging and mating, and providing routes for recolonization of habitat after local extirpation or ecological catastrophes (e.g., fires).

Habitat linkages are small patches that join larger blocks of habitat and help reduce the adverse effects of habitat fragmentation. Habitat linkages provide a potential route for gene flow and long-term dispersal of plants and animals and may also serve as primary habitat for smaller animals, such as reptiles and amphibians. Habitat linkages may be continuous habitat or discrete habitat islands that function as stepping stones for dispersal.

The project site does not reside within any designated wildlife corridors or habitat linkages identified in the South Coast Missing Linkages analysis conducted by South Coast Wildlands (2008), the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map (SMMC 2017a), or the Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map (SMMC 2017b). The closest designated habitat linkage, i.e., Santa Monica–Sierra Madre Connection within the South Coast Missing Linkages analysis, is located approximately 3 miles west of the project site within the Santa Susana Mountains. This linkage covers the Santa Monica, Simi, Santa Susana, and Sierra Madre ranges and serves to connect the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests.

The public access trail located within the southern portion of the project site, just north of the current De Soto Reservoir, has potential to facilitate east-west wildlife movement through the area for urban-adapted species (e.g., coyote, striped skunk, raccoon, and opossum), as well as provide live-in habitat for smaller mammals, reptiles, and birds in the area. However, this corridor is fragmented by urban development and well-traversed roads. Specifically, the project site is abutted by SR-118 to the north, Rinaldi Street to the east, and De Soto Avenue to the west. As such, this corridor is unlikely to support wildlife movement for larger mammals. In addition, areas north of

SR-118 provide higher quality habitat and are more likely to support wildlife movement through the area.

5 IMPACTS AND AVOIDANCE MEASURES

This section addresses the anticipated impacts (direct, indirect, and cumulative) to biological resources that would result from implementation of the proposed project. The significance determinations for proposed or potential impacts follow the thresholds provided in the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15064(b) and Appendix G Environmental Checklist. The evaluation of the project's impacts using the thresholds of significance presented is organized by the resource potentially affected: special-status species, riparian and special-status (sensitive) vegetation communities, jurisdictional wetlands and waters, and wildlife movement. The analysis presented below focuses on the demolition of the existing De Soto Tanks Reservoir construction of the proposed De Soto Tanks and pump station, and installation of associated pipelines. The earthen material excavated would be hauled off site. Work areas would be accessed by Rinaldi Street from the east and De Soto Avenue from the west.

5.1 Impacts to Vegetation Communities

The project site does not support any sensitive vegetation communities. The only native CDFW-ranked vegetation community within the project site is California buckwheat scrub; however, California buckwheat scrub is not considered a sensitive vegetation community. Furthermore, project impact areas activities are proposed to occur within portions of the project site that are dominated by upland mustard semi-natural alliance, California annual grassland, disturbed habitat, and urban/developed land (Figure 4). All work is proposed to occur within the project site with minimal potential indirect effects (i.e., fugitive dust) due to implementation of dust control practices during construction (i.e., watering active work sites with exposed soils). As such, direct and indirect impacts to sensitive vegetation communities would not occur, and no avoidance or mitigation measures are recommended.

5.2 Special-Status Plant Species

No special-status plant species were detected within the study area. Based on the negative results of focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, no species were determined to have a moderate potential to occur or higher within the study area. Therefore, direct or indirect impacts to special-status plant species would be less than significant, and no avoidance or mitigation measures are recommended.

5.3 Special-Status Wildlife Species

No special-status wildlife species were detected within the study area. However, a woodrat (not identified to species) and woodrat middens were observed during the biological reconnaissance; thus, San Diego desert woodrat has a moderate potential to occur within the study area. Cooper's hawk also has a moderate potential to occur, particularly within trees located on the study area. The project footprint is limited to non-native grasslands, disturbed land, and upland mustards, and as such, direct permanent impacts are not anticipated to occur to habitat for these special-status wildlife species. The woodrat middens identified on site do not occur within the project footprint and are not anticipated to be impacted by proposed project activities. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to result in a significant direct impact to these special-status wildlife.

Potential short- and long-term indirect impacts to special-status wildlife within the study area could include generation of fugitive dust, noise, and increased human activity. The project would implement Best Management Practices during construction to control dust (i.e., watering active work sites with exposed soils), which would further reduce potential indirect impacts due to fugitive dust, as well as noise control activities, including the installation of temporary sound barrier walls as appropriate, which would further reduce indirect impacts to these species. Therefore, potential indirect impacts to special-status wildlife would be considered less than significant.

5.4 Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waters

No jurisdictional waters or wetlands occur within the project site and surrounding study area. Thus, no impacts to jurisdictional waters or wetlands would occur as a result of project activities.

5.5 Nesting Birds

The trees and shrubs within the study area have the potential to support nesting birds. Additionally, the surrounding study area, outside of the Project site, has the potential to support nesting and foraging raptors. Direct and indirect impacts to migratory nesting birds must be avoided for compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 703–712) and California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503.5, 3503, and 3513. Nesting birds could be affected by direct impacts due to vegetation removal and indirect impacts from short-term construction-related noise, resulting in decreased reproductive success or abandonment of an area as nesting habitat.

Significant impacts to nesting birds would be avoided through implementation of avoidance measures BIO-1 and BIO-2.

BIO-1 **Breeding Season Avoidance.** Ground-disturbing and vegetation trimming/ removal activities shall be conducted outside of the breeding season to the extent feasible (i.e., February 1 through August 31).

BIO-2 **Nesting Bird Survey.** If the breeding season cannot be avoided, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted prior to ground disturbing and vegetation trimming/removal activities. All suitable nesting habitat shall be thoroughly surveyed by a qualified biologist for the presence of nesting birds within 72 hours prior to commencement of the proposed project activities. If an active nest is detected within the study area, LADWP's project manager will be notified and an appropriate avoidance buffer will be maintained around the nest, as determined by a qualified biologist. The nest will be flagged and avoided until the nesting birds have fledged and the nest is vacant (as determined by the qualified biologist). As a general guidance during the breeding season, LADWP should not conduct work within 300 feet from known protected passerine nests, and 500 feet from known raptor and special-status species nests, or as determined by a qualified biologist.

5.6 City of Los Angeles Protected Trees

One protected valley oak tree as defined in the City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance occurs on site. This tree is located outside of the project footprint and is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project activities. Thus, impacts to City-protected trees would be less than significant, and no avoidance or mitigation measures are recommended.

5.7 Regional Resource Planning Context

The proposed project is not within any designated open space within the City General Plan or Chatsworth–Porter Ranch Community Plan, significant ecological areas within the County General Plan, habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan; therefore, it would not be in conflict with any such local, regional, or state plans.

5.8 Wildlife Corridors and Habitat Linkages

No designated wildlife corridors or habitat linkages identified in the South Coast Missing Linkages analysis conducted by South Coast Wildlands (2008), the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat

Linkage Planning Map (SMMC 2017a), or the Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Planning Map (SMMC 2017b). The public access trail located within the southern portion of the project site has potential to facilitate east-west wildlife movement for urban-adapted species. No fencing or hardscape currently exists or is proposed to be constructed within this portion of the project site, and this area would continue to facilitate east-west wildlife movement. Thus, no significant direct permanent impacts would occur on wildlife movement as a result of project activities. Additionally, the proposed project activities would occur primarily during daytime hours as specified in the City of Los Angeles building code, limiting the potential noise and lighting impacts during the nighttime hours when most wildlife species likely to traverse the area would be active. Additionally, no temporary structures (e.g., construction fencing) that would impede wildlife movement are proposed. As such, project activities would not likely result in direct temporary impacts to wildlife movement. Some indirect temporary impacts to localized wildlife movement could occur due to construction-related noise. However, these impacts would not be expected to significantly disrupt wildlife movement due to the cessation of project activities during nighttime hours. Thus, impacts to wildlife corridors and habitat linkages would be less than significant and no additional avoidance or mitigation measures are recommended.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this report, please do not hesitate to call me at 949.373.8321 or email at tmolioo@dudek.com.

Sincerely,

Tommy Molioo
Senior Biologist

Att.: Attachment A – Figures
1, Regional Map
2, Site Plan
3, Soils Map
4, Biological Resources Map
5, Special-Status Species Occurrences
Attachment B – Site Photographs
Attachment C – Plant Compendium
Attachment D – California Gnatcatcher Survey Report
Attachment E – Wildlife Compendium
Attachment F – Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur
Attachment G – Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur

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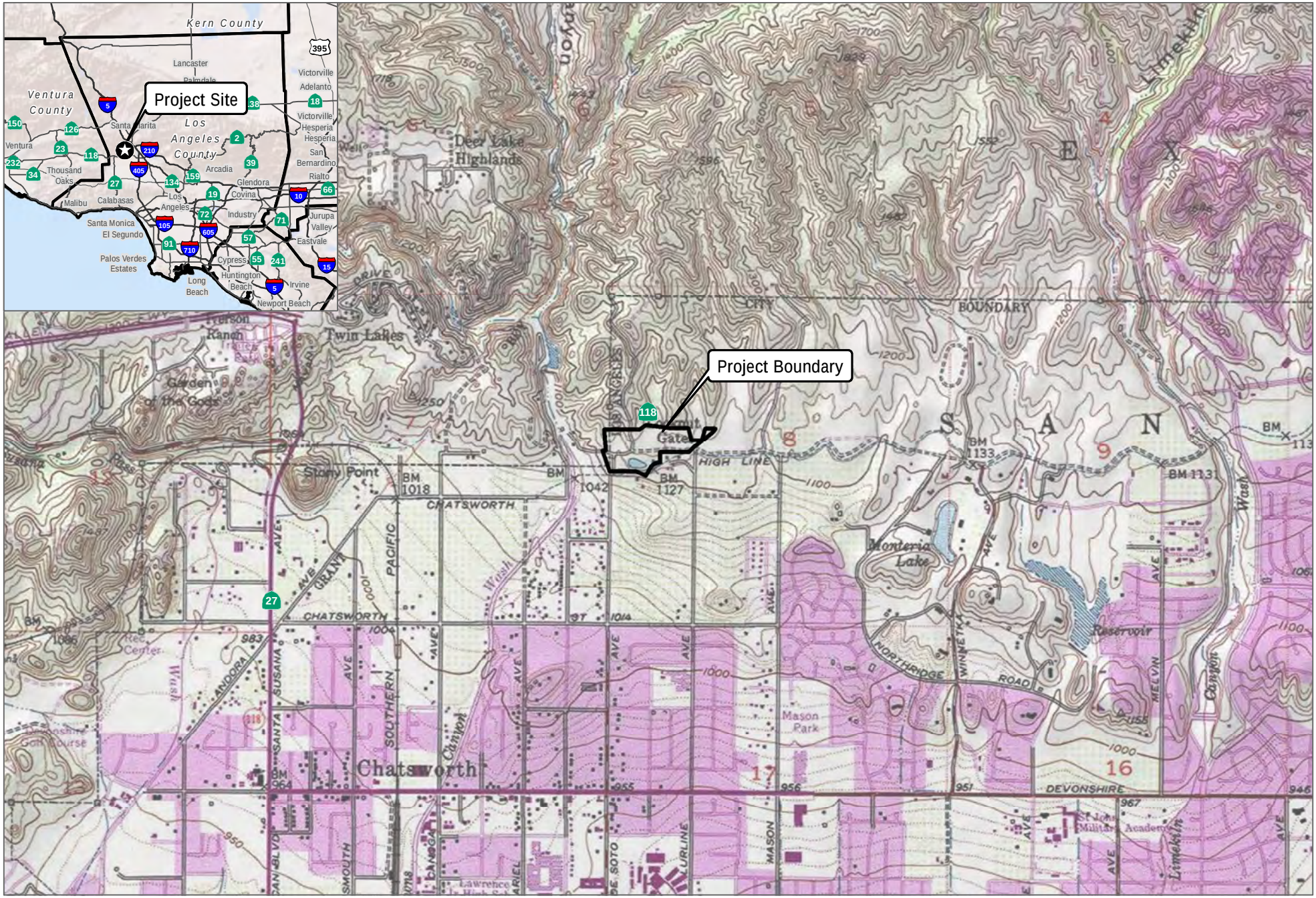
ATTACHMENT A

Figures



SOURCE: USGS 7.5-Minute Series Oat Mountain Quadrangle

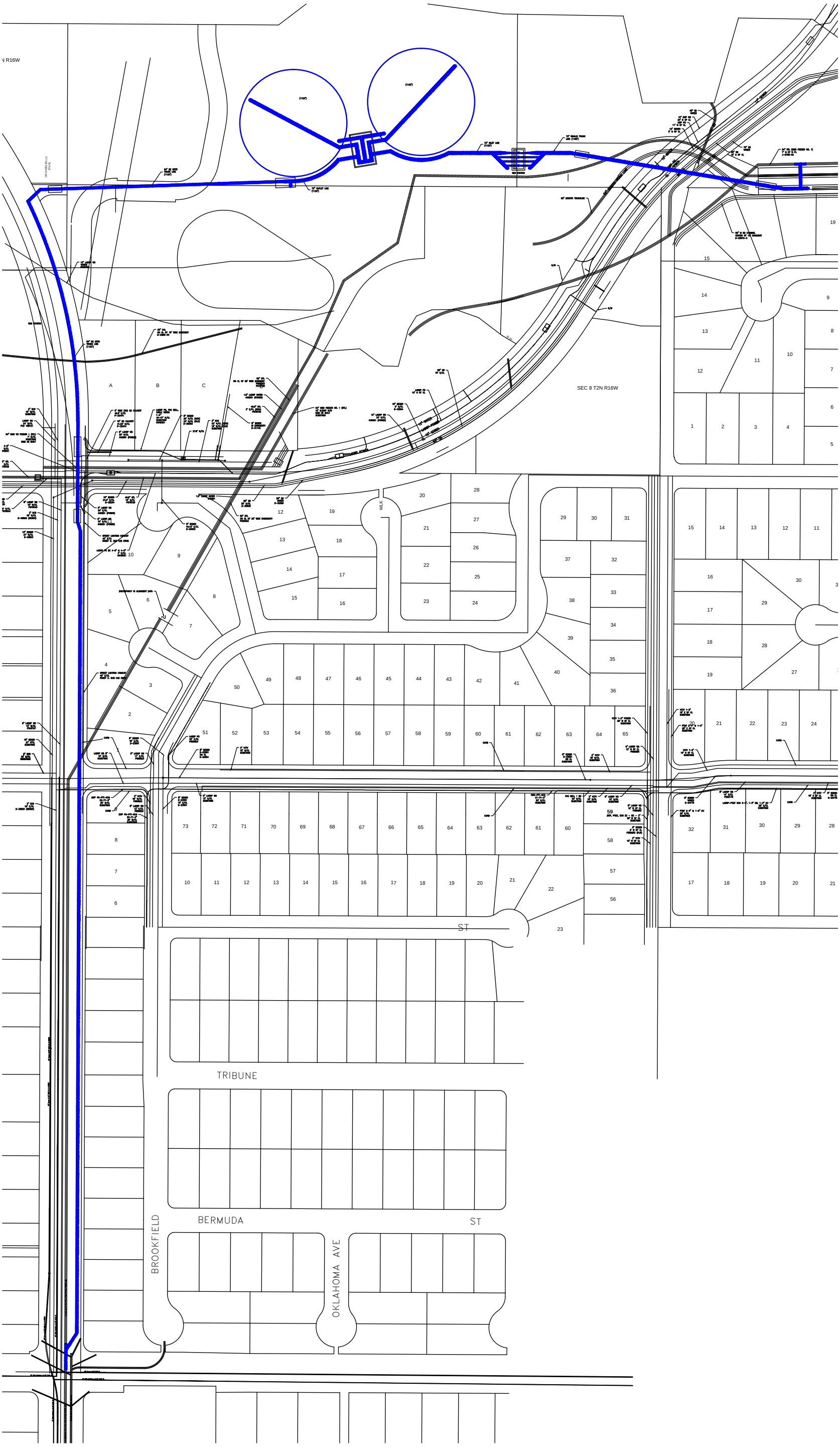
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

FIGURE 1

Project Location

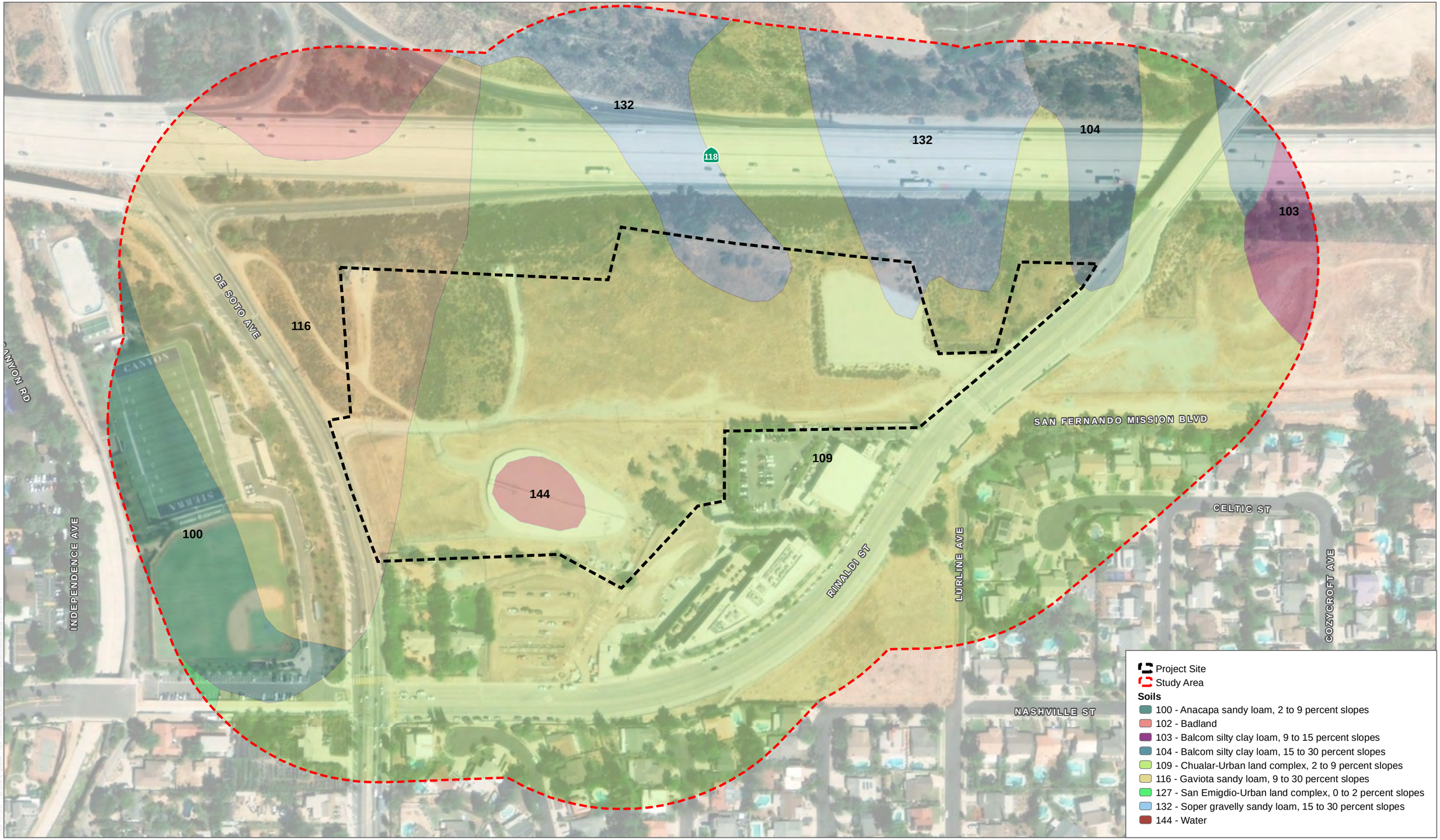
LADWP De Soto Tanks Project



SOURCE: LADWP

FIGURE 2
Site Plan
LADWP De Soto Tanks Project

DUDEK



SOURCE: DigitalGlobe 2016, USDA NRCS 2018

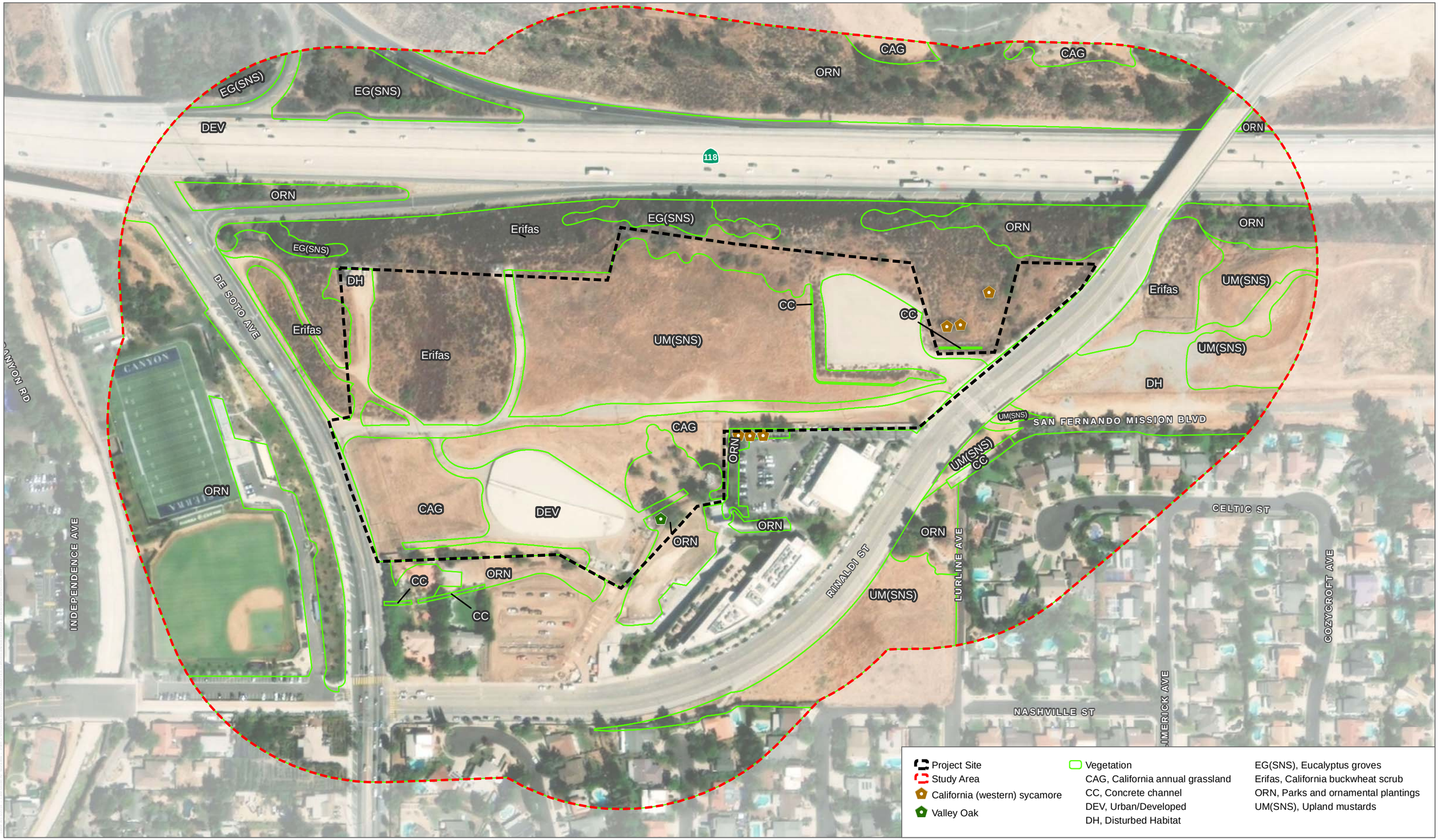
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

0 100 200 Feet

FIGURE 3

Soils

LADWP De Soto Tanks Project



SOURCE: DigitalGlobe 2016

LA DWP Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

0 100 200 Feet

FIGURE 4

Biological Resources

LADWP De Soto Tanks Project

Project Site
5 Mile Buffer of Project Site
Special Status Species
arroyo toad
Blochman's dudleya
California Orcutt grass & Palmer's grapplinghook
California Walnut Woodland
California leaf-nosed bat
coast horned lizard
Coast Range newt
Coulter's goldfields
Crotch bumble bee
least Bell's vireo
many-stemmed dudleya
monarch - California overwintering population
Payne's bush lupine
Plummer's mariposa-lily
San Diego desert woodrat
San Fernando Valley spineflower
Santa Susana tarplant
slender mariposa-lily
southern California rufous-crowned sparrow
Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest
Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest
Southern Mixed Riparian Forest
Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland
Southern Willow Scrub
Swainson's hawk
tricolored blackbird
two-striped gartersnake
Valley Oak Woodland
western mastiff bat
western pond turtle
western spadefoot

SOURCE: DigitalGlobe 2016; CNDDB 2018

Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

FIGURE 5

Special-Status Species Occurrences

LADWP De Soto Tanks Project

ATTACHMENT B

Site Photographs

ATTACHMENT B
Photo Documentation

	
Photo 1: Facing east from the center of the project site. Note non-native grassland dominates the site.	**Photo 2:** Facing northwest from the center of the project site.
	
Photo 3: Facing west from the eastern project boundary.	**Photo 4:** Facing east from the southern portion of the project site; note existing reservoir on the right.

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ATTACHMENT C

Plant Compendium

ATTACHMENT C
Plant Compendium

VASCULAR SPECIES

GYMNOSPERMS AND GNETOPHYTES

CUPRESSACEAE—CYPRESS FAMILY

* *Cupressus sempervirens*—Italian cypress

PINACEAE—PINE FAMILY

Pinus sp.—ornamental pine tree

MONOCOTS

AGAVACEAE—AGAVE FAMILY

Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. *pomeridianum*—wavyleaf soap plant

Hesperoyucca whipplei—chaparral yucca

ARECACEAE—PALM FAMILY

* *Phoenix canariensis*—Canary Island date palm

* *Phoenix dactylifera*—date palm

POACEAE—GRASS FAMILY

* *Avena barbata*—slender oat

* *Avena fatua*—wild oat

* *Bromus diandrus*—ripgut brome

* *Bromus hordeaceus*—soft brome

* *Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*—red brome

Elymus glaucus—blue wild rye

* *Hordeum murinum*—mouse barley

* *Pennisetum setaceum*—fountain grass swards

* *Stipa miliacea* var. *miliacea*—smilograss

Stipa sp.—needlegrass species

THEMIDACEAE—BRODIAEA FAMILY

Dichelostemma capitatum—bluedicks

EUDICOTS

ADOXACEAE—MUSKROOT FAMILY

Sambucus nigra ssp. *caerulea*—blue elderberry

ANACARDIACEAE—SUMAC OR CASHEW FAMILY

Malosma laurina—laurel sumac
* *Schinus molle*—Peruvian peppertree
* *Schinus terebinthifolius*—Brazilian peppertree

APOCYNACEAE—DOGBANE FAMILY

Asclepias fascicularis—Mexican whorled milkweed
* *Nerium oleander*—oleander

ASTERACEAE—SUNFLOWER FAMILY

Artemisia californica—California sagebrush
Ambrosia acanthicarpa—flatspine bur ragweed
* *Carduus pycnocephalus*—Italian plumeless thistle
* *Centaurea melitensis*—Maltese star-thistle
Corethrogyne filaginifolia—common sandaster
Deinandra fasciculata—clustered tarweed
Ericameria linearifolia—narrowleaf goldenbush
Erigeron canadensis—Canadian horseweed
Helianthus annuus—common sunflower
Heterotheca grandiflora—telegraphweed
* *Lactuca serriola*—prickly lettuce
Malacothrix saxatilis var. *tenuifolia*—cliff desertdandelion
Stephanomeria exigua—small wirelettuce
* *Sonchus asper* ssp. *asper*—spiny sowthistle
* *Sonchus oleraceus*—common sowthistle
* *Taraxacum officinale*—common dandelion

BORAGINACEAE—BORAGE FAMILY

Amsinckia intermedia—common fiddleneck
Cryptantha intermedia—Clearwater cryptantha

BRASSICACEAE—MUSTARD FAMILY

* *Brassica nigra*—black mustard
* *Brassica tournefortii*—Asian mustard
* *Hirschfeldia incana*—shortpod mustard
* *Raphanus sativus*—cultivated radish
* *Sisymbrium irio*—London rocket

CHENOPODIACEAE—GOOSEFOOT FAMILY

* *Salsola tragus*—prickly Russian thistle

CONVOLVULACEAE—MORNING-GLORY FAMILY

Calystegia macrostegia ssp. *intermedia*—island false bindweed
Cuscuta californica var. *californica*—chaparral dodder

CUCURBITACEAE—GOURD FAMILY

Marah macrocarpa—Cucamonga manroot

EUPHORBIACEAE—SPURGE FAMILY

Croton setiger—dove weed
Euphorbia albomarginata—whitemargin sandmat
* *Ricinus communis*—castorbean

FABACEAE—LEGUME FAMILY

Acmispon americanus var. *americanus*—American bird's-foot trefoil
Acmispon glaber var. *glaber*—common deerweed
Lupinus bicolor—miniature lupine
Lupinus succulentus—hollowleaf annual lupine
* *Melilotus indicus*—annual yellow sweetclover

FAGACEAE—OAK FAMILY

Quercus lobata—valley oak
Quercus agrifolia—coast live oak

GERANIACEAE—GERANIUM FAMILY

* *Erodium botrys*—longbeak stork's bill
* *Erodium cicutarium*—redstem stork's bill

LAMIACEAE—MINT FAMILY

* *Marrubium vulgare*—horehound
Salvia leucophylla—purple sage
Salvia mellifera—black sage
Trichostema lanceolatum—vinegarweed

MALVACEAE—MALLOW FAMILY

* *Malva parviflora*—cheeseweed mallow

MYRTACEAE—MYRTLE FAMILY

* *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*—river redgum
* *Eucalyptus citriodora*—lemonscented gum
* *Eucalyptus globulus*—Tasmanian bluegum
* *Eucalyptus sideroxylon*—red ironbark

NYCTAGINACEAE—FOUR O'CLOCK FAMILY

Mirabilis laevis var. *crassifolia*—California four o'clock

OLEACEAE—OLIVE FAMILY

* *Olea europaea*—olive

* *Jasminum* sp.—jasmine

ONAGRACEAE—EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY

Clarkia purpurea—winecup clarkia

OXALIDACEAE—OXALIS FAMILY

* *Oxalis pes-caprae*—Bermuda buttercup

PLATANACEAE—PLANE TREE, SYCAMORE FAMILY

Platanus racemosa—California sycamores

POLYGONACEAE—BUCKWHEAT FAMILY

Eriogonum elongatum—longstem buckwheat

Eriogonum fasciculatum var. *foliolosum*—Eastern Mojave buckwheat

RHAMNACEAE—BUCKTHORN FAMILY

Ceanothus crassifolius—hoary leaf ceanothus

ROSACEAE—ROSE FAMILY

Adenostoma fasciculatum—chamise

Heteromeles arbutifolia—toyon

Prunus ilicifolia ssp. *ilicifolia*—hollyleaf cherry

SOLANACEAE—NIGHTSHADE FAMILY

Datura wrightii—sacred thorn-apple

* *Nicotiana glauca*—tree tobacco

Solanum douglasii—greenspot nightshade

Solanum xanti—chaparral nightshade

TAMARICACEAE—TAMARISK FAMILY

* *Tamarix ramosissima*—saltcedar

* *Tamarix* sp.—tamarisk

ULMACEAE—ELM FAMILY

* *Ulmus parvifolia*—Chinese elm

* signifies introduced (non-native)

ATTACHMENT D

California Gnatcatcher Survey Report

DUDEK

27372 CALLE ARROYO
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIFORNIA 92675
T 949.450.2525 F 949.450.2626

July 19, 2018 10649-27

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Attn: Recovery Permit Coordinator
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

Subject: 2018 Focused California Gnatcatcher Survey Report for the LADWP De Soto Tanks Project, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Recovery Permit Coordinator:

This report documents the results of protocol-level presence/absence surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*; CAGN). Focused surveys were conducted throughout all areas of suitable habitat (i.e., California buckwheat scrub) for the proposed Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) De Soto Tanks project site located in the Chatsworth community of the city of Los Angeles, California (Figure 1). Suitable habitat for CAGN is approximately 10.9 acres of California buckwheat scrub within the study area (project site plus a 500-foot buffer). Dudek biologists Paul Lemons (TE051248-6) and Melissa Blundell (TE 97717A) conducted CAGN surveys from April through June 2018.

The CAGN is a federally listed threatened species and a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Species of Special Concern. It is closely associated with coastal sage scrub habitat and typically occurs below 950 feet elevation and on slopes less than 40% (Atwood 1990), but CAGN have been observed at elevations greater than 2,000 feet. The species is threatened primarily by loss, degradation, and fragmentation of coastal sage scrub habitat, and is also impacted by brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) nest parasitism (Braden et al. 1997).

LOCATION AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

The approximately 17-acre De Soto Tanks project site (project site) is located in predominantly undeveloped area of the Chatsworth neighborhood within the city of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California (Figure 1). More specifically, the study area is physically located immediately south of State Route (SR) 118, and is bounded by De Soto Avenue to the west, and Rinaldi Street to the east and south (Figure 1).

The approximate centroid of the project site is at longitude -118.586185° West and latitude 34.272113° North within Section 8, Township 2 North, Range 16 West on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Oat Mountain Quadrangle map.

Elevations on site are approximately 1,100 feet to 1,190 feet above mean sea level. Soils mapped within the survey area mainly include Chaualar-Urban land complex (2 to 9% slopes), Gaviota sandy loam (9 to 30% slopes), and Soper gravelly sandy loam (15 to 30% slopes). Smaller inclusions of the following soil types are also mapped in the survey area, Anacapa sandy loam (2 to 9% slopes), badland, and Balcom silty clay loam (9 to 30% slopes). The existing underground water tank is mapped as water (USDA NRCS 2006).

VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

Eleven vegetation communities and land covers were identified within the study area, which are shown in Figure 2 and tabulated in Table 1. Suitable CAGN habitat within the study area includes California buckwheat scrub, which is described in detail below.

Table 1
Vegetation Communities and Land Covers within the Study Area

Vegetation Community or Land Cover	Map Code	Project Site (acres)	Buffer (acres)	Total Study Area (acres)
Grasslands and Herbaceous Cover				
Annual brome grassland	ABG	3.46	0.53	3.99
Upland mustards (semi-natural stands)[c]	UM (SNS)	4.87	3.77	8.64
Subtotal Grasslands and Herbaceous Cover		*8.33*	*4.3*	*12.63*
Woodland Alliances and Stands				
Eucalyptus groves (semi-natural stands)	EG (SNS)	-	1.59	1.59
Parks and ornamental plantings	ORN	0.72	18.17	18.89
Subtotal Woodland Alliances and Stands [a]		*0.72*	*19.76*	*20.48*
Upland Shrubland Alliances and Stands				
California buckwheat scrub (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* shrubland alliance)	CBS	4.28	6.57	10.85
Subtotal Upland Shrubland Alliances and Stands [b]		*4.28*	*6.7*	*10.85*
Non-Natural Land Covers/Unvegetated Communities				
Disturbed habitat	DH	2.54	2.64	5.18
Concrete channel	CC	0.03	0.82	0.85
Urban/developed[a]	DEV	1.92	35.83	37.75
Subtotal Non-Natural Land Covers/Unvegetated Communities [a]		*4.49*	*39.29*	*43.78*
Total[a]		**17.82**	**70.05**	**87.74**

[a] Totals may not sum due to rounding.

[b] The term semi-natural stands vs. alliance is used in the *Manual of California Vegetation* to distinguish between natural vegetation communities and vegetation types dominated by non-native plants (Sawyer et al. 2009).

California buckwheat scrub (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* shrubland alliance)

California buckwheat scrub is a native plant community dominated by California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) in the shrub canopy. Cover is typically continuous or intermittent with height less than 2 meters (7 feet). California buckwheat scrub occurs along the northern portion of the study area, immediately south of SR-118. This area also contains a sub-dominance of California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), with a mix of castorbean (*Ricinus communis*), cheeseweed mallow (*Malva parviflorum*), and shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*) also present. This vegetation community is relatively moderate in size, comprising 4.28 acres of the project site and 6.7 acres of the surrounding 500-foot buffer (10.85 acres for the total study area). This habitat type is relatively dense, contiguous, and provides suitable habitat to support a pair of nesting or foraging CAGN.

METHODS

The presence/absence focused survey for CAGN was conducted for the project between April 25 and June 19, 2018. The survey was conducted in accordance with the schedule provided in Table 2. The specific areas surveyed and the survey route are depicted on Figure 2. Designated Critical Habitat for this species is located approximately 0.2 miles northwest of the project site north of SR-118.

Table 2
Survey Dates and Conditions

Date	Personnel	Temperature	Wind	Sky	Time
4/25/18	Paul Lemons	66°F–73°F	0–3 mph	10%–5% cc	0930–1140
5/2/18	Melissa Blundell	56°F–59°F	0–2 mph	100% cc	0725–0940
5/9/18	Paul Lemons	73°F–79°F	1–5 mph	0% cc	1025–1200
5/23/18	Paul Lemons	60°F–63°F	1–4 mph	100% cc	1005–1150
6/4/18	Paul Lemons	73°F–78°F	1–4 mph	0% cc	0930–1145
6/19/18	Melissa Blundell	62°F–64°F	0–1 mph	5% cc	0720–0848

* Survey Conditions: °F = degrees Fahrenheit; cc = cloud cover; mph = miles per hour

The survey was conducted following the currently accepted protocol of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), *Coastal California Gnatcatcher* (*Polioptila californica californica*) *Presence/Absence Survey Protocol* (USFWS 1997). The survey included six visits at a minimum of 7-day intervals. In accordance with the protocol, no more than 80-acres of suitable habitat were surveyed by a single biologist during each site visit. Survey

routes are shown in Figure 2, and allowed for complete audible and visual coverage of all suitable CAGN habitat on site.

A 200-scale topographic map (1 inch = 200 feet) overlain with vegetation polygons and the study area was utilized during the survey. Additionally, digital mobile maps were used during the surveys to assist in navigating each survey area. Weather conditions, time of day, and season were appropriate for the detection of gnatcatchers and are provided in Table 2. Appropriate binoculars (e.g., 10x50 magnification) were used to aid in detecting and identifying bird species. A recording of gnatcatcher vocalizations was played approximately every 200 feet to induce responses from potentially present gnatcatchers. Vocalization-playback would have been terminated immediately upon detection of any gnatcatchers to minimize the potential for harassment.

RESULTS

There were no CAGN observed or detected within the study area during any of the six focused surveys. A full list of bird species observed during the surveys and detected within proximity of the study area is provided in Attachment B. No CAGN or CAGN nests were detected. Additionally, no predatory species for CAGN were observed during the surveys.

I certify that the information in this survey report and attached exhibits fully and accurately represent my work.

Sincerely,

Tommy Molioo
Permit # TE-06873C-0.1

Paul Lemons
Permit # TE051248-6

Melissa Blundell
Permit # TE 97717A

Att: A, Figure 1, Project Location Map
Figure 2, CAGN Survey Route
B, Compendium of Wildlife Species Observed or Detected

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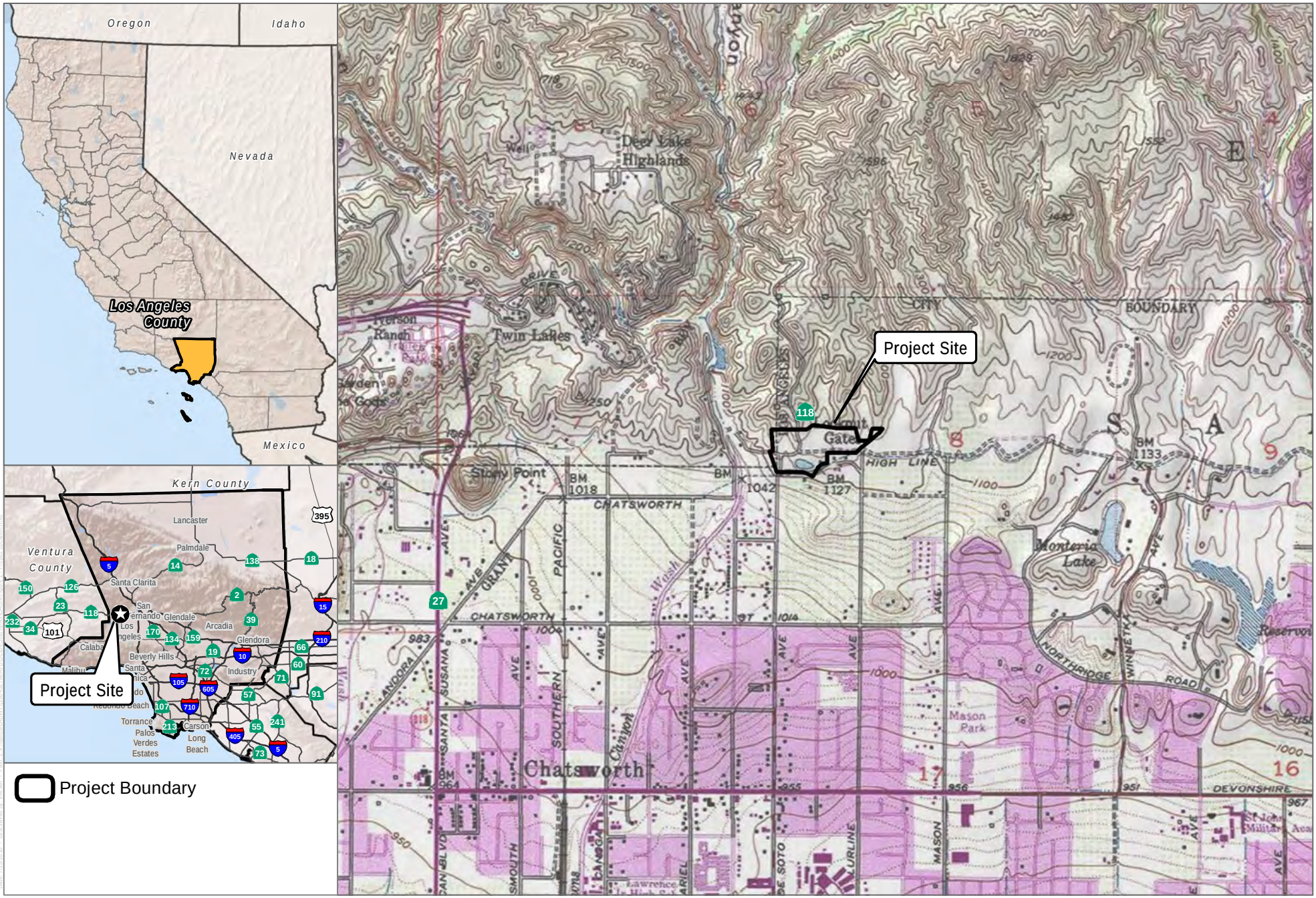
ATTACHMENT A

Figures



SOURCE: USGS 7.5-Minute Series Oat Mountain Quadrangle

DUDEK

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

FIGURE 1

Project Location

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Report

SOURCE: Bing Maps 2018

LA DWP Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

0 100 200 Feet

FIGURE 2

California Gnatcatcher Survey Routes

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Report

ATTACHMENT B

Compendium of Wildlife Species Observed or Detected

ATTACHMENT B
Compendium of Wildlife Species Observed or Detected

BIRDS

BUSHTITS

AEGITHALIDAE—LONG-TAILED TITS AND BUSHTITS

Psaltriparus minimus—bushtit

FINCHES

FRINGILLIDAE—FRINGILLINE AND CARDUELINE FINCHES AND ALLIES

Haemorhous mexicanus—house finch
Spinus psaltria—lesser goldfinch
Spinus tristis—American goldfinch

FLYCATCHERS

TYRANNIDAE—TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Tyrannus verticalis—western kingbird
Tyrannus vociferans—Cassin's kingbird

HAWKS

ACCIPITRIDAE—HAWKS, KITES, EAGLES, AND ALLIES

Buteo jamaicensis—red-tailed hawk

HUMMINGBIRDS

TROCHILIDAE—HUMMINGBIRDS

Calypte anna—Anna's hummingbird

JAYS, MAGPIES AND CROWS

CORVIDAE—CROWS AND JAYS

Aphelocoma californica—California scrub-jay
Corvus brachyrhynchos—American crow
Corvus corax—common raven

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

MIMIDAE—MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Mimus polyglottos—northern mockingbird

PIGEONS AND DOVES

COLUMBIDAE—PIGEONS AND DOVES

Zenaida macroura—mourning dove

SHOREBIRDS

CHARADRIIDAE—LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS

Charadrius vociferus—killdeer

SILKY FLYCATCHERS

PTILOGONATIDAE—SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Phainopepla nitens—phainopepla

SWALLOWS

HIRUNDINIDAE—SWALLOWS

Stelgidopteryx serripennis—northern rough-winged swallow

WRENS

TROGLODYTIDAE—WRENS

Thryomanes bewickii—Bewick's wren
Troglodytes aedon—house wren

NEW WORLD SPARROWS

PASSERELLIDAE—NEW WORLD SPARROWS

Chondestes grammacus—lark sparrow
Melozone crissalis—California towhee

MAMMALS

HARES AND RABBITS

LEPORIDAE—HARES AND RABBITS

Sylvilagus audubonii—desert cottontail
Sylvilagus bachmani—brush rabbit

SQUIRRELS

SCIURIDAE—SQUIRRELS

Spermophilus (Otospermophilus) beecheyi—California ground squirrel

REPTILES

LIZARDS

PHRYNOSOMATIDAE—IGUANID LIZARDS

Sceloporus occidentalis—western fence lizard

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ATTACHMENT E

Wildlife Compendium

ATTACHMENT E
Wildlife Compendium

BIRD

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, AND ALLIES

ICTERIDAE—BLACKBIRDS

Icterus bullockii—Bullock's oriole
Icterus sp.—oriole species

BUSHTITS

AEGITHALIDAE—LONG-TAILED TITS AND BUSHTITS

Psaltriparus minimus—bushtit

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, AND ALLIES

CARDINALIDAE—CARDINALS AND ALLIES

Passerina caerulea—blue grosbeak

EMBERIZINES

EMBERIZIDAE—EMBERIZIDS

Chondestes grammacus—lark sparrow
Melospiza melodia—song sparrow
Melozone crissalis—California towhee
Passerculus sandwichensis—savannah sparrow
Pipilo maculatus—spotted towhee
Zonotrichia leucophrys—white-crowned sparrow

FINCHES

FRINGILLIDAE—FRINGILLINE AND CARDUELINE FINCHES AND ALLIES

Haemorhous mexicanus—house finch
Spinus lawrencei—Lawrence's goldfinch
Spinus psaltria—lesser goldfinch
Spinus tristis—American goldfinch

FLYCATCHERS

TYRANNIDAE—TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Empidonax difficilis—Pacific-slope flycatcher
Sayornis nigricans—black phoebe
Sayornis saya—Say's phoebe
Tyrannus verticalis—western kingbird
Tyrannus vociferans—Cassin's kingbird

HAWKS

ACCIPITRIDAE—HAWKS, KITES, EAGLES, AND ALLIES

Buteo lineatus—red-shouldered hawk

HUMMINGBIRDS

TROCHILIDAE—HUMMINGBIRDS

Calypte anna—Anna's hummingbird
Selasphorus sasin—Allen's hummingbird

JAYS, MAGPIES AND CROWS

CORVIDAE—CROWS AND JAYS

Aphelocoma californica—California scrub-jay
Corvus brachyrhynchos—American crow
Corvus corax—common raven

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

MIMIDAE—MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Mimus polyglottos—northern mockingbird
Toxostoma redivivum—California thrasher

NEW WORLD QUAIL

ODONTOPHORIDAE—NEW WORLD QUAIL

Callipepla californica—California quail

NEW WORLD VULTURES

CATHARTIDAE—NEW WORLD VULTURES AND CONDORS

Cathartes aura—turkey vulture

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

PASSERIDAE—OLD WORLD SPARROWS

* *Passer domesticus*—house sparrow

OLD WORLD WARBLERS AND GNATCATCHERS

SYLVIIDAE—SYLVIID WARBLERS

Polioptila caerulea—blue-gray gnatcatcher

PIGEONS AND DOVES

COLUMBIDAE—PIGEONS AND DOVES

* *Columba livia*—rock pigeon (rock dove)

* *Streptopelia decaocto*—Eurasian collared-dove

Zenaida macroura—mourning dove

SHOREBIRDS

CHARADRIIDAE—LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS

Charadrius vociferus—killdeer

SILKY FLYCATCHERS

PTILOGONATIDAE—SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Phainopepla nitens—phainopepla

SWALLOWS

HIRUNDINIDAE—SWALLOWS

Hirundo rustica—barn swallow

Stelgidopteryx serripennis—northern rough-winged swallow

SWIFTS

APODIDAE—SWIFTS

Aeronautes saxatalis—white-throated swift

TERNS AND GULLS

LARIDAE—GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS

Larus sp.—gull species

TITMICE

PARIDAE—CHICKADEES AND TITMICE

Baeolophus inornatus—oak titmouse

WRENS

TROGLODYTIDAE—WRENS

Thryomanes bewickii—Bewick's wren

Troglodytes aedon—house wren

WRENTITS

TIMALIIDAE—BABBLERS

Chamaea fasciata—wrentit

INVERTEBRATE

BUTTERFLIES

PIERIDAE—WHITES AND SULFURS

Pieris rapae—cabbage white

MAMMALS

CANIDS

CANIDAE—WOLVES AND FOXES

Canis latrans—coyote

HARES AND RABBITS

LEPORIDAE—HARES AND RABBITS

Sylvilagus audubonii—desert cottontail

Sylvilagus bachmani—brush rabbit

POCKET GOPHERS

GEOMYIDAE—POCKET GOPHERS

Thomomys bottae—Botta's pocket gopher

RACCOONS

PROCYONIDAE—RACCOONS AND RELATIVES

Procyon lotor—raccoon

SQUIRRELS

SCIURIDAE—SQUIRRELS

Spermophilus (*Otospermophilus*) *beecheyi*—California ground squirrel

RATS, MICE, AND VOLES

CRICETIDAE—RATS, MICE, AND VOLES

Neotoma sp.—woodrat species

REPTILE

LIZARDS

PHRYNOSOMATIDAE—IGUANID LIZARDS

Sceloporus occidentalis—western fence lizard

Uta stansburiana—common side-blotched lizard

* signifies non-native species

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ATTACHMENT F

Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

ATTACHMENT F
Special-Status Plant Species Potential to Occur

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Acanthoscyphus parishii var. *parishii*	Parish's oxytheca	None/None/4.2/None	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest; sandy or gravelly/annual herb/June–Sep/4,003–8,530	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chaparral, coniferous forest).
Arenaria paludicola	marsh sandwort	FE/CE/1B.1/None	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish); sandy, openings/perennial stoloniferous herb/May–Aug/10–558	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable marshes and swamps habitat for this species.
Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's Milk-vetch	FE/None/1B.1/S[a]	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; recent burns or disturbed areas, usually sandstone with carbonate layers/perennial herb/Jan–Aug/10–2,100	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland habitat on site. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 5 miles southeast of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	FE/SE/1B.1/S[a]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian scrub; sandy or gravelly/perennial evergreen shrub/(Feb)Mar–June/225–2,705	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 9 miles east of the project site, dates back to 1941, and is considered extirpated (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this is a conspicuous species that would have been observed, if present, during multiple surveys conducted in 2017 and 2018.
Calochortus catalinae	Catalina mariposa lily	None/None/4.2/S[a]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial bulbiferous herb/(Feb)Mar–June/45–2,295	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 4 miles southwest of the project site in Canoga Park and dates back to 1966 (CCH 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during the surveys conducted in June 2017 and April 2018, within its blooming period.
Calochortus clavatus var. *clavatus*	club-haired mariposa lily	None/None/4.3/S[b]	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland; usually serpentinite, clay, rocky/perennial bulbiferous herb/May–June/246–4,265	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks clay or rocky serpentinite soils typically preferred by this species, and the closest documented occurrence is over 5 miles north of the project site (CCH 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during the survey conducted in June 2017, within its blooming period.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Calochortus clavatus var. *gracilis*	slender mariposa lily	None/None/1B.2/None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial bulbiferous herb/Mar–June(Nov)/1,045–3,280	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is approximately 2 miles north of the project site in the Santa Susana mountains, where a population was transplanted (CDFW 2018). The project site is separated from the Santa Susana Mountains by a major freeway, SR-118. Furthermore, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and April 2018, within its blooming period.
Calochortus fimbriatus	late-flowered mariposa lily	None/None/1B.3/None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Riparian woodland; often serpentinite/perennial bulbiferous herb/June–Aug/900–6,250	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat (i.e., chaparral, cismontane woodland, riparian woodland) for this species. The site also lacks serpentinite soils typically preferred by this species.
Calochortus palmeri var. *palmeri*	Palmer's mariposa lily	None/None/1B.2/None	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps; mesic/perennial bulbiferous herb/Apr–July/2,329–7,841	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chaparral, coniferous forest, meadows and seeps). In addition, the site lacks mesic conditions typically preferred by this species.
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's mariposa lily	None/None/4.2/S[b]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley and foothill grassland; granitic, rocky/perennial bulbiferous herb/May–July/325–5,575	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks granitic, rocky soils typically preferred by this species. The closest documented occurrence is located approximately 1.8 miles north of the project site (CDFW 2018); however, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Calystegia peirsonii	Peirson's morning-glory	None/None/4.2/S[b]	Chaparral, Chenopod scrub, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Valley and foothill grassland/perennial rhizomatous herb/Apr–June/95–4,920	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site and the closest documented occurrence is located over 5 miles north in the Santa Susana mountains (CDFW 2018). Additionally, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and April 2018, within its blooming period.
Canbya candida	white pygmy-poppy	None/None/4.2/None	Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, Pinyon and juniper woodland; gravelly, sandy, granitic/annual herb/Mar–June/1,965–4,790	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat (i.e., Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland) for this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Castilleja gleasoni	Mt. Gleason paintbrush	None/CR/1B.2/None	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland; granitic/perennial herb (hemiparasitic)/May–June (Sep)/3,806–7,119	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat (i.e., chaparral, coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland) for this species. The site also lacks granitic soils typically preferred by this species.
Centromadia parryi ssp. *australis*	southern tarplant	None/None/1B.1/S[a]	Marshes and swamps (margins), Valley and foothill grassland (vernally mesic), Vernal pools/annual herb/May–Nov/0–1,575	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks vernally mesic habitat suitable for this species. Additionally, the closest documented occurrence for this species is over 5 miles southeast of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Cercocarpus betuloides var. *blancheae*	island mountain-mahogany	None/None/4.3/S[b]	Closed-cone coniferous forest, Chaparral/perennial evergreen shrub/Feb–May/95–1,970	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral).
Chorizanthe parryi var. f*ernandina*	San Fernando Valley spineflower	FC/SE/1B.1/S[b]	Coastal scrub (sandy), Valley and foothill grassland/annual herb/Apr–July/490–4,005	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. Although the closest documented occurrence is approximately 0.2-mile southwest of the project site, this collection dates back to 1901 where much development has occurred since and is considered extirpated (CDFW 2018). The closest extant population is located over 8 miles southwest of the project site in Ahmanson Ranch (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Clinopodium mimuloides	monkey-flower savory	None/None/4.2/None	Chaparral, north coast coniferous forest; streambanks, mesic/perennial herb/June–Oct/1,001–5,906	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat (i.e., chaparral, coniferous forest, streambanks) for this species. The site also lacks mesic conditions suitable for this species.
Convolvulus simulans	small-flowered morning-glory	None/None/4.2/S[b]	Chaparral (openings), Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; clay, serpentinite seeps/annual herb/Mar–July/95–2,430	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks clay or serpentine seeps suitable for this species. Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Deinandra minthornii	Santa Susana tarplant	None/SR/1B.2/S[b]	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; rocky/perennial deciduous shrub/July–Nov/915–2,495	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. Although the closest documented occurrence is approximately 0.8-mile northwest of the project site (CDFW 2018), the coastal scrub on site lacks rocky soils suitable for this species. Furthermore, this species was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in July 2018, within its blooming period.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Deinandra paniculata	paniculate tarplant	None/None/4.2/None	Coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools; usually vernally mesic, sometimes sandy/annual herb/Apr–Nov/82–3,084	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks vernally mesic conditions typically preferred by this species. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles north of the project site (CCH 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Delphinium parryi ssp. *purpureum*	Mt. Pinos larkspur	None/None/4.3/None	Chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland/perennial herb/May–June/3,281–8,530	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland).
Dodecahema leptoceras	slender-horned spineflower	FE/SE/1B.1/S[b]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub (alluvial fan); sandy/annual herb/Apr–June/655–2,495	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. In addition, the closest documented occurrence for this species is over 5 miles northeast of the project site and dates back to 1893 (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in April 2018, within its blooming period.
Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. *blochmaniae*	Blochman's dudleya	None/None/1B.1/S[b]	Coastal bluff scrub, Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; rocky, often clay or serpentinite/perennial herb/Apr–June/15–1,475	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks rocky, clay, or serpentinite soils typically preferred by this species. The closest documented occurrence is approximately 3 miles southwest of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and April 2018, within its blooming period.
Dudleya cymosa ssp. *agourensis*	Agoura Hills dudleya	FT/None/1B.2/None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland; rocky, volcanic/perennial herb/May–June/655–1,640	Not expected to occur. The limited coastal scrub habitat on site lacks rocky, volcanic soils required for this species. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 12 miles southwest of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during the survey conducted in June 2017, within its blooming period.
Dudleya multicaulis	many-stemmed dudleya	None/None/1B.2/S[a]	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; often clay/perennial herb/Apr–July/45–2,590	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks clay soils typically preferred by this species. Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Harpagonella palmeri	Palmer's grappling hook	None/None/4.2/None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Clay; open grassy areas within shrubland/annual herb/Mar–May/65–3,135	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site also lacks clay soils typically preferred by this species, and the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles from the project (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in April 2018, within its blooming period.
Helianthus inexpectatus	Newhall sunflower	None/None/1B.1/None	Marshes and swamps, riparian woodland; freshwater, seeps/perennial rhizomatous herb/Aug–Oct/1,001–1,001	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., marshes and swamps, riparian woodland, freshwater seeps).
Hordeum intercedens	vernal barley	None/None/3.2/None	Coastal dunes, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland (saline flats and depressions), Vernal pools/annual herb/Mar–June/15–3,280	Low potential to occur. There is limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site. The site lacks vernally mesic conditions typically preferred by this species, and the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles from the project site (CCH 2018). Additionally, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and April 2018, within its blooming period.
Horkelia cuneata var. *puberula*	mesa horkelia	None/None/1B.1/None	Chaparral (maritime), Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub; sandy or gravelly/perennial herb/Feb–July(Sep)/225–2,655	Low potential to occur. Although there is limited coastal scrub habitat on site, the closest documented occurrence for this species is over 5 miles southwest of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Hulsea vestita ssp. *parryi*	Parry's sunflower	None/None/4.3/None	Lower montane coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland, upper montane coniferous forest; granitic or carbonate, rocky, openings/perennial herb/Apr–Aug/4,495–9,498	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland, rocky outcrops).
Juglans californica	Southern California black walnut	None/None/4.2/S[a]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian woodland; alluvial/perennial deciduous tree/Mar–Aug/160–2,955	Not expected to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. In addition, this is a conspicuous species that would have been observed, if present, during multiple surveys conducted in 2017 and 2018.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri*	Coulter's goldfields	None/None/1B.1/S[b]	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt), Playas, Vernal pools/annual herb/Feb–June/0–4,005	Not expected to occur. The site lacks suitable habitat (i.e., marshes and swamps, playas, or vernal pools) for this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Lepidium virginicum var. *robinsonii*	Robinson's pepper-grass	None/None/4.3/None	Chaparral, coastal scrub/annual herb/Jan–July/3–2,904	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site, and the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles northeast of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Lilium humboldtii ssp. *ocellatum*	ocellated Humboldt lily	None/None/4.2/S[a]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Riparian woodland; openings/perennial bulbiferous herb/Mar–July(Aug)/95–5,905	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. Additionally, the closest documented occurrence for this species is over 5 miles southwest of the project site, and dates back to 1916 (CCH 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Lupinus paynei	Payne's bush lupine	None/None/1B.1/None	Coastal scrub, Riparian scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; Sandy/perennial shrub/Mar–Apr(May–July)/720–1,380	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. The closest documented occurrence is over 1 mile west of the project site (CDFW 2018). This species was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in July 2018, within its blooming period.
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush-mallow	None/None/1B.2/S[b]	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Riparian woodland/perennial deciduous shrub/June–Jan/605–3,740	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. Additionally, the closest documented occurrence is over 5 miles northeast of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. *hypoleuca*	white-veined monardella	None/None/1B.3/None	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland/perennial herb/(Apr)May–Aug(Sep–Dec)/160–5,005	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chaparral, cismontane woodland).
Nasturtium gambelii	Gambel's water cress	FE/CT/1B.1/None	Marshes and swamps (freshwater or brackish)/perennial rhizomatous herb/Apr–Oct/16–1,083	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable marshes and swamps habitat for this species.
Navarretia fossalis	Spreading navarretia	FT/None/1B.1/None	Chenopod scrub, Marshes and swamps (assorted shallow freshwater), Playas, Vernal pools/annual herb/Apr–June/95–2,150	Not expected to occur. The site lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps, playas, vernal pools).
Navarretia ojaiensis	Ojai navarretia	None/None/1B.1/None	Chaparral (openings), Coastal scrub (openings), Valley and foothill grassland/annual herb/May–July/900–2,035	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site, and the closest documented occurrence is over 5 miles west of the project site (CDFW 2018). Additionally, this species was not observed during the survey conducted in June 2017, within its blooming period.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Navarretia setiloba	Piute Mountains navarretia	None/None/1B.1/None	Cismontane woodland, pinyon and juniper woodland, valley and foothill grassland; clay or gravelly loam/annual herb/Apr–July/935–6890	Low potential to occur. The grassland habitat on site is limited, frequently mowed, and highly disturbed with non-native species. In addition, the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles northeast of the project site (CDFW 2018). Furthermore, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Nolina cismontana	chaparral nolina	None/None/1B.2/None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub; sandstone or gabbro/perennial evergreen shrub/(Mar)May–July/455–4185	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site, and the closest documented occurrence is over 5 miles southwest of the project site (CDFW 2018). Additionally, this species was not observed during surveys conducted in June 2017 and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Opuntia basilaris var. *brachyclada*	short-joint beavertail	None/None/1B.2/None	Chaparral, Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland/perennial stem succulent/Apr–June (Aug)/1,394–5,906	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chaparral, Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland).
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	FE/SE/1B.1/S[b]	Vernal pools/annual herb/Apr–Aug/45–2,165	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable vernal pool habitat for this species.
Phacelia hubbyi	Hubby's phacelia	None/None/4.2/None	Chaparral, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland; gravelly, rocky, talus/annual herb/Apr–July/0–3,280	Not expected to occur. The limited non-native grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site lacks rocky or talus substrate for this species. Additionally, this species was not observed during focused botanical surveys conducted in April and July 2018, within its blooming period.
Phacelia mohavensis	Mojave phacelia	None/None/4.3/S[b]	Cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, pinyon and juniper woodland; sandy or gravelly/annual herb/Apr–Aug/4,593–8,202	Not expected to occur. The project site is outside of the species' known elevation range and lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., cismontane woodlands, coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, pinyon and juniper woodland).
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum	white rabbit-tobacco	None/None/2B.2/None	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland; sandy, gravelly/perennial herb/(July) Aug–Nov (Dec)/0–6,890	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site and the closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles from the project site (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/State/CRPR/ City of LA[2])	Primary Habitat Associations/ Life Form/ Blooming Period/ Elevation Range (feet)	Potential to Occur[3]
Senecio aphanactis	chaparral ragwort	None/None/2B.2/None	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub; sometimes alkaline/annual herb/Jan–Apr/49–2,625	Low potential to occur. There is limited coastal scrub habitat on site. The closest documented occurrence is over 8 miles from the project site (CDFW 2018). Additionally, this species was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in April 2018, within its blooming period.
Stylocline masonii	Mason's neststraw	None/None/1B.1/None	Chenopod scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland; sandy/annual herb/Mar–May/328–3,,937	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat for this species (i.e., chenopod scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland).
Symphyotrichum defoliatum	San Bernardino aster	None/None/1B.2/None	Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, Marshes and swamps, Valley and foothill grassland (vernally mesic); near ditches, streams, springs/perennial rhizomatous herb/July–Nov/5–6695	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks vernally mesic habitat suitable for this species and was not observed during the focused botanical survey conducted in July 2018, within its blooming period.

Notes:

1 Status abbreviations:
- FE: Federally listed as endangered
- FT: Federally listed as threatened
- FC: Federal Candidate for listing
- CE: State listed as endangered
- CR: State Rare
- CRPR List 1A: Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere
- CRPR List 1B: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
- CRPR List 2A: Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, But More Common Elsewhere
- CRPR List 2B: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, But More Common Elsewhere
- CRPR List 3: Plants About Which More Information is Needed - A Review List
- CRPR List 4: Plants of Limited Distribution - A Watch List
  - .1 Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
  - .2 Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
  - .3 Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

2 Sensitive Species within the City of Los Angeles (City of Los Angeles 2006)
- a: Known to occur in San Fernando Valley/West Hills Corridor Zone 2
- b: Occurrence is known in other zones or is unknown

3 Vicinity refers to records within the Oat Mountain, Val Verde, Newhall, Mint Canyon, Santa Susana, San Fernando, Calabasas, Canoga Park, Van Nuys USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles.

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ATTACHMENT G

Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur

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Special-Status Wildlife Species Potential to Occur

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
			Amphibians	
Anaxyrus californicus	arroyo toad	FE/SSC/S[a]	Semi-arid areas near washes, sandy riverbanks, riparian areas, palm oasis, Joshua tree, mixed chaparral and sagebrush; stream channels for breeding (typically third order); adjacent stream terraces and uplands for foraging and wintering	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks nearby washes or stream channels suitable for this species.
Rana draytonii	California red-legged frog	FT/SSC/S[a]	Lowland streams, wetlands, riparian woodlands, livestock ponds; dense, shrubby or emergent vegetation associated with deep, still or slow-moving water; uses adjacent uplands	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable aquatic habitat for this species.
Rana muscosa	mountain yellow-legged frog	FE/SE, WL/S[a]	Lakes, ponds, meadow streams, isolated pools, and open riverbanks; rocky canyons in narrow canyons and in chaparral	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable aquatic habitat for this species.
Spea hammondii	western spadefoot	None/SSC/S[b]	Primarily grassland and vernal pools, but also in ephemeral wetlands that persist at least 3 weeks in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley–foothill woodlands, pastures, and other agriculture	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks ephemeral wetlands suitable for this species.
Taricha torosa (Monterey Co. south only)	California newt	None/SSC/None	Wet forests, oak forests, chaparral, and rolling grassland	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable mesic or wet habitat for this species.
			Reptiles	
Actinemys marmorata	western pond turtle	None/SSC/S[a]	Slow-moving permanent or intermittent streams, ponds, small lakes, and reservoirs with emergent basking sites; adjacent uplands used for nesting and during winter	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable aquatic habitat for this species.
Anniella sp.	California legless lizard	None/SSC/None	Coastal dunes, stabilized dunes, beaches, dry washes, valley–foothill, chaparral, and desert scrubs; pine, oak, and riparian woodlands; associated with sparse vegetation and sandy or loose, loamy soils	Low potential to occur. The minimal non-native grassland habitat on site is limited, routinely mowed, and too compacted to provide suitable habitat for this species. Additionally, the closest documented occurrence for this species over 5 miles southwest of the project site (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Arizona elegans occidentalis	California glossy snake	None/SSC	Commonly occurs in desert regions throughout southern California. Prefers open sandy areas with scattered brush. Also found in rocky areas.	Low potential to occur. The grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site has compacted soils, is routinely disturbed, and isolated by well-traversed roads and highways, providing minimal habitat to support this species. The closest CNDDB occurrence is approximately 9.5 miles north of the project site (CDFW 2018)
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri	San Diegan tiger whiptail	None/SSC/None	Hot and dry areas with sparse foliage, including chaparral, woodland, and riparian areas.	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable habitat (i.e., chaparral, woodland, riparian) for this species.
Phrynosoma blainvillii	Blainville's horned lizard	None/SSC/S[a]	Open areas of sandy soil in valleys, foothills, and semi-arid mountains including coastal scrub, chaparral, valley–foothill hardwood, conifer, riparian, pine–cypress, juniper, and annual grassland habitats	Low potential to occur. The closest CNDDB occurrence is approximately 0.3-mile northwest of the project site (CDFW 2018); however, the grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site has compacted soils, is routinely disturbed, and isolated by well-traversed roads and highways, providing minimal habitat to support this species.
Thamnophis hammondii	two-striped gartersnake	None/SSC/S[a]	Streams, creeks, pools, streams with rocky beds, ponds, lakes, vernal pools	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable aquatic or vernal pool habitat for this species.
Birds				
Accipiter cooperii (nesting)	Cooper's hawk	None/WL/S[a]	Nests and forages in dense stands of live oak, riparian woodlands, or other woodland habitats often near water	Moderate potential to nest. The project site lacks woodland habitats; however, this species is increasingly tolerant of urban environments and may nest in trees within the project site and surrounding study area.
Agelaius tricolor (nesting colony)	tricolored blackbird	None/SSC/None	Nests near freshwater, emergent wetland with cattails or tules, but also in Himalayan blackberrry; forages in grasslands, woodland, and agriculture	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable emergent wetland habitat for this species. Patches of grassland on site are too small and routinely disturbed to support a nesting colony of this species.
Aimophila ruficeps canescens	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	None/WL/S[a]	Nests and forages in open coastal scrub and chaparral with low cover of scattered scrub interspersed with rocky and grassy patches	Low nesting and foraging potential. Minimal coastal scrub habitat occurs on site; however, this habitat is limited and isolated by well-traversed roads and highways. Although the closest documented occurrence is approximately 2.6 miles northwest of the project site in Simi Valley (CDFW 2018), this species was not detected during focused coastal California gnatcatcher surveys conducted from April to June of 2018.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Ammodramus savannarum (nesting)	grasshopper sparrow	None/SSC/None	Nests and forages in moderately open grassland with tall forbs or scattered shrubs used for perches	Not expected to nest. Grassland on site is too small, routinely disturbed, and isolated by well-traversed roads and highways to provide suitable nesting habitat for this species. There are no CNDDB occurrences of this species within 5 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Aquila chrysaetos (nesting & wintering)	golden eagle	None/FP, WL/ None	Nests and winters in hilly, open/semi-open areas, including shrublands, grasslands, pastures, riparian areas, mountainous canyon land, open desert rimrock terrain; nests in large trees and on cliffs in open areas and forages in open habitats	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable nesting habitat (i.e., large trees and cliffs) for this species. In addition, the project site and surrounding area is too disturbed and developed to provide suitable wintering habitat; however, this species may occasionally pass overhead during migration.
Artemisiospiza belli belli	Bell's sage sparrow	None/WL/S[a]	Nests and forages in coastal scrub and dry chaparral; typically in large, unfragmented patches dominated by chamise; nests in more dense patches but uses more open habitat in winter	Low potential to occur. Minimal coastal scrub habitat occurs on site; however, this habitat is limited and isolated by well-traversed roads and highways. There are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Athene cunicularia (burrow sites & some wintering sites)	burrowing owl	None/SSC/S[a]	Nests and forages in grassland, open scrub, and agriculture, particularly with ground squirrel burrows	Not expected to occur. There is minimal grassland habitat on site suitable for this species. Additionally, this species or evidence of this species were not detected within the project site and 500-ft buffer during protocol-level breeding season surveys conducted for this species from April to July 2018.
Buteo swainsoni (nesting)	Swainson's hawk	None/ST/None	Nests in open woodland and savanna, riparian, and in isolated large trees; forages in nearby grasslands and agricultural areas such as wheat and alfalfa fields and pasture	Not expected to nest, may occasionally pass overhead during migration. Although the closest CNDDB occurrence is adjacent to the project site, the species was last observed in 1898 and the breeding population is considered to be extirpated from the site (CDFW 2018). The species' current nesting range in Los Angeles is limited to the Antelope Valley over 30 miles northeast.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis (nesting)	western yellow-billed cuckoo	FT, BCC/SE/S[a]	Nests in dense, wide riparian woodlands and forest with well-developed understories	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks riparian habitat suitable for this species. The species is considered extirpated from Los Angeles County. The closest CNDDB occurrence is over 7 miles northeast of the project site, dates back to 1894, and is now considered extirpated (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Elanus leucurus (nesting)	white-tailed kite	None/FP/S[a]	Nests in woodland, riparian, and individual trees near open lands; forages opportunistically in grassland, meadows, scrubs, agriculture, emergent wetland, savanna, and disturbed lands	Low potential to nest. The project site is too small and isolated by urban development to provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for this species. In addition, there are no CDDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	FT/SE/S[b]	Nests in dense riparian habitats along streams, reservoirs, or wetlands; uses variety of riparian and shrubland habitats during migration	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks riparian or wetland habitat suitable for this species. The closest USFWS occurrence is approximately 11.5 miles east of the project site (USFWS 2018).
Eremophila alpestris actia	California horned lark	None/WL/S[a]	Nests and forages in grasslands, disturbed lands, agriculture, and beaches; nests in alpine fell fields of the Sierra Nevada	Low potential to nest. The grassland on site is too small, routinely disturbed, and isolated by urban development to provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for this species. Additionally, this species was not observed during focused coastal California gnatcatcher surveys conducted from April to June of 2018. Furthermore, there are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Gymnogyps californianus	California condor	FE/SE, FP/None	Nests in rock formations, deep caves, and occasionally in cavities in giant sequoia trees (Sequoiadendron giganteus); forages in relatively open habitats where large animal carcasses can be detected	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable nesting habitat (i.e., rock formations, deep caves, giant sequoia trees) for this species. This species' current range is approximately 9.2 miles north of the project site (USFWS 2018).
Icteria virens (nesting)	yellow-breasted chat	None/SSC/S[a]	Nests and forages in dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and thickets of willows, vine tangles, and dense brush	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable nesting habitat (i.e., riparian woodlands, thickets, or dense brush) for this species. Additionally, there are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Lanius ludovicianus (nesting)	loggerhead shrike	None/SSC/S[a]	Nests and forages in open habitats with scattered shrubs, trees, or other perches	Low potential to nest. Although the project site contains open habitats with scattered shrubs and trees, the site is too isolated by urban development to provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for this species. This species is considered a rare inhabitant of urbanized areas (CDFW 2018). In addition, this species was not observed during multiple avian surveys conducted within the project site from April to June 2018, and there are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT/SSC/S[b]	Nests and forages in various sage scrub communities, often dominated by California sagebrush and buckwheat; generally avoids nesting in areas with a slope of greater than 40%; majority of nesting at less than 1,000 feet above mean sea level	Not expected to occur. Suitable coastal scrub habitat occurs on site; however, this species was not detected during protocol-level presence/absence surveys conducted for this species from April to June 2018.
Riparia riparia (nesting)	bank swallow	None/ST/S[a]	Nests in riparian, lacustrian, and coastal areas with vertical banks, bluffs, and cliffs with sandy soils; open country and water during migration	Not expected to nest. No suitable vertical bank, bluff, and cliff habitat for this species. Additionally, the closest CNDDB occurrence is 7.9 miles west of the project site and dates back to 1897 (CDFW 2018).
Setophaga petechia (nesting)	yellow warbler	None/SSC/S[a]	Nests and forages in riparian and oak woodlands, montane chaparral, open ponderosa pine, and mixed-conifer habitats	Not expected to nest. No suitable nesting habitat (i.e., riparian and oak woodlands, montane chaparral, conifer forests) for this species.
Vireo bellii pusillus (nesting)	least Bell's vireo	FT/SE/S[a]	Nests and forages in low, dense riparian thickets along water or along dry parts of intermittent streams; forages in riparian and adjacent shrubland late in nesting season	Not expected to nest. No suitable riparian habitat present on site.
Mammals				
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	None/SSC/S[a]	Grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, forests; most common in open, dry habitats with rocky outcrops for roosting, but also roosts in man-made structures and trees	Low potential to roost and forage. The project site is surrounded by urban development and well-traversed roads and highways. This species is highly intolerant of urban development (Miner and Stokes 2005), therefore unlikely to use grassland and shrublands on site as roosting or foraging habitat. In addition, the closest CNDDB occurrence is over 8 miles of the project site and dates back to 1951 (CDFW 2018).
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	None/PST, SSC/S[a]	Mesic habitats characterized by coniferous and deciduous forests and riparian habitat, but also xeric areas; roosts in limestone caves and lava tubes, man-made structures, and tunnels	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks mesic habitats typically preferred by this species. In addition, this species is extremely sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites (CDFW 2018). Since the project site is surrounded by urban development, the species is not expected to roost or forage nearby. Furthermore, the closest CNDDB occurrence is over 11 miles northeast from the project site and dates back to 1940 (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Euderma maculatum	spotted bat	None/SSC/None	Foothills, mountains, desert regions of southern California, including arid deserts, grasslands, and mixed-conifer forests; roosts in rock crevices and cliffs; feeds over water and along washes	Not expected to roost, low potential to forage. The project site lacks rocky outcrops, crevices, and cliffs suitable for roosting. The project site lacks open water sources typically preferred by this species. Additionally, the closest CNDDB occurrence is over 10 miles southwest from the project site (CDFW 2018).
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	None/SSC/S[a]	Chaparral, coastal and desert scrub, coniferous and deciduous forest and woodland; roosts in crevices in rocky canyons and cliffs where the canyon or cliff is vertical or nearly vertical, trees, and tunnels	Not expected to roost, may occasionally forage. The project site lacks rocky outcrops, crevices, and cliffs suitable for roosting. This species may occasionally forage within isolated patches of ornamental vegetation and scrub habitat within the project site and surrounding study area. Although the closest CNDDB occurrence is 0.5 miles west of the project site, this collection dates back to 1954. The most recent CNDDB occurrence is 7.6 miles northeast of the project site in Elsmere Canyon (CDFW 2018).
Lepus californicus bennettii	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	None/SSC/S[a]	Arid habitats with open ground; grasslands, coastal scrub, agriculture, disturbed areas, and rangelands	Not expected to occur. Minimal open upland mustards, grasslands, coastal scrub habitats occur on site; however, the project site is too isolated by urban development and well-traversed roads and highways for this species. There are no CNDDB occurrences within 10 miles of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Macrotus californicus	Californian leaf-nosed bat	None/SSC/S[b]	Riparian woodlands, desert wash, desert scrub; roosts in mines and caves, occasionally buildings	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks suitable vegetation (i.e., riparian woodlands, desert wash, desert scrub) and suitable roosting sites (i.e., mines, caves, buildings). Although the closest CNDDB occurrence is 880 feet from the project site, this collection dates back to 1950 and is considered extirpated from the site (CDFW 2018).
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	None/SSC/S[a]	Coastal scrub, desert scrub, chaparral, cacti, rocky areas	Moderate potential to occur. The project site contains coastal scrub habitat that could support this species. Woodrat middens were identified within the 500-foot buffer during the reconnaissance-level survey conducted in June 2017. Additionally, an unidentified woodrat individual (*Neotoma* sp.) was observed during the botanical survey conducted in July 2018. Neither observations of woodrat and middens were confirmed to species-level; therefore, there is a moderate potential that this species occurs on site. The closest CNDDB occurrence is 2.4 miles west of the project site (CDFW 2018).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Onychomys torridus ramona	southern grasshopper mouse	None/SSC/S[b]	Grassland and sparse coastal scrub	Not expected to occur. The grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site is too isolated by urban development for this species. Additionally, there are no recent records of this species within the Los Angeles Basin. The closest documented occurrence is over 10 miles east of the project site and dates back to 1904 (CDFW 2018).
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	None/SSC/S[b]	Lower-elevation grassland, alluvial sage scrub, and coastal scrub	Not expected to occur. The grassland and coastal scrub habitat on site is too limited, isolated, and compacted for this species. Additionally, the San Fernando Valley is not included within the current range for this species. The closest CNDDB occurrence is over 10 miles southeast of the project site and dates back to 1903 (CDFW 2018).
Taxidea taxus	American badger	None/SSC/None	Dry, open, treeless areas; grasslands, coastal scrub, agriculture, and pastures, especially with friable soils	Not expected to occur. The project site is isolated by urban development and well-traversed roads and highways. Minimal patches of coastal scrub and grassland occurs on site; however, this habitat is relatively isolated from larger expanses of habitat typically occupied by this species. Additionally, suitable burrows for this species were not detected during surveys conducted in 2017 and 2018. The closest CNDDB occurrence is approximately 9.4 miles north of the project site (CDFW 2018).
Fishes				
Catostomus santaanae	Santa Ana sucker	FT/None/S[b]	Small, shallow, cool, clear streams less than 7 meters (23 feet) in width and a few centimeters to more than a meter (1.5 inches to more than 3 feet) in depth; substrates are generally coarse gravel, rubble, and boulder	No expected to occur. The project site lacks aquatic habitat for this species.
Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni	unarmored threespine stickleback	FE/SE, FP/S[b]	Slow-moving and backwater areas	No expected to occur. The project site lacks aquatic habitat for this species.
Gila orcuttii	arroyo chub	None/SSC/S[a]	Warm, fluctuating streams with slow-moving or backwater sections of warm to cool streams at depths >40 centimeters (16 inches); substrates of sand or mud	No expected to occur. The project site lacks aquatic habitat for this species.
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. [3]	Santa Ana speckled dace	None/SSC/S[b]	Headwaters of the Santa Ana and San Gabriel Rivers; may be extirpated from the Los Angeles River system	No expected to occur. The project site lacks aquatic habitat for this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status[1] (Federal/ State/ City of LA[2])	Habitat	Potential to Occur[3]
Invertebrates				
Branchinecta lynchi	vernal pool fairy shrimp	FT/None/None	Vernal pools, seasonally ponded areas within vernal swales, and ephemeral freshwater habitats	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks vernal pools, seasonal ponded areas, or ephemeral freshwater habitat suitable for this species.
Euphydryas editha quino	quino checkerspot butterfly	FE/None/None	Annual forblands, grassland, open coastal scrub and chaparral; often soils with cryptogamic crusts and fine-textured clat; host plants include Plantago erecta, Antirrhinum coulterianum, and Plantago patagonica (Silverado Occurrence Complex)	Not expected to occur.
Streptocephalus woottoni	Riverside fairy shrimp	FE/None/S[b]	Vernal pools, non-vegetated ephemeral pools	Not expected to occur. The project site lacks vernal or ephemeral pools suitable for this species.

Notes:

1 Status abbreviations:
- FE: Federally Endangered
- FT: Federally Threatened
- FDL: Federally Delisted
- BCC: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird of Conservation Concern
- SSC: California Species of Special Concern
- FP: California Fully Protected Species
- WL: California Watch List Species
- SE: State Endangered
- ST: State Threatened
- SDL: State Delisted

2 Sensitive Species within the City of Los Angeles (City of Los Angeles 2006)
- a: Known to occur in Zone 2
- b: Occurrence is known in other zones or is unknown

3 Refers to records within the Oat Mountain USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles (quad) and eight surrounding quads (Val Verde, Newhall, Mint Canyon, Simi Valley East, San Fernando, Calabasas, Canoga Park, Van Nuys).

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