

# CENTER STREET INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

CITY OF COLTON, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

## HABITAT ASSESSMENT

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July 2017

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JN: 161402

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## HABITAT ASSESSMENT

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The undersigned certify that the statements furnished in this report and exhibits present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and the facts, statements, and information presented is a complete and accurate account of the findings and conclusions to the best of our knowledge and beliefs.



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Thomas C. Millington  
Biologist  
Natural Resources



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Thomas J. McGill, Ph.D.  
Vice President  
Natural Resources

July 2017  
Revised November 2017  
JN: 161402

# Executive Summary

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This report contains the findings of Michael Baker International's (Michael Baker) Habitat Assessment for the Center Street Industrial Development (Project or project site) located in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Michael Baker biologists Ashley M. Barton and Thomas C. Millington inventoried and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on July 11, 2017.

The project site consists of a vacant, undeveloped parcel in the City of Colton along the border of Riverside and San Bernardino County. One above-ground storage tank is located in the central portion of the project site and evidence of anthropogenic disturbances including weed abatement, disking, and illegal dumping were observed throughout the project site. Land uses surrounding the project site include vacant/undeveloped parcels, recreational parks, and a mix of commercial and industrial land uses.

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were observed within the project site during the field survey. One concrete-lined trapezoidal channel runs east to west immediately north of the project site, outside of the limits of disturbance, and is tributary to the Santa Ana River and ultimately the Pacific Ocean (Traditional Navigable Water). Therefore, the channel possesses a surface hydrologic connection to downstream "waters of the United States" and fall under the regulatory authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Based on a review of the conceptual site plan, development will be limited to previously disturbed areas within the project site and will not encroach into or alter the off-site channel. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdiction and regulatory approvals will not be required.

No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field survey. The project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement resulting in heavily disturbed surface soils and a lack of natural plant communities. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status plant species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the special-status plant species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) or California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. Therefore, impacts to special-status plant species are not expected to occur and mitigation is not required.

Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), a CDFW Watch List species, was the only special-status wildlife species observed during the field survey. The project site was determined to provide suitable foraging habitat for Cooper's hawk, but does not provide suitable nesting opportunities. Effects on raptor foraging would be slight since the project site is comprised of 12.4 acres of heavily disturbed habitat under the proposed site plan (10.75 acres under the access option site plan), and nearby open space (e.g., Santa Ana River to the west, La Loma Hills to the northeast, Pellissier Ranch to the north, and AB Sports Complex and Reid Park to the south) consists of at least 1,000 acres of higher quality foraging habitat within a one-mile radius of the project site. The relative size of the foraging area on the vacant project site compared to

the nearby open space is approximately one percent of the available foraging habitat within a one-mile radius. Additionally, although the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code could mandate conservation of or mitigation for impacts to occupied foraging habitat located in a wildlife sanctuary, park or other natural area land use designation, or within listed species critical habitat, the project site is not located within or adjacent to such land use designations. Therefore, impacts to foraging habitat would be less than significant.

Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) has a low potential to occur within the project site. All remaining special-status wildlife species identified in the CNDDDB are presumed to be absent from the project site.

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.3, 3511, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs). If construction occurs between February 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds should be conducted within three (3) days of the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction. The biologist conducting the clearance survey should document a negative survey with a brief letter report indicating that no impacts to active avian nests will occur. If an active avian nest is discovered during the pre-construction clearance survey, construction activities should stay outside of a 300-foot buffer around the active nest. For listed and raptor species, this buffer should be expanded to 500 feet. A biological monitor should be present to delineate the boundaries of the buffer area and monitor the active nest to ensure that nesting behavior is not adversely affected by construction activities. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, construction activities within the buffer area can occur.

Although burrowing owl was determined to have a low potential to occur within the project site and focused surveys are not recommended, a pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey should be conducted to ensure that burrowing owls remain absent and impacts to any occupied burrows that may be located on or within 500 feet of the development footprint do not occur. In accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012), two pre-construction clearance surveys should be conducted 14-30 days and 24 hours prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities. If an occupied burrow is found within the development footprint during the pre-construction clearance survey, a burrowing owl exclusion plan will need to be prepared and submitted to CDFW for approval.

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**APPENDIX**

Appendix A Site Photographs  
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**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

BIOS	Biogeographic Information and Observation System
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
Corps	United States Army Corps of Engineers
CWA	Clean Water Act
° F	Degrees Fahrenheit
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Michael Baker	Michael Baker International
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Regional Board	Regional Water Quality Control Board
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

# Section 1 Introduction

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This report contains the findings of Michael Baker International's (Michael Baker) Habitat Assessment for the Center Street Industrial Development (Project or project site) located in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Michael Baker biologists Ashley M. Barton and Thomas C. Millington inventoried and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on July 11, 2017.

The habitat assessment was conducted to characterize existing site conditions and assess the probability of occurrence of special-status<sup>1</sup> plant and wildlife species that could pose a constraint to implementation of the Project. This report provides a detailed assessment of the suitability of the on-site habitat to support burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*), as well as several other special-status plant and wildlife species that were identified by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and other electronic databases as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project site.

## 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

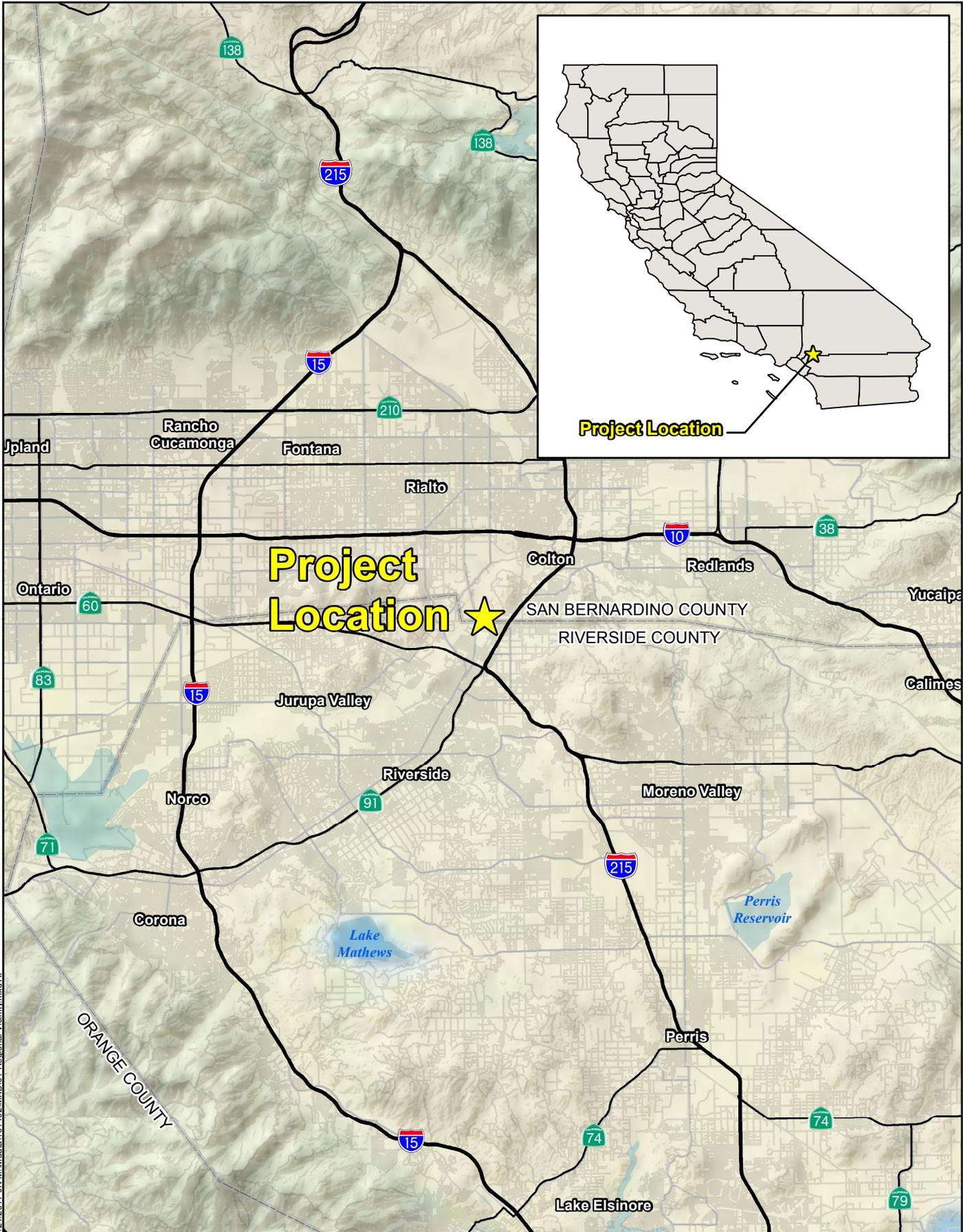
The project site is generally located west of Interstate 215 and east of the Santa Ana River in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (Exhibit 1, *Regional Vicinity*). The project site is depicted on the San Bernardino South quadrangle of the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map series in an un-sectioned area of Township 2 south, Range 5 west (Exhibit 2, *Site Vicinity*). Specifically, the project site is located north of Center Street, south of Pellisier Road, east of Riverside Avenue, and west of Orange Street (Exhibit 3, *Project Site*).

## 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project consists of the grading, construction, and operation of approximately 247,210 square feet of light industrial warehousing and office space contained within one building (Building 5). Specifically, Building 5 will consist of approximately 5,000 square feet of office space and approximately 242,210 square feet of warehouse space (Exhibit 4, *Conceptual Site Plan*). The development will also include 104 parking stalls and 98 trailer stalls. Access will be provided by one proposed driveway off of Center Street at the southwest corner of the development.

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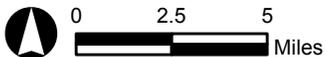
<sup>1</sup> As used in this report, "special-status" refers to plant and wildlife species that are federally or State listed, proposed, or candidates; plant species that have been designated a California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Rank; and wildlife species that are designated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as fully protected, species of special concern, or watch list species.



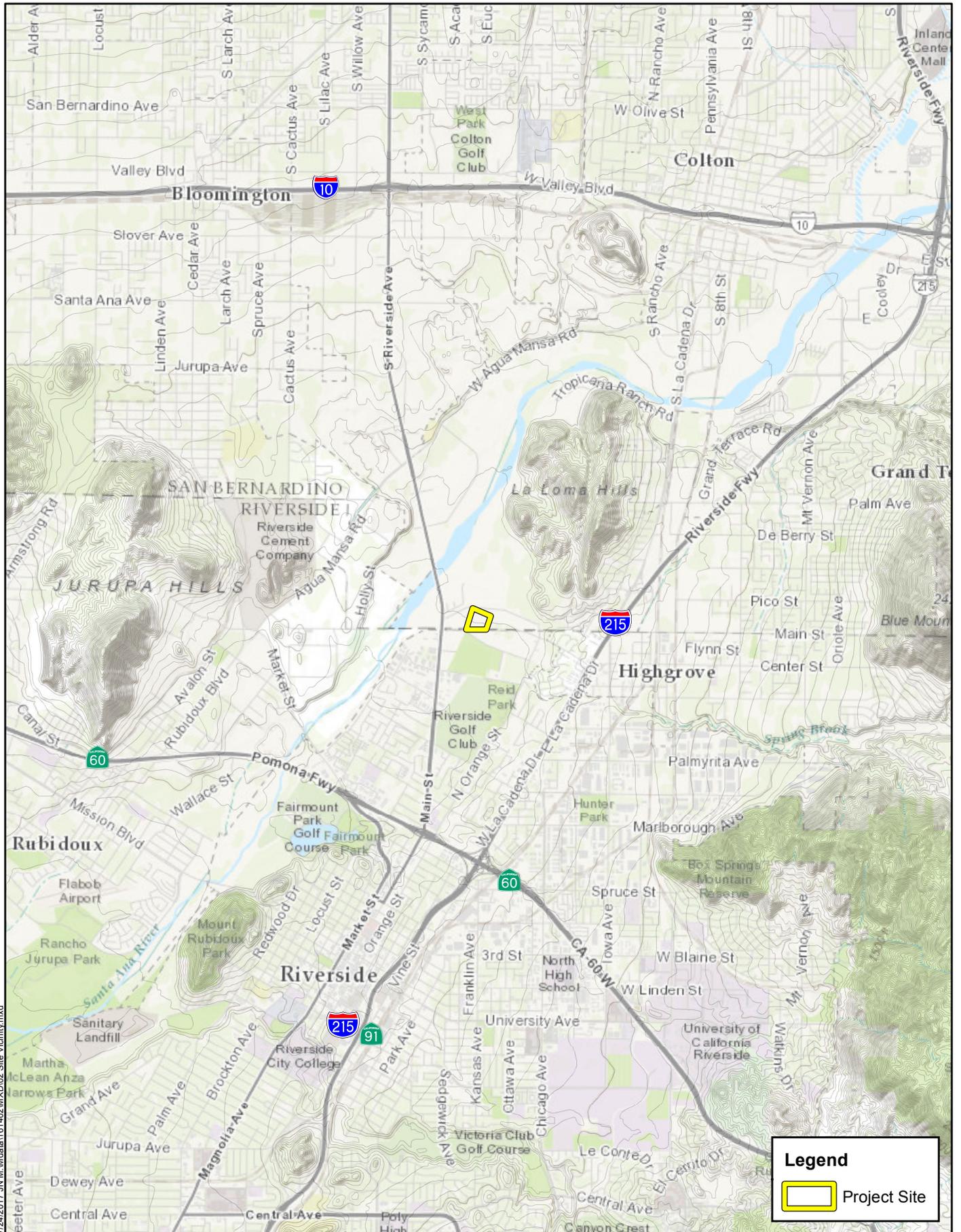
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## Regional Vicinity



Source: ESRI Relief Map, National Highway Planning Network



**Legend**

 Project Site

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**Site Vicinity**



Source: San Bernardino County, Riverside County, ESRI USA Topographic Basemap, USGS

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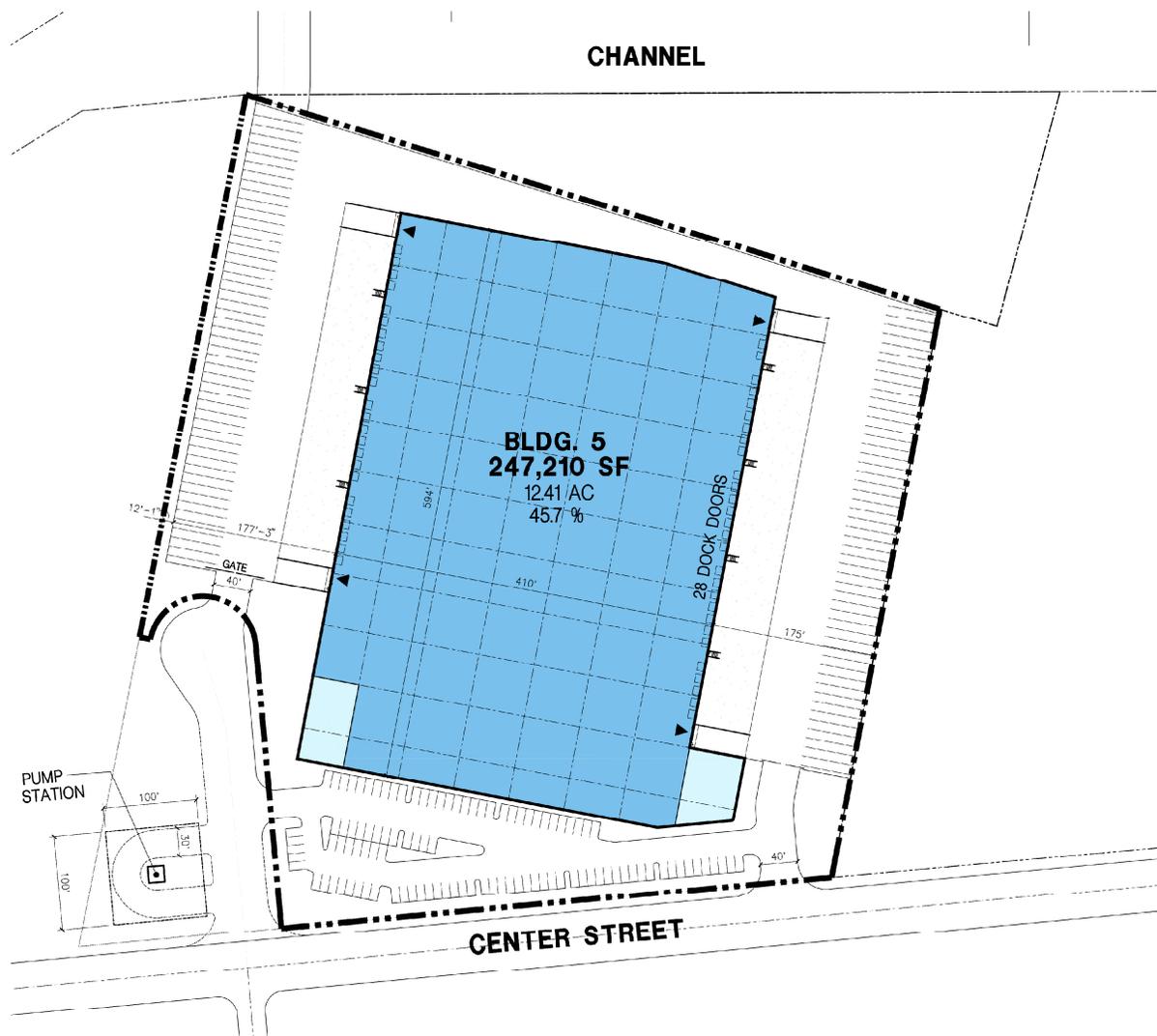
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**Legend**

 Project Site

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**Project Site**

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**Aerial Map**



**PROJECT DATA**

	<b>Building 5</b>
<b>Site Area</b>	
in s.f.	540,477 s.f.
in acres	12.41 a.c.
<b>Building Area</b>	
office	5,000 s.f.
warehouse	<u>242,210 s.f.</u>
<b>Total Building Area</b>	247,210 s.f.
<b>Building Coverage</b>	45.7%
<b>Parking Required</b>	
office: 1/300	17 stalls
whse: 1/1,000 sf - 1st 10,000	10 stalls
whse: 1/2,000 sf - Above 10,000	<u>116 stalls</u>
<b>Total Parking Required</b>	143 stalls
<b>Parking Provided</b>	
standard	104 stalls
trailer	<u>98 stalls</u>
<b>Total Parking Provided</b>	202 stalls
<b>Zoning : M-1 (Light Industrial)</b>	

**Legend**

POTENTIAL OFFICE  
 WAREHOUSE  
 DRIVE THRU DOOR




Note: This is a conceptual plan. It is based on preliminary information which is not fully verified and may be incomplete. It is meant as a comparative aid in examining alternate development strategies and any quantities indicated are subject to revision as more reliable information becomes available.

## Section 2 Methodology

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Michael Baker conducted a thorough literature review and records search to determine which special-status plant and wildlife species have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity of the project site. In addition, a general habitat assessment and field survey was conducted in order to document existing conditions on the project site and determine the potential for special-status plant and wildlife species to occur.

### 2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Prior to conducting the field survey, a literature review and records search was conducted for special-status biological resources potentially occurring on or within the vicinity of the project site. Previously recorded occurrences of special-status plant and wildlife species and their proximity to the project site were determined through a query of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) QuickView Tool in the Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), CNDDDB Rarefind 5, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California, Calflora Database, compendia of special-status species published by CDFW, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) species listings.

All available reports, survey results, and literature detailing the biological resources previously observed on or within the vicinity of the project site were reviewed to understand existing site conditions and note the extent of any disturbances that have occurred on the project site that would otherwise limit the distribution of special-status biological resources. Standard field guides and texts were reviewed for specific habitat requirements of special-status and non-special-status biological resources, as well as the following resources:

- Google Earth Pro historic aerial imagery (1994 - 2016);
- San Bernardino County General Plan;
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey;
- USFWS Critical Habitat designations for Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- USFWS Endangered Species Profiles for Delhi Sands flower-loving fly.

The literature review provided a baseline from which to inventory the biological resources potentially occurring within the project site. Additional recorded occurrences of those species that have been documented on or near the project site were derived from database queries. The CNDDDB database was used, in conjunction with ArcGIS software, to locate the occurrence records and determine the distance from the project site.

## **2.2 HABITAT ASSESSMENT**

Ashley M. Barton and Thomas C. Millington inventoried and evaluated the condition of the habitat within the project site on July 11, 2017. Plant communities identified on aerial photographs during the literature review were verified by walking meandering transects through the plant communities and along boundaries between plant communities. In addition, aerial photography was reviewed prior to the site investigation to locate potential natural wildlife corridors and linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area. These areas identified on aerial photography were then walked during the field survey.

Special attention was paid to any special-status habitats and/or undeveloped, natural areas, which have a higher potential to support special-status plant and wildlife species. Areas providing suitable habitat for burrowing owl were closely surveyed for signs of presence during the habitat assessment. Survey transects were oriented north to south and spaced at 10-meter (approximately 33 feet) intervals to ensure 100 percent visual coverage of all areas with the potential to provide suitable habitat for burrowing owls. Methods to detect the presence of burrowing owl included direct observation, aural detection, and signs of presence including pellets, white wash, feathers, or prey remains.

All plant and wildlife species observed, as well as dominant plant species within each plant community, were recorded. Plant species observed during the field survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field. Unusual and less familiar plant species were photographed during the field survey and identified in the laboratory using taxonomical guides. Wildlife detections were made through observation of scat, trails, tracks, burrows, nests, and/or visual and aural observation. In addition, site characteristics such as soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site plant communities, and presence of potential jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were noted.

## **2.3 SOIL SERIES ASSESSMENT**

On-site and adjoining soils were researched prior to the field visit using the USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey for San Bernardino County, California. In addition, a review of the local geological conditions and historical aerial photographs was conducted to assess the ecological changes and disturbances that have occurred on the project site.

## **2.4 PLANT COMMUNITIES**

Plant communities were mapped using USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps and aerial photography. The plant communities were classified in accordance with Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf and Evens (2009), CDFW (2010) and Holland (1986), delineated on an aerial photograph, and then digitized into GIS Arcview. The Arcview application was used to compute the area of each plant community in acres.

## **2.5 PLANTS**

Common plant species observed during the field survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field, and recorded in a field notebook. Unusual and less familiar plants were photographed in the field and identified in the laboratory using taxonomic guides. Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study follows the 2012 Jepson Manual. In this report, scientific names are provided immediately following common names of plant species (first reference only).

## **2.6 WILDLIFE**

Wildlife species detected during the field survey by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other sign were recorded in a field notebook. Field guides used to assist with identification of species during the field survey included The Sibley Guide to Birds (Sibley 2014) for birds, A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians (Stebbins 2003) for herpetofauna, and A Field Guide to Mammals of North America (Reid 2006). Although common names of wildlife species are fairly well standardized, scientific names are provided immediately following common names in this report (first reference only).

## Section 3 Existing Conditions

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### 3.1 LOCAL CLIMATE

San Bernardino County is characterized by cool winter temperatures and warm summer temperatures, with its rainfall occurring almost entirely in the winter. Relative to other areas in Southern California, winters are colder with chilly to cold morning temperatures common. Climatological data obtained for the City of Colton indicates the annual precipitation averages 1.37 inches per year. Almost all of the precipitation occurs in the months between November and March, with hardly any occurring in July. The wettest month is February, with a monthly average total precipitation of 3.70 inches. The average maximum and minimum temperatures for the region are 96 and 41 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) respectively with July and August (monthly average 96° F) being the hottest months and December (monthly average 41°F) being the coldest. Temperatures during the site visit were in the mid-80s (°F) with clear skies.

### 3.2 TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

On-site surface elevation ranges from approximately 833 to 840 feet above mean sea level and generally slopes to the southeast. The project site is relatively flat with no areas of significant topographic relief. Based on the USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project site is underlain by the following soil units (Exhibit 5, *Soils*).

- **Tujunga Loamy Sand, 0 to 5 Percent Slopes (TuB):** The Tujunga loamy sand (0 to 5 percent slopes) soil unit consists of somewhat excessively drained soils formed from alluvium derived from granite sources. It is found on alluvial fans. Elevations are recorded at 650 to 3,110 feet above mean sea level.
- **Tujunga Loamy Sand, Channeled, 0 to 8 Percent Slopes (TvC):** The Tujunga loamy sand, channeled (0 to 8 percent slopes) soil unit consists of excessively drained soils formed sandy alluvium derived from granite sources. It is found on flood plains and alluvial fans. Elevations are recorded at 10 to 2,900 feet above mean sea level.
- **Tujunga Gravelly Loamy Sand, 0 to 9 Percent Slopes (TvC):** The Tujunga gravelly loamy sand (0 to 9 percent slopes) soil unit consists of somewhat excessively drained soils formed from alluvium derived from granite sources. It is found on alluvial fans. Elevations are recorded at 10 to 1,500 feet above mean sea level.

### 3.3 SURROUNDING LAND USES

The project site is located east of the Santa Ana River along the border of Riverside and San Bernardino County within the City of Colton. Surrounding land uses include vacant/undeveloped parcels, recreational parks, and a mix of commercial and industrial land uses.



**Legend**

- Project Site
- Tujunga Gravelly Loamy Sand, 0 to 9% Slopes
- Tujunga Loamy Sand, 0 to 5% Slopes
- Tujunga Loamy Sand, Channeled, 0 to 8% Slopes

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Source: San Bernardino County, Google Imagery

## Section 4 Discussion

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### 4.1 SITE CONDITIONS

The project site consists of a vacant, undeveloped parcel in the City of Colton along the border of Riverside and San Bernardino County. One above-ground storage tank is located in the central portion of the project site and evidence of anthropogenic disturbances including weed abatement, disking, and illegal dumping were observed throughout the project site. Refer to Appendix A for representative photographs taken throughout the project site.

### 4.2 VEGETATION

The project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement resulting in heavily disturbed surface soils and a lack of undisturbed, natural plant communities (Exhibit 6, *Vegetation*). As such, the project site consists of land that would be classified as disturbed. Disturbed areas within the project site have been exposed to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including weed abatement, disking, and illegal dumping. The only plant species observed within the project site were short-podded mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), annual burweed (*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*), golden crownbeard (*Verbesina enceliodes*), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*), and a variety of non-native grasses (*Bromus* spp.).

### 4.3 WILDLIFE

Plant communities provide foraging habitat, nesting/denning sites, and shelter from adverse weather or predation. This section provides a discussion of those wildlife species that were observed or are expected to occur within the project site. The discussion is to be used a general reference and is limited by the season, time of day, and weather conditions in which the field survey was conducted. Wildlife detections were based on calls, songs, scat, tracks, burrows, and direct observation.

#### 4.3.1 Fish

No fish or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of fish were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site during the field survey. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the project site.

#### 4.3.2 Amphibians

No amphibians or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support amphibian species were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site during the field survey. Therefore, no amphibians are expected to occur and are presumed absent from the project site.



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### 4.3.3 Reptiles

The project site and surrounding habitat has the potential to support a variety of reptilian species adapted to a high level of human disturbances. However, no reptilian species were observed during the field survey. Reptilian species that are expected to occur on-site include western side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana elegans*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*), and Great Basin gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer deserticola*).

### 4.3.4 Birds

The project site provides suitable foraging and cover habitat for a variety of resident and migrant bird species. Bird species detected during the field survey included northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*), house finch (*Haemorhouse mexicanus*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), and red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*).

### 4.3.5 Mammals

No mammalian species were observed during the field survey. However, the project site and surrounding habitat has the potential to support a variety of mammalian species adapted to a high level of human disturbances such as raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), Audubon's cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), and striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*). No bat species are expected to occur due to a lack of suitable roosting habitat (i.e., trees, structures, crevices) within and surrounding the project site.

## 4.4 NESTING BIRDS

No active nests or birds displaying nesting behavior were observed during the field survey. Although heavily disturbed, the project site provides limited foraging and nesting habitat for a variety of year-round and seasonal avian residents, as well as migrating songbirds that could occur in the area. The project site also has the potential to support birds that nest on the open ground, such as killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). Additional nesting habitat occurs within undeveloped parcels located to the north and south of the project site. Although Cooper's hawk was observed foraging over the project site during the field survey, the project site does not provide suitable nesting opportunities for this species.

## 4.5 MIGRATORY CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES

Habitat linkages provide links between larger habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages, but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. A corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species yet, inadequate for others. Wildlife corridors are significant features for dispersal, seasonal

migration, breeding, and foraging. Additionally, open space can provide a buffer against both human disturbance and natural fluctuations in resources.

The project site has not been identified as a wildlife corridor or linkage. The Santa Ana River is located approximately 0.45 miles to the west and has been identified as a wildlife corridor by the San Bernardino County General Plan; however, the project site's connection to the Santa Ana River has been eliminated by surrounding industrial development. As such, development of the project site is not expected to impact wildlife movement opportunities or prevent the Santa Ana River from continuing to function as a wildlife corridor. Therefore, impacts to wildlife corridors or linkages are not expected to occur.

## **4.6 JURISDICTIONAL AREAS**

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The Corps Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredge or fill materials into "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the Regional Board regulates discharges to surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated plant communities under Section 1600 *et seq.* of the California Fish and Game Code.

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were observed within the project site during the field survey. One concrete-lined trapezoidal channel runs east to west immediately north of the project site, outside of the limits of disturbance, and is tributary to the Santa Ana River and ultimately the Pacific Ocean (Traditional Navigable Water). Therefore, the channel possesses a surface hydrologic connection to downstream "waters of the United States" and fall under the regulatory authority of the Corps, Regional Board, and CDFW. Based on a review of the conceptual site plan, development will be limited to previously disturbed areas within the project site and will not encroach into or alter the off-site channel. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdiction and regulatory approvals will not be required.

## **4.7 SPECIAL-STATUS BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The CNDDDB Rarefind 5, the Quickview Tool in BIOS, and the CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California was queried for reported locations of special-status plant and wildlife species as well as special-status natural plant communities in the San Bernardino South USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle. The habitat assessment evaluated the conditions of the habitat(s) within the boundaries of the project site to determine if the existing plant communities, at the time of the survey, have the potential to provide suitable habitat(s) for special-status plant and wildlife species.

The literature search identified twenty-five (25) special-status plant species, fifty (50) special-status wildlife species, and three (3) special-status plant communities as having the potential to occur within the San Bernardino South quadrangle. Special-status plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to

occur within the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions. Species determined to have the potential to occur within the general vicinity of the project site are presented in *Table B-1: Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources*, provided in Appendix B. Refer to Table B-1 for a detailed analysis regarding the potential occurrence of special-status plant and wildlife species within the project site.

#### **4.7.1 Special-Status Plants**

Twenty-five (25) special-status plant species have been recorded in the CNDDDB and CNPS in the San Bernardino South USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle (refer to Appendix B). No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field survey. The project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement resulting in heavily disturbed soils and a lack of natural plant communities. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status plant species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the special-status plant species identified in the CNDDDB or CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. Therefore, all special-status plant species are not expected to occur and are presumed to be absent from the project site.

#### **4.7.2 Special-Status Wildlife**

Fifty (50) special-status wildlife species have been reported in the San Bernardino South USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle (refer to Appendix B). Cooper's hawk, a CDFW Watch List species, was the only special-status wildlife species observed during the field survey. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that burrowing owl has a low potential to occur within the project site. All remaining special-status wildlife species identified in the CNDDDB are presumed to be absent from the project site. Due to their regional significance, the potential occurrence of burrowing owl and Delhi Sands flower-loving fly is described in further detail below.

##### **4.7.2.1 Burrowing Owl**

The burrowing owl is currently listed as a California Species of Special Concern. It is a grassland specialist distributed throughout western North America where it occupies open areas with short vegetation and bare ground within shrub, desert, and grassland environments. Burrowing owls use a wide variety of arid and semi-arid environments with well-drained, level to gently-sloping areas characterized by sparse vegetation and bare ground (Haug and Didiuk 1993; Dechant et al. 1999). Burrowing owls are dependent upon the presence of burrowing mammals (such as ground squirrels) whose burrows are used for roosting and nesting (Haug and Didiuk 1993). The presence or absence of colonial mammal burrows is often a major factor that limits the presence or absence of burrowing owls. Where mammal burrows are scarce, burrowing owls have been found occupying man-made cavities, such as buried and non-functioning drain pipes, stand-pipes, and dry culverts. Burrowing mammals may burrow beneath rocks and debris or large, heavy objects such as

abandoned cars, concrete blocks, or concrete pads. They also require open vegetation allowing line-of-sight observation of the surrounding habitat to forage as well as watch for predators.

The project site is relatively flat and sparsely vegetated with low-growing plant species which allows for line-of-sight observation favored by burrowing owls. However, no burrowing owls or sign (i.e., pellets, feathers, castings, or white wash) were observed during the field survey. Further, no suitable burrows (>4 inches in diameter) capable of providing roosting and nesting opportunities for burrowing owls were observed within the project site. Therefore, burrowing owl has a low potential to occur within the project site and focused surveys are not recommended.

#### **4.7.2.2 Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly**

It has been generally acknowledged that Delhi Sands flower-loving fly occur in Delhi Sand soils, particularly clean dune formations composed of Aeolian sands. Conversely, soils and sands deposited by fluvial processes from the surrounding alluvial fans do not support Delhi Sands flower-loving fly. These alluvial soils are composed of coarse sands, cobble and gravel (Tujunga soils) or coarse sands, silts and clays (Cieneba soils). In this part of San Bernardino County the separation of soil types has been lost due to the mixing and cross contamination from years of agricultural activities, development, and other man-made disturbances.

Land with suitable Delhi Sands flower-loving fly habitat include only those areas with open, undisturbed Delhi Series soils that have not been permanently altered by residential, commercial, or industrial development, or other human actions. Areas known to contain Delhi Sand soils and/or to be occupied by Delhi Sands flower-loving fly have been divided by USFWS into three recovery units: Colton; Jurupa; and Ontario.

The project site is located in the southern portion of the Colton Recovery Unit, outside of known Delhi Sands flower-loving fly populations and areas protected under conservation easements. In addition, no Delhi series soils occur on or within the immediate vicinity of the project site; the nearest undeveloped Delhi series soils are located approximately 1.5 miles north of the project site. Based on the USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project site is underlain by the following soil units: Tujunga Loamy Sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes (TuB); and Tujunga Gravelly Loamy Sand, 0 to 9 percent slopes (TvC). Soils within the project site are heavily disturbed and have been exposed to a variety of anthropogenic disturbances including weed abatement, disking, and illegal dumping.

Vegetation within the project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement and can be best characterized as a heavily disturbed plant community that is dominated by early successional weedy plant species including annual bursage, short-podded mustard, golden crownbeard, and a variety of non-native grasses. Further, none of the four common plant species (California buckwheat [*Eriogonum fasciculatum*], telegraph weed [*Heterotheca grandiflora*], deerweed [*Acmispon glaber*], or California croton [*Croton californicus*]) indicative of Delhi Sands flower-loving fly habitat occur within the project site. Based on the

above information, the Delhi Sands flower-loving fly is presumed to be absent from the project site and focused surveys are not recommended.

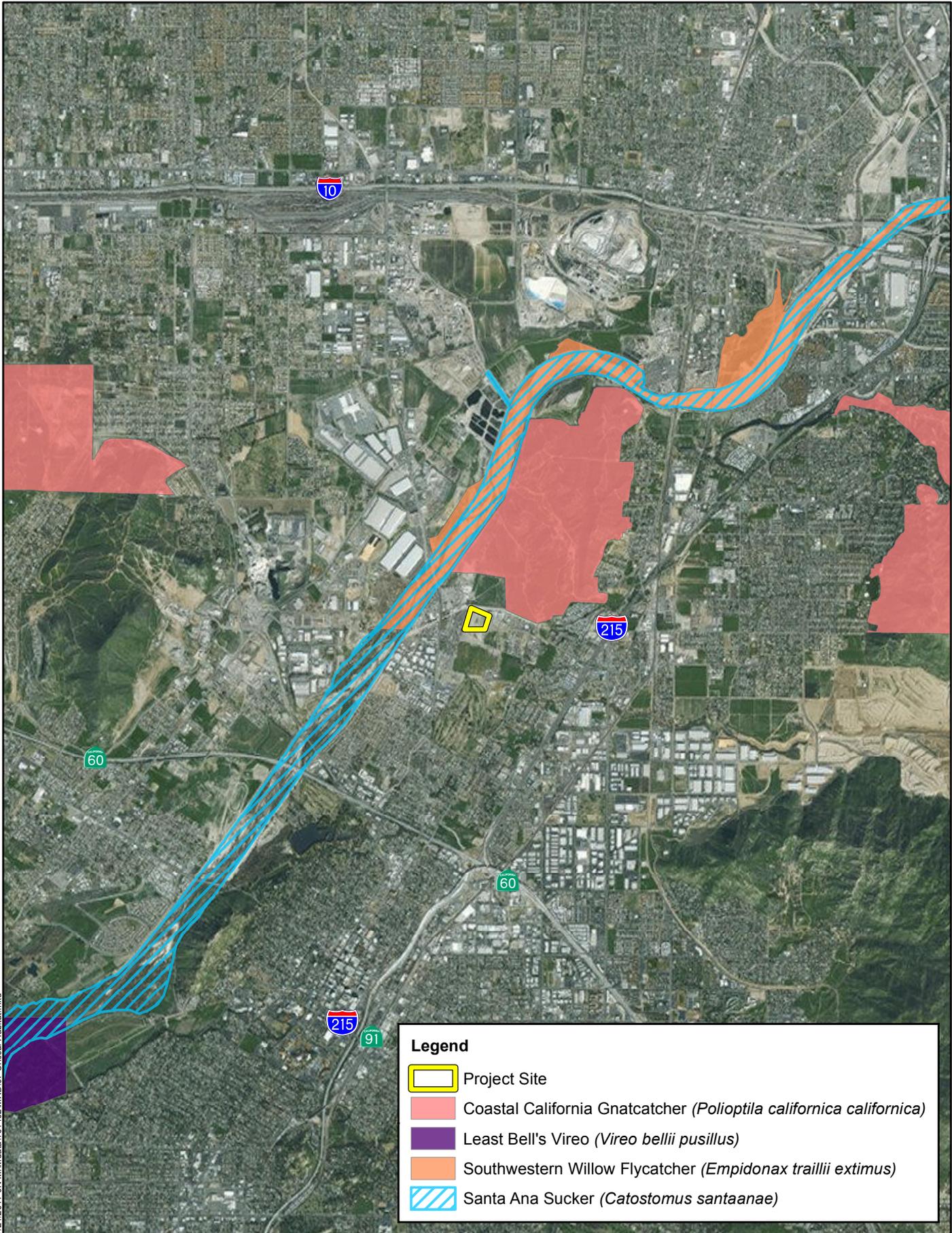
### **4.7.3 Special-Status Plant Communities**

According to the CNDDDB, three (3) special-status plant communities have been reported in the San Bernardino South USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle: Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub, Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest, and Southern Riparian Scrub (refer to Appendix B). No special-status plant communities were observed within the project site during the habitat assessment.

### **4.7.4 Critical Habitat**

Under the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), “Critical Habitat” is designated at the time of listing of a species or within one year of listing. Critical Habitat refers to specific areas within the geographical range of a species at the time it is listed that include the physical or biological features that are essential to the survival and eventual recovery of that species. Maintenance of these physical and biological features requires special management considerations or protection, regardless of whether individuals or the species are present or not. In the event that a project may result in take or adverse modification to a species’ designated Critical Habitat, a project proponent may be required to engage in suitable mitigation. However, consultation for impacts to Critical Habitat is only required when a project has a federal nexus. This may include projects that occur on federal lands, require federal permits (e.g., CWA Section 404 permit), or receive any federal oversight or funding. If there is a federal nexus, then the federal agency that is responsible for issuing funds or permits would be required to consult with the USFWS under the FESA.

The project site is not located with federally designated Critical Habitat (Exhibit 7, *Critical Habitat*). Therefore, the loss or adverse modification of Critical Habitat will not occur and consultation with the USFWS under the FESA will not be required.



7/24/2017 JN.M:\Mdelav\161402\MXD\07 Critical Habitat.mxd

**Legend**

- Project Site
- Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila californica californica*)
- Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)
- Santa Ana Sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*)

# Section 5 Project Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

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The discussion below provides a summary of survey results; project related impacts; avoidance and minimization measures; and mitigation measures for each biological resource area required to be analyzed pursuant to Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

## 5.1 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS

No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field survey. The project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement resulting in heavily disturbed soils and a lack of natural plant communities. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status plant species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the special-status plant species identified in the CNDDDB or CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. Therefore, impacts to special-status plant species are not expected to occur and mitigation is not required.

## 5.2 SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE

Cooper's hawk, a CDFW Watch List species, was the only special-status wildlife species observed during the field survey. Effects on raptor foraging would be slight since the project site is comprised of 12.4 acres of heavily disturbed habitat under the proposed site plan (10.75 acres under the access option site plan), and nearby open space (e.g., Santa Ana River to the west, La Loma Hills to the northeast, Pellissier Ranch to the north, and AB Sports Complex and Reid Park to the south) consists of at least 1,000 acres of higher quality foraging habitat within a one-mile radius of the project site. The relative size of the foraging area on the vacant project site compared to the nearby open space is approximately one percent of the available foraging habitat within a one-mile radius. Additionally, although the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code could mandate conservation of or mitigation for impacts to occupied foraging habitat located in a wildlife sanctuary, park or other natural area land use designation, or within listed species critical habitat, the project site is not located within or adjacent to such land use designations. Therefore, impacts to foraging habitat would be less than significant.

The project site is routinely maintained (i.e., disked) for weed abatement resulting in heavily disturbed soils and a lack of natural plant communities. Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the remaining special-status wildlife species identified in the CNDDDB.

The project site and surrounding area has the potential to provide refuge/cover from predators, perching sites, and favorable conditions for avian nesting that could be impacted by construction activities associated

with the Project. Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.3, 3511, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs). In order to protect migratory bird species, a nesting bird clearance survey should be conducted prior to any ground disturbance or vegetation removal activities that may disrupt the birds during the nesting season (February 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>). Consequently, if avian nesting behaviors are disrupted, such as nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort, it is considered “take” and is potentially punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

If construction occurs between February 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, the following avoidance and minimization measure should be implemented:

- BIO – 1: A pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds should be conducted within three (3) days of the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction. The biologist conducting the clearance survey should document a negative survey with a brief letter report indicating that no impacts to active avian nests will occur. If an active avian nest is discovered during the pre-construction clearance survey, construction activities should stay outside of a 300-foot buffer around the active nest. For listed and raptor species, this buffer should be expanded to 500 feet. A biological monitor should be present to delineate the boundaries of the buffer area and monitor the active nest to ensure that nesting behavior is not adversely affected by construction activities. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, construction activities within the buffer area can occur.

No burrowing owls, suitable burrows, or sign (i.e., pellets, feathers, castings, or white wash) were observed during the field survey. As such, burrowing owl was determined to have a low potential to occur within the project and focused surveys are not required. Although burrowing owls were absent from the project site during the field survey and focused surveys are not recommended, the following avoidance and minimization measure should be implemented to ensure burrowing owls remain absent from the project site and impacts to occupied burrows do not occur:

- BIO – 2: Prior to the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities, a pre-construction clearance survey for burrowing owls should be conducted to ensure that burrowing owls remain absent and impacts to any occupied burrows that may be located on or within 500 feet of the development footprint do not occur. In accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012), two pre-construction clearance surveys should be conducted 14-30 days and 24 hours prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities. If an occupied burrow is found within the development footprint during the pre-construction clearance survey, a burrowing owl exclusion plan will need to be prepared and submitted to CDFW for approval.

With implementation of Avoidance and Minimization Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 identified above, the Project would not result in a significant impact to wildlife species (i.e., nesting birds and burrowing owl) and no additional mitigation would be required.

### **5.3 SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT COMMUNITIES**

No special-status plant communities occur within the boundaries of the project site. Further, the project site is not located within federally designated Critical Habitat. Therefore, impacts to riparian habitat or other special-status plant communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or USFWS are not expected to occur and no mitigation is required.

### **5.4 RIPARIAN HABITAT AND WETLANDS**

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were observed within the project site during the field survey. One concrete-lined trapezoidal channel runs east to west immediately north of the project site, outside of the limits of disturbance, and is tributary to the Santa Ana River and ultimately the Pacific Ocean (Traditional Navigable Water). Therefore, the channel possesses a surface hydrologic connection to downstream “waters of the United States” and fall under the regulatory authority of the Corps, Regional Board, and CDFW. Based on a review of the conceptual site plan, development will be limited to previously disturbed areas within the project site and will not encroach into or alter the off-site channel. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdiction and regulatory approvals will not be required.

### **5.5 WILDLIFE CORRIDORS**

The project site has not been identified as a wildlife corridor or linkage. The Santa Ana River is located approximately 0.45 miles to the west and has been identified as a wildlife corridor by the San Bernardino County General Plan; however, the project site’s connection to the Santa Ana River has been eliminated by surrounding industrial development. As such, development of the project site is not expected to impact wildlife movement opportunities or prevent the Santa Ana River from continuing to function as a wildlife corridor. Therefore, impacts to wildlife corridors or linkages are not expected to occur.

### **5.6 LOCAL POLICIES AND ORDINANCES**

The City of Colton does not have a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Therefore, impacts to local policies and ordinances are not expected to occur and mitigation is not required.

## **5.7 LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE HABITAT CONSERVATION PLANS**

The project site is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state Habitat Conservation Plan. Therefore, impacts to any local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans are not expected to occur and mitigation is not required.

## Section 6 Conclusion and Recommendations

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The project site consists of a vacant, undeveloped parcel in the City of Colton along the border of Riverside and San Bernardino County. One above-ground storage tank is located in the central portion of the project site and evidence of anthropogenic disturbances including weed abatement, disking, and illegal dumping were observed throughout the project site. Land uses surrounding the project site include vacant/undeveloped parcels, recreational parks, and a mix of commercial and industrial land uses.

No jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were observed within the project site during the field survey. Therefore, development of the project site will not result in impacts to Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW jurisdiction and regulatory approvals will not be required.

No special-status plant species were observed on-site during the field survey and it was determined that the project site does not provide suitable habitat for any of the special-status plant species identified in the CNDDDB or CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. Therefore, impacts to special-status plant species are not expected to occur and mitigation is not required.

Cooper's hawk, a CDFW Watch List species, was the only special-status wildlife species observed during the field survey. The project site was determined to provide suitable foraging habitat for Cooper's hawk, but does not provide suitable nesting opportunities. Effects on raptor foraging would be slight since the project site is comprised of 12.4 acres of heavily disturbed habitat under the proposed site plan (10.75 acres under the access option site plan), and nearby open space (e.g., Santa Ana River to the west, La Loma Hills to the northeast, Pellissier Ranch to the north, and AB Sports Complex and Reid Park to the south) consists of at least 1,000 acres of higher quality foraging habitat within a one-mile radius of the project site. The relative size of the foraging area on the vacant project site compared to the nearby open space is approximately one percent of the available foraging habitat within a one-mile radius. Additionally, although the MBTA and the California Fish and Game Code could mandate conservation of or mitigation for impacts to occupied foraging habitat located in a wildlife sanctuary, park or other natural area land use designation, or within listed species critical habitat, the project site is not located within or adjacent to such land use designations. Therefore, impacts to foraging habitat would be less than significant.

Based on habitat requirements for specific special-status wildlife species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each species, it was determined that burrowing owl has a low potential to occur within the project site. All remaining special-status wildlife species identified in the CNDDDB are presumed to be absent from the project site.

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.3, 3511, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs). If construction occurs between February 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, a pre-construction clearance survey for nesting birds should be conducted within three (3) days of the start of any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities to ensure that no nesting birds will be disturbed during construction.

The biologist conducting the clearance survey should document a negative survey with a brief letter report indicating that no impacts to active avian nests will occur. If an active avian nest is discovered during the pre-construction clearance survey, construction activities should stay outside of a 300-foot buffer around the active nest. For listed and raptor species, this buffer should be expanded to 500 feet. A biological monitor should be present to delineate the boundaries of the buffer area and monitor the active nest to ensure that nesting behavior is not adversely affected by construction activities. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, construction activities within the buffer area can occur.

Although burrowing owl was determined to have a low potential to occur within the project site and focused surveys are not recommended, a pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey should be conducted to ensure that burrowing owls remain absent and impacts to any occupied burrows that may be located on or within 500 feet of the development footprint do not occur. In accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012), two pre-construction clearance surveys should be conducted 14-30 days and 24 hours prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities. If an occupied burrow is found within the development footprint during the pre-construction clearance survey, a burrowing owl exclusion plan will need to be prepared and submitted to CDFW for approval.

## Section 7      References

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**Appendix A      Site Photographs**

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**Photograph 1:** Looking northwest from the southeast corner of the project site.



**Photograph 2:** Looking south at the eastern portion of the project site.



**Photograph 3:** Looking northwest from the central portion of the project site.



**Photograph 4:** Looking north along the western boundary of the project site.



**Photograph 5:** Looking southeast along the northern boundary of the project site.



**Photograph 6:** Looking west at the concrete-lined flood control channel located to the north of the project site, outside of the project footprint.

**Appendix B      Potentially Occurring Special-Status  
Biological Resources**

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Table B-1: Potentially Occurring Special-Status Biological Resources

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES</b>				
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Common yearlong resident of California. Typically forages in broken woodland and habitat edges with dense stands of coast live oak ( <i>Quercus agrifolia</i> ), riparian deciduous, or other forest habitat near water. Usually nests in dense riparian areas, usually near streams.	Yes	<b>Present</b> The species was observed foraging over the project site during the field investigation. However, there is no suitable nesting habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i> northern goshawk	Fed: None CA: SSC	Includes a variety of forest types and stand structures, depending on geographic location. In general, they appear to prefer relatively dense forests with large trees and relatively high canopy closures which are used for protection from predators, increased food availability, and limited exposure to cold temperatures and precipitation.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	Fed: None CA: CEND	Highly colonial yearlong resident of California that frequents emergent wetlands, croplands, grassy fields, flooded land and along edges of ponds. Usually nests near fresh water, preferably in emergent wetland with tall, dense cattails ( <i>Typha sp.</i> ) or tules ( <i>Schoenoplectus sp.</i> ), but also in thickets of willow ( <i>Salix sp.</i> ), blackberry ( <i>Rubus sp.</i> ), and tall herbs.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Common yearlong resident of California. Prefers sparse, mixed chaparral and coastal scrub habitats on steep hillsides with scattered shrubs and rock outcrops. Frequently found in open shrubland in valley/foothill hardwood-conifer, savannah, and open chaparral.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> southern California legless lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in sparsely vegetated habitat types including coastal sand dunes, chaparral, pine-oak woodland, desert scrub, open grassland, and riparian areas. Requires sandy or loose loamy substrates conducive to burrowing.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	Fed: None CA: FP;WL	Uncommon yearlong resident of California. Requires open terrain for hunting such as grasslands, deserts, savannahs, and early successional stages of forest and shrub habitats. Prefers to nest on secluded cliffs and large trees. Rugged, open habitat with canyons and escarpments used most frequently for nesting.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in a wide variety of habitat types including open desert, grasslands, shrublands, chaparral, and woodlands. Prefers areas where the soil is loose and sandy which allows for burrowing.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Occurs in chaparral dominated by fairly dense stands of chamise. Also found in coastal sage scrub in south of range.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i> orangethroat whiptail	Fed: None CA: WL	Inhabits low-elevations coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, and valley-foothill hardwood habitats. Semi-arid brushy areas typically with loose soil and rocks, including washes, stream sides, rocky hillsides, and coastal chaparral.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in a variety of ecosystems, primarily hot and dry open areas with sparse foliage such as chaparral, woodland, and riparian areas.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common yearlong resident of southern California. Prefers open, annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Requires fossorial burrows for roosting and nesting surrounded by relatively short vegetation and open habitat for foraging and watching for predators. Also known to occupy man-made structures including drain pipes, debris piles, and development pads.	No	<b>Low</b> Project site provides open foraging habitat. No burrowing owls or sign (i.e., pellets, feathers, castings, or white wash) was observed during the field survey. Further, the project site lacks suitable burrows (>4 inches) needed for nesting/roosting.
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	Fed: None CA: THR	Typical habitat is open desert, grassland, or cropland containing scattered, large trees or small groves. Breeds in stands with few trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and in oak savannah in the Central Valley. Forages in adjacent grassland or suitable grain or alfalfa fields or livestock pastures.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Fed: THR CA: None	Occur in the watersheds draining the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains of southern California. Steams that Santa Ana Sucker inhabit are generally perennial streams with water ranging in depth from a few inches to several feet and with currents ranging from slight to swift.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in desert and coastal habitats in southern California, Mexico, and northern Baja California, from sea level to at least 1,400 meters above msl. Found in a variety of temperate habitats ranging from chaparral and grasslands to scrub forests and deserts. Requires low growing vegetation or rocky outcroppings, as well as sandy soils for burrowing.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common resident of sandy herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel in southwestern California. Occurs mainly in arid coastal and desert border areas. Habitats include coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, sagebrush, desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, pinyon-juniper, and annual grassland.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Chaetura vauxi</i> Vaux's swift	Fed: None CA: SSC	Prefers redwood and Douglas-fir habitats with nest-sites in large hollow trees and snags, especially tall, burned-out stubs.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> western yellow-billed cuckoo	Fed: THR CA: END	Uncommon summer resident of California. Occurs within valley/foothill and desert riparian habitats characterized by extensive riparian thickets dominated by willows ( <i>Salix sp.</i> ) with dense, low-level or understory foliage that abuts slow-moving watercourses, backwaters, or seeps.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Coleonyx variegatus abbotti</i> San Diego banded gecko	Fed: None CA: SSC	Prefers rocky coastal sage and chaparral habitat with granite outcrops. Also occurs in dry, rocky riverbeds. Species avoids areas with a high intensity of artificial night lighting.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Contopus cooperi</i> olive-sided flycatcher	Fed: None CA: SSC	Uncommon summer resident of southern California. Occurs in a wide variety of forest and woodland habitats. Preferred nesting and roosting habitat includes mixed conifer, montane hardwood-conifer, Douglas-fir, redwood, red fir, and lodgepole pine forests where tall trees overlook canyons, meadows, lakes, or other open terrain.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in several habitat types including coastal sage scrub, chamise chaparral, redshank, desert slope scrub, desert washes, grassy fields, orchards, cactus patches, and rocky areas. Often found near heavy shrub and rock outcrops.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Primarily found in Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub (RAFSS) and sandy loam soils, alluvial fans and flood plains, and along washes with nearby sage scrub. May also occur at lower densities in Riversidean upland sage scrub, chaparral and grassland in uplands and tributaries in proximity to RAFSS habitat. Tends to avoid rocky substrates.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> Stephens' kangaroo rat	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>THR</b>	Occur in arid and semi-arid habitats with some grass or brush. Prefer open habitats with less than 50% protective cover. Require soft, well-drained substrate for building burrows and are typically found in areas with sandy soil.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Empidonax traillii</i> willow flycatcher	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>END</b>	Uncommon summer resident of southern California. Occurs in riparian woodlands in southern California. Typically requires large areas of willow thickets in broad valleys, canyon bottoms, or around ponds and lakes. These areas typically have standing or running water, or are at least moist.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> southwestern willow flycatcher	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b>	Uncommon summer resident of southern California. Occurs in riparian woodlands in southern California. Typically requires large areas of willow thickets in broad valleys, canyon bottoms, or around ponds and lakes. These areas typically have standing or running water, or are at least moist.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Primarily a cliff-dwelling species, roost generally under exfoliating rock slabs. Roosts are generally high above the ground, usually allowing a clear vertical drop of at least 3 meters below the entrance for flight. In California, it is most frequently encountered in broad open areas including dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, and agricultural areas.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable roosting habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Falco columbarius</i> merlin	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>WL</b>	Common winter resident of southern California. Occurs in open grassland and woodland habitats near water. Prefers coastlines, lakes, and wetlands. Species does not breed in California.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Gila orcuttii</i> arroyo chub	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Warm streams of the Los Angeles Plain, which are typically muddy torrents during the winter, and clear quiet brooks in the summer, possibly drying up in places. They are found both in slow-moving and fast-moving sections, but generally deeper than 40 centimeters.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus californicus</i> San Bernardino flying squirrel	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Occurs in white fir ( <i>Abies concolor</i> ) and Jeffrey pine ( <i>Pinus jeffreyi</i> ) mixed conifer forests with black oak ( <i>Quercus kelloggii</i> ) components at higher elevations. Use cavities in large trees, snags, and logs for cover. Habitats are typically mature, dense conifer forest in close proximity to riparian areas.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> California condor	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END;FP</b>	Permanent resident of the semi-arid, rugged mountain ranges surrounding the southern San Joaquin Valley, including the Coast Ranges from Santa Clara Co. south to Los Angeles Co., the Transverse Ranges, Tehachapi Mts., and southern Sierra Nevada. Forages over wide areas of open rangelands, roosts on cliffs and in large trees and snags.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Icteria virens</i> yellow-breasted chat	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Uncommon summer resident of southern California. Occurs primarily in dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and willow thickets with well-developed understories and tangles near watercourses.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Common yearlong resident of California. Prefers open habitats with bare ground, scattered shrubs, and areas with low or sparse herbaceous cover. Requires suitable perches including trees, posts, fences, utility lines, or other perches.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	Fed: <b>None</b> CA: <b>SSC</b>	Occurs in valley/foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats. Roosts under palm trees and feeds in, and near, palm oases and riparian habitats.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable roosting habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occupies many diverse habitats, but primarily is found in arid regions supporting short-grass habitats, agricultural fields, or sparse coastal scrub.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert woodrat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in coastal scrub communities between San Luis Obispo and San Diego Counties. Prefers moderate to dense canopies, and especially rocky outcrops.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> pocketed free-tailed bat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in pinyon-juniper woodlands, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, desert riparian, desert wash, alkali desert scrub, and palm oasis. Prefers rocky desert areas with high cliffs or rock outcrops. Reproduces in rock crevices, caverns, or buildings.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable roosting habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i> southern grasshopper mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common in alkali desert scrub and desert scrub habitats with lower densities in other desert habitats such as succulent shrub, wash, and riparian areas. Also occurs in coastal scrub, mixed chaparral, sagebrush scrub, and bitterbrush scrub habitats. Uncommon in valley foothills and montane riparian habitats.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs in lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage scrub communities in and around the Los Angeles Basin. Prefers open ground with fine sandy soils. May not dig extensive burrows, but instead will seek refuge under weeds and dead leaves instead.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found in a wide variety of vegetation types including coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland and coniferous forest. The key elements of such habitats are loose, fine soils with a high sand fraction; an abundance of native ants or other insects; and open areas with limited overstory for basking and low, but relatively dense shrubs for refuge.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> coastal California gnatcatcher	Fed: <b>THR</b> CA: SSC	Common yearlong resident of southern California in sage scrub habitats that are dominated by California sagebrush ( <i>Artemisia californica</i> ). Prefers scrub habitat with more low-growing vegetation. Species generally occurs below 750 feet above mean sea level (msl) along the coast and below 1,500 feet above msl within inland regions.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Progne subis</i> purple martin	Fed: None CA: SSC	Summer resident in a variety of wooded, low-elevation habitats throughout the state. Uses valley foothill and montane hardwood, valley foothill and montane hardwood-conifer, and riparian habitats. Also occurs in coniferous habitats, including closed-cone pine-cypress, ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and redwood.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	Fed: <b>THR</b> CA: SSC	Found mainly near ponds in humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and stream sides with plant cover. Most common in lowlands or foothills. Frequently found in woods adjacent to streams. Occurs along the coast ranges from Mendocino County south and in portions of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades ranges.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> Delhi Sands flower-loving fly	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: None	DSF habitat is limited to areas that include Delhi fine sand, an aeolian (wind-deposited) soil type. The highest density of DSF have been found in habitat that includes a variety of plants including California buckwheat, California croton, deerweed, and telegraph weed.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i> yellow warbler	Fed: None CA: SSC	Common yearlong resident of southern California. Often found in open to medium-density riparian woodlands dominated by cottonwood ( <i>Populus fremontii</i> ), western sycamore ( <i>Platanus racemosa</i> ), willow, alder ( <i>Alnus sp.</i> ), and other small trees and shrubs. May also use oaks, conifers, and urban areas near stream courses.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Spea hammondii</i> western spadefoot	Fed: None CA: SSC	Prefers open areas with sandy or gravelly soils, in a variety of habitats including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washed, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, alkali flats, foothills, and mountains. Temporary pools are used for breeding, but the species will also use vernal pools and artificial water bodies such as cattle ponds.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	Fed: None CA: SSC	Uncommon, permanent resident found throughout most of California, except in the North Coast area. Preferred habitat includes drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats with friable soils.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> two-striped gartersnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	The species is often found in or near permanent and intermittent freshwater streams, creeks, and pools. Associated vegetation types include willow, oak woodlands, cedar, coastal sage scrub, sparse pine, scrub oak, and chaparral. The species will also use artificial aquatic habitats such as cattle ponds.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i> ssp. south coast gartersnake	Fed: None CA: SSC	Utilizes a variety of habitats including forests, mixed woodlands, grassland, chaparral, and farmlands. Often found near ponds, marshes, or streams.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b>	Uncommon summer resident of southern California. Prefers riparian habitat in close proximity to waterbodies that typically features a dense, stratified canopy. Species is typically associated with southern willow scrub, cottonwood-willow forest, mulefat scrub, sycamore alluvial woodlands, coast live oak riparian forest, willow riparian forest, or mesquite in desert regions.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> yellow-headed blackbird	Fed: None CA: SSC	Uncommon yearlong resident of southern California throughout freshwater emergent wetlands, and moist, open areas along agricultural areas, and mudflats of lacustrine habitats. Prefers to nest in dense wetland vegetation characterized by cattails, tules, or other similar plant species along the border of lakes and ponds.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT SPECIES</b>				
<i>Arenaria paludicola</i> marsh sandwort	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b> CNPS: 1B.1	Grows mainly in wetlands and freshwater marshes in arid climates. The plant can grow in saturated acidic bog soils and soils that are sandy with a high organic content. Found at elevations ranging from 33 to 558 feet. Blooming period is from May to August.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Asplenium vespertinum</i> western spleenwort	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in rocky soil within chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 591 to 3,281 feet. Blooming period is from February to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i> Horn's milk-vetch	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in lake margins in playas, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 197 to 2,789 feet. Blooming period is from May to October.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Carex comosa</i> bristly sedge	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.1	Grows in coastal prairie, lake margins, valley/foothill grassland habitat. Grows in elevation ranging from 0 to 2,051 feet. Blooming period is from May to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> smooth tarplant	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in alkaline soils within chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Grows in elevation ranging from 0 to 2,100 feet. Blooming period ranges from April to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Chloropyron maritimum</i> ssp. <i>maritimum</i> salt marsh bird's-beak	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b> CNPS: 1B.2	Upper terraces and higher edges of coastal salt marshes where tidal inundation is periodic. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 99 feet. Blooming period is from May to October.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i> Peninsular spineflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in granitic soils within alluvial fan, chaparral, coastal scrub, and lower montane coniferous forest habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 6,234 feet. Blooming period is from May to August.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Occurs on sandy and/or rocky soils in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and sandy openings within alluvial washes and margins. Found at elevations ranging from 951 to 3,773 feet. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Cuscuta obtusiflora</i> var. <i>glandulosa</i> Peruvian dodder	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Found in freshwater marshes and swamps. Grows at elevations ranging from 49 to 919 feet. Blooming period is from July to October.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> slender-horned spineflower	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b> CNPS: 1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub (alluvial fan sage scrub). Flood deposited terraces and washes. Found at elevations ranging from 1,181 to 2,690 feet. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>sanctorum</i> Santa Ana River woollystar	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>END</b> CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in sandy or gravelly soils within chaparral and coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 299 to 2,001 feet. Blooming period is from April to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Galium californicum</i> ssp. <i>primum</i> Alvin Meadow bedstraw	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Prefers granitic and sandy soils in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forest habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 4,429 to 5,577 feet. Blooming period is from May to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Helianthus nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i> Los Angeles sunflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Occurs in marshes, swamps, and on damp river banks. Found at elevations ranging from 16 to 5,495 feet. Blooming period is from August to October.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i> mesa horkelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs on sandy or gravelly soils in chaparral, woodlands, and coastal scrub plant communities. Found at elevations ranging from 230 to 2,657 feet. Blooming period is from February to September.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Juglans californica</i> southern California black walnut	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 164 to 2,953 feet. Blooming period is from March to August.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> Robinson's pepper-grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.3	Dry soils on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 3 to 2,904 feet. Blooming period is from January to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Lycium parishii</i> Parish's desert-thorn	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.3	Habitats include coastal scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 443 to 3,281 feet. Blooming period is from March to April.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Malacothamnus parishii</i> Parish's bush-mallow	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Species is presumed extinct. Habitats include coastal scrub and chaparral. Found at elevations ranging from 1,000 to 1,495 feet. Blooming period is from June to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Monardella pringlei</i> Pringle's monardella	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Species is presumed extinct. Prefers sandy soils within coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 1,312 feet. Blooming period is from May to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Nasturtium gambelii</i> Gambel's water cress	Fed: <b>END</b> CA: <b>THR</b> CNPS: 1B.1	Brackish marsh, freshwater marsh, swamps, and wetlands. Found at elevations ranging from 16 to 1,083 feet. Blooming period is from April to October.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Ribes divaricatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> Parish's gooseberry	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Species is presumed extinct. Found in riparian woodland and other riparian habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 213 to 984 feet. Blooming period is from February to April.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Senecio aphanactis</i> chaparral ragwort	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Occurs in dry coastal areas, particularly coastal sage scrub, foothill oak woodland, and alkali flats. Found at elevations ranging from 50 to 2,625 feet. Blooming period is from January to April.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed Onsite	Potential to Occur
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> Salt Spring checkerbloom	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Habitat includes chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, plays, and mojavean desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 5,020 feet. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i> prairie wedge grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Prefers cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 6,562 feet. Blooming period is from April to July.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<i>Symphyotrichum defoliatum</i> San Bernardino aster	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, montane/coniferous forest, meadows, seeps, marshes, swamps, and valley/foothill grassland (vernally mesic). Can be found growing near ditches, streams, and springs within these habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 7 to 6,693 feet. Blooming period is from July to November.	No	<b>Presumed Absent</b> There is no suitable habitat within or adjacent to the project site.
<b>SPECIAL-STATUS PLANT COMMUNITIES</b>				
Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Occur within broad washes of sandy alluvial drainages that carry rainfall runoff sporadically in winter and spring, but remain relatively dry through the remainder of the year. Is restricted to drainages and floodplains with very sandy substrates that have a dearth of decomposed plant material. These areas do not develop into riparian woodland or scrub due to the limited water resources and scouring by occasional floods.	No	<b>Absent</b>
Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Dominated by cottonwood ( <i>Populus</i> sp.) and willow ( <i>Salix</i> sp.) trees and shrubs. Considered to be an early successional stage as both species are known to germinate almost exclusively on recently deposited or exposed alluvial soils.	No	<b>Absent</b>
Southern Riparian Scrub	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Riparian zones dominated by small trees or shrubs, lacking taller riparian trees.	No	<b>Absent</b>

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) - Federal**  
 END - Federally Endangered  
 THR - Federally Threatened

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) - California**  
 END - State Endangered  
 CEND - State Candidate Endangered  
 SSC - Species of Special Concern  
 WL - Watch List  
 FP - Fully Protected

**California Native Plant Society (CNPS)**  
**California Rare Plant Rank**  
 1A Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere  
 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere  
 2B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere  
 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

**Threat Ranks**  
 0.1 - Seriously threatened in California  
 0.2 - Moderately threatened in California  
 0.3 - Not very threatened in California