Initial Study Biological Assessment

Original ISBA report date: July 3, 2009

Revision report date(s): September 30, 2009

Case number: SD07-0066

Permit type: Parcel Map Waiver for Voluntary Merger of two illegal parcels.

Applicant: Mosaic Land Planning, LLC

Planning Division case planner: To be determined.

Total parcel(s) size: 105.1 acres (Lot 16 = 9.01 acres and Lot 17 = 96.09 acres)

Assessor Parcel Number(s): 006-0-090-16 and 006-0-090-17

Development proposal description:

The proposed project is a voluntary merger of two illegal parcels, creating one 105.1-acre parcel. Included is an approximate 3.6-acre development area for future site improvements (including a new septic system) on the present Lot 17. Also proposed is the removal or relocation of all buildings, refuse, vehicles, and scrap from Lot 16. Any relocated structures will be confined to the development envelope on Lot 17. All areas outside of the proposed development area, fuel modification zones, and proposed mitigation areas will be placed under a restrictive covenant (Figure 6). Please note that the site was burned in a recent wildfire.

Prepared for Ventura County Planning Division by:

As an approved and contracted biologist with the Ventura County Planning Division, I hereby certify that this Initial Study Biological Assessment was prepared according to the Planning Division's requirements and that the statements furnished in the report and associated maps are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief; and I further certify that I was present throughout the site visit associated with this report.

Approved Biologist (signature): 			Date: September 30, 2009
Name (printed): Cher Batchelor	Title: Senior Biologist/Project Manager	Company: Rincon Consultants, Inc.	
Phone: (805) 641-1000 (x38)	email: cbatchelor@rinconconsultants.com		
Other Biologist (signature): 			Date: September 30, 2009
Name (printed): Susan V. Christopher, Ph.D.	Title: Senior Biologist/Project Manager	Company: Rincon Consultants, Inc.	
Phone: (805) 547-0900 (x103)	email: schristopher@rinconconsultants.com		
Role: Report writing, analysis, and technical support			
Other Biologist (signature): 			Date: September 30, 2009
Name (printed): Duane Vander Pluym, D.Env.	Title: Principal (County Approved Biologist)	Company: Rincon Consultants, Inc.	
Phone: (805) 641-1000 (x13)	email: dpluym@rinconconsultants.com		
Role: Report review			

Initial Study Checklist

This Biological Assessment DID provide adequate information to make CEQA findings regarding potentially significant impacts.

		Project Impact Degree of Effect				Cumulative Impact Degree of Effect			
		N	LS	PS-M*	PS	N	LS	PS-M*	PS
A	Endangered, threatened or rare species (includes nests)		X				X		
B	Wetland habitat		X				X		
C	Coastal habitat	X				X			
D	Wildlife movement routes		X				X		
E	Locally important species/communities			X				X	

N: No impact
LS: Less than significant impact
PS-M: Potentially significant unless mitigation incorporated.
PS: Potentially significant
* DO NOT check this box unless the Biological Assessment provided information adequate enough to develop mitigation measures that reduce the level of impact to less than significant.

Contents

Maps

Summary

The proposed project is a voluntary merger of two illegal parcels to create one 105.1-acre parcel. While no specific new construction is proposed at this time, an approximate 3.6-acre development area has been designated to accommodate future site improvements. Activities currently proposed are the removal of all buildings, refuse, vehicles, and scrap from a burned area on Lot 16, and relocation of any salvaged structures to within the development envelope. Protected wetlands and drainages were not found within the survey area, and are greater than 300 feet from the construction footprint. Two locally important plant communities were observed onsite, including wildflower-rock field and canyon live oak chaparral. Canyon live oak habitat is also protected under the Oak Woodlands Act. Two special-status (CNPS List 4) plant species were found during the site survey, Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*; CNPS List 4.2) and Mount Pinos larkspur (*Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum*; CNPS List 4.3). The Mount Pinos larkspur is also a Ventura County locally important plant species. No special-status animal species were observed during the survey, but the Coast horned lizard (Species of Special Concern [SSC]), has been reported onsite by the property owner. One CNPS List 1B plant species, Abrams' oxytheca, has a moderate potential to occur on the property, but was not observed. Special-status animal species with moderate potential to occur on the property include prairie falcon and California condor (federal and state endangered). Protected nesting birds are likely to occur onsite within the canyon live oak chaparral. Several long-eared woodrat nests were also observed in the oak chaparral as well. No wildlife connectivity features occur onsite; however, the entire property provides open natural wildlife habitat for local wildlife species and locally sensitive plant species. Mitigation measures that reduce the impacts to sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level are also provided.

Section 1: Construction Footprint Description

Construction Footprint Definition (per the Ventura County Planning Division): The construction footprint includes the proposed maximum limits of temporary or permanent direct land or vegetation disturbance for a project including such things as the building pad(s), roads/road improvements, grading, septic systems, wells, drainage improvements, fire hazard brush clearance area(s), tennis courts, pools/spas, landscaping, storage/stockpile areas, construction staging areas, fire department turnarounds, utility trenching and other grading areas. The construction footprint on some types of projects, such as mining, oil and gas exploration or agricultural operations, may be quite different than the above.

Development Proposal Description:

The proposed project is a voluntary merger of two illegal parcels to create a 105.1-acre parcel. Included is a proposed approximate 3.6-acre development area for future site improvements on the present Lot 17. The development envelope currently has existing roads (with access to Highway 33), and one structure that will remain and be used as a non-habitable storage building (eastern edge of the development envelope in the northern portion). A residence is to be constructed on an existing building pad in the southwestern edge of the development envelope. A shed is to be constructed in the northeastern corner of the development envelope. A 100-foot fuel modification zone around each of these proposed structures would also be required for fire clearance. However, some of these areas associated with the proposed structures are already devoid of significant vegetation. Two existing septic systems in this area will be abandoned, and a new septic system is proposed to be installed immediately south of the proposed residence. The site was burned in a recent wildfire.

Also proposed is the removal or relocation of all buildings, refuse, vehicles, and scrap from Lot 16. Any relocated structures, such as cargo containers, will be confined to the development envelope on Lot 17.

During the cleanup effort, only existing roads will be used, and no earth-moving or vegetation removal would occur. No other specific development or construction is planned at this time.

Construction Footprint Size

No specific construction activity is planned at this time. The proposed development envelope is approximately 3.6 acres. In addition, any structures will have a 100-foot fuel modification zone. The existing access road is approximately 0.26 acre (12-feet wide by 750-feet long), and will have a 10-foot buffer for fire clearance. Therefore, assuming the maximum extent, the total construction footprint (including the development area, roads, and a 100-foot fuel modification around the entire development area) is approximately 10.1 acres. It is unlikely (per the applicant) that the entire area within this footprint will be impacted. Since no specific development plans have been submitted, the applicant has proposed the 10.1-acre construction footprint as a general location of where development might occur. For the purpose of this report, it is assumed that the disturbance area is the construction footprint.

Development Area Size

The construction footprint size without driveway and brush clearance area is approximately 3.6 acres.

Project Design for Impact Avoidance or Minimization

The property was previously developed and recently burned. A house (Felt House), cabin, shed, septic systems, access road, and cleared areas existed within the development area prior to the fire. Only the shed remains, and the septic systems will be abandoned. Utilizing this site for future development minimizes impacts because this area already contained some development, in comparison to utilizing a currently undeveloped part of the property. In addition, the proposed development area is set back from Chorro Grande Creek and Sespe Creek more than 300 feet. Removal of structures and scrap on Lot 16, and limiting future development to the proposed development area on Lot 17 decreases the total impact area on the property.

Coastal Zone/Overlay Zones

The parcels are not within any overlay zones, nor is the site within the Ventura County Coastal Zone.

Zoning

Open Space (160 acre/SRP)

Elevation

The study area elevations range from 4,150 to 4,170 feet above mean sea level.

Other

An existing access road connects the development footprint to Highway 33. No public utility infrastructure exists in the immediate vicinity of the property.

Section 2: Survey Information

2.1 Survey Purpose

Discretionary actions undertaken by public agencies are required to demonstrate compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of this Initial Study Biological Assessment (ISBA) is to gather enough information about the biological resources associated with the proposed project, and their potential to be impacted by the project, to make a CEQA Initial Study significance finding for biological resources. In general, ISBA's are intended to:

- Provide an inventory of the biological resources on a project site and the values of those resources.
- Determine if a proposed project has the potential to impact any significant biological resources.
- Recommend project redesign to avoid, minimize or reduce impacts to significant biological resources.
- Recommend additional studies necessary to adequately assess potential impacts and/or to develop adequate mitigation measures.
- Develop mitigation measures, when necessary, in cases where adequate information is available.

2.2 Survey Area Description

Survey Area Definition (per the Ventura County Planning Division): The physical area a biologist evaluates as part of a biological assessment. This includes all areas that could potentially be subject to direct or indirect impacts from the project, including, but not limited to: the construction footprint; areas that would be subject to noise, light, dust or runoff generated by the project; any required buffer areas (e.g., buffers surrounding wetland habitat). The construction footprint plus a 100-foot buffer—beyond the required fire hazard brush clearance boundary—(or 20-foot from the cut/fill boundary or road fire hazard brush clearance boundary – whichever is greater) is generally the minimum size of a survey area. Required off-site improvements—such as roads or fire hazard brush clearance—are included in the survey area. Survey areas can extend off the project's parcel(s) because indirect impacts may cross property lines. The extent of the survey area shall be determined by the biologist in consultation with the lead agency.

Survey Area 1 (SA1)

Location

The project site is located in the unincorporated area of Ventura County, and generally surrounded by the Los Padres National Forest. It is located approximately 11 miles north/northwest of the town of Ojai, west of the Highway 22 mile marker 35.75. It is in the valley of the upper Sespe Creek, and occurs to the north of Highway 33 just to the east of Chorro Grande Creek. The site address is 22048 and 22050 Highway 33, Ojai, California.

Survey Area Boundaries

The survey area is the approximately 3.6-acre proposed development area, plus a 100 foot buffer around the development envelope to include potential fire hazard clearance and areas of potential indirect impacts (Figure 1). The survey area is located within the eastern central portion of Lot 17 at the location of the old Felt Ranch.

Survey Area Environmental Setting

The survey area is flat to gently sloping to the south, north of and far upslope from Sespe Creek. Drainage from the site is overland flow to Chorro Grande Creek, which traverses north to south approximately 300 feet west of the construction footprint. Chorro Grande Creek discharges into Sespe Creek, flowing in a west-easterly direction approximately 1,000 feet south of the construction footprint. No wetlands or drainages occur within the survey area/construction footprint. The entire survey area was previously developed as a ranch, and it burned circa 2004/2005, leaving only one shed standing. Most vegetation/habitats have since fully re-established following the burn, except for several singleleaf pinyon trees (*Pinus monophylla*). An access road and two water tanks remain. Two existing underground septic systems are planned to be abandoned in place. The habitat types within the survey area include grassland, sagebrush scrub, and chaparral (see Site Photos and Site and Survey Map)

Surrounding Area Environmental Setting

The survey area is surrounded by the Los Padres National Forest, which is undeveloped land. Scattered rural residential homes are located along this portion of Highway 33. It is located approximately 2.0 miles west of the Sespe Wilderness Area.

Cover

60% native vegetation

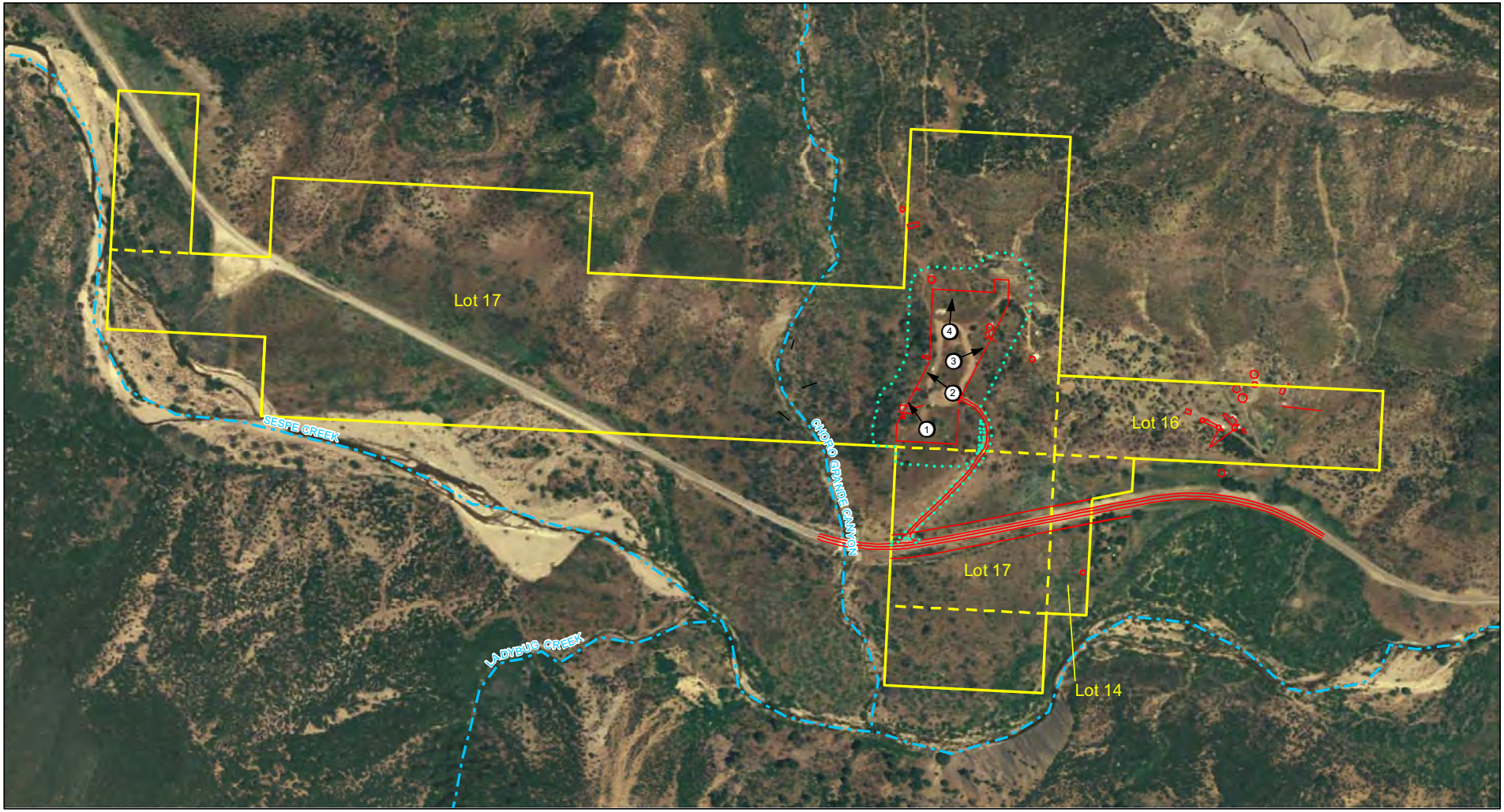
35% non-native vegetation

0% recently burned

0% ag/grazing

5% bare ground/cleared/graded

0% buildings, paved roads and other impervious cover



Legend

- Construction Footprint
- Existing Lot Lines
- Survey Area (SA1)
- Photo Location

N

0 200 400 800 Feet

Site and Survey Map

Figure 1

Mosaic Land Planning, LLC

2.3 Methodology

References

- California Department of Fish and Game. (May 2008). BIOS. This database was searched to identify biological data and other projects that have occurred in the vicinity of the subject property. http://imaps.dfg.ca.gov/viewers/ventura/app.htm
- California Department of Fish and Game (March 2009). Special Animals. Habitat Conservation Division, Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch.
- California Department of Fish and Game (April 2009). Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes and Lichens List. Natural Heritage Division, Natural Diversity Data Base.
- California Department of Fish and Game (September 2003). List of California Terrestrial Natural Communities Recognized by the California Natural Diversity Database. Biogeographic Data Branch, Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program. http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/vegcamp/pdfs/natcomlist.pdf
- California Department of Fish and Game, Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program, List of California Vegetation Alliances, October 22, 2007. http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/vegcamp/pdfs/NaturalCommunitiesList_Oct07.pdf
- California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database. May 2009. RAREFIND software.
- California Department of Fish and Game, California Native Plant Society, T. Keeler-Wolf, and Julie Evans. January 2006. Vegetation Classification of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and Environs in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties, California. Presented to National Park Service, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Agency. Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch.
- California Native Plant Society Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants database, v7-09b 4-10-09, http://cnps.web.aplus.net/cgi-bin/inv/inventory.cgi/Html?item=checkbox_9.htm#q9
- Holland, R.F. 1986. Preliminary descriptions of the terrestrial natural communities of California. California Department of Fish and Game.
- Ventura County Planning Division, GIS Biology Map Packet (November 2007). Consists of mapped resource information for the project site, including: wetlands and waterbodies; special status species per the California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) species lists; wildlife corridors/connectivity areas; vegetation; and high resolution aerial imagery.
- USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program. May 23, 2007. Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Photo Interpretation Report.
- Ventura County Planning Division. July 24, 2007. Ventura County Oak Woodlands Management Plan. Resource Management Agency.
- Ventura County (2008). Locally Important Plants.
- Ventura County (2008). Locally Important Animals.
- Ventura County (2009). Pending Projects and Recently Approved Projects list. Planning Division, Ventura County.

Survey Details Table

Survey Date & Details							
Survey Key	Survey Date	Survey Area Map Key(s)	Survey Type	Time Period	Methods/Constraints	GPS	Surveyors
SD1	5/21/2009	SA1	ISBA Botanical	0900-1500	Walking transects through the study area.	Trimble GeoXT, submeter	Cher Batchelor
ISBA .....Initial Study Biological Assessment Botanical.....Botanical Survey							

Section 3: The Biological Inventory

See Appendix One for an overview of the types of biological resources that are protected in Ventura County.

3.1 Habitats: Plant Communities, Physical Features and Wetlands
(Initial Study Checklist A, B, C & E)

Plant Communities

Locally important or rare plant communities were found within the survey area(s).

Major Plant Communities Summary

- Wildflower-Rock Field. This plant community is characterized by low-growing, naturalized annual grasses and native perennial grasses with a large component of native spring-flowering annual and perennial herbs. It often occurs among scattered large rocks and rock outcroppings. Holland (1986) describes wildflower field as a variable collection of herbs with conspicuous annual wildflower displays, but notes that dominance varies from site to site and from year to year at each particular site. This plant community is usually found growing on fairly poor sites that are prone to drought and low in nutrients. Wildflower field is typically associated with other grassland communities and may grow as a woodland ground layer. Wildflower field occurs in valleys and on foothills of the California Floristic Province, except for the north coast and desert regions, up to about 4,920 feet in elevation. Two special-status (CNPS List 4 species) wildflower species observed onsite within this plant community are approximately 300 Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*) and approximately 40 Mount Pinos larkspur (*Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum*). Other native wildflowers observed in this plant community onsite include butterfly mariposa lily (*Calochortus venustus*), four-spotted purple clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea* ssp. *quadrivulnera*), mountain dandelion (*Agoseris grandiflora*), and bicolored lupine (*Lupinum bicolor*). The native grass species foothill needlegrass (*Nassella lepida*) also was present in patches. Wildflower-rock field was observed in the southern portion of the fuel modification zone and south/down slope along both sides of the primary access road (Figure 2). This is considered a sensitive plant community.
- Cheatgrass-Brome Grassland. Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), as well as other brome grasses that occur with cheatgrass, are non-native species from Eurasia that occur throughout California, especially transmontane and cismontane provinces. Brome grasses dominate large expanses, especially disturbed sites. It occurs from 0 to 7,220 feet in elevation. Onsite, this community also contained ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), California brome (*Bromus carinatus* var. *carinatus*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), and red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*). Other associate herbs include miniature lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*) and yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*). Yellow star thistle occurs as a small patch around the access road in the middle of the construction footprint. This community occurs in the central portion of the survey area, and is generally in low-lying areas that were likely subject to prior disturbances associated with the previous residence onsite and the fire of 2005 (Figure 2).

- Big Sagebrush-Yerba Santa Scrub. This community occurs in uplands, bajadas, pediments, alluvium, valleys, and dry washes. Soils are usually well-drained and gravelly. Some stands of this community have scattered Joshua trees, junipers, and/or pines. It occurs from 985 to 9,840 feet in elevation in transmontane and cismontane provinces. Onsite, this community was dominated by big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *tridentata*), thickleaf yerba santa (*Eriodictyon crassifolium* var. *nigrescens),* and common rubber rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus* ssp*. consimilis*). Several singleleaf pinyon (*Pinus monophylla*) trees were burned in 2005, but one individual was clearly alive at the time of the survey. This community is present within the survey area and in patches on adjacent lower slopes below the proposed construction footprint (Figure 2).
- Canyon Live Oak Chaparral. This shrub-dominated community occurs on slopes, especially north-facing slopes. Soil is generally alluvial or bedrock-derived, and may be rocky. Canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) is the dominant species. Many stands are believed to be the result of sprouting after fires. It occurs from 3,280 to 7,220 feet elevation in the cismontane province of California. Onsite, this community contained hollyleaf redberry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*), hoary coffeeberry (*Rhamnus tomentella* ssp*. tomentella*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), California juniper (*Juniperus californica*), California flannel bush (*Fremontodendron californicum* ssp*. californicum*), and chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*). This community was present onsite on the hillsides surrounding the survey area (Figure 2).

Plant Communities Table

Plant Communities								
Map Key	SVC Alliance	SVC Association	Misc.	Status	Condition	Acres Total	Max Acres Potentially Impacted	Comments
PC1	Canyon Live Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) Chaparral	*Quercus chrysolepis-Rhamnus illicifolia*	N/A	Cal OWA	Intact	2.9	2.9	Based on submitted plans, the max impact to oak chaparral would be 2.9 ac; however, per discussions with the property owners, and with known locations of potential structures, impact to oak chaparral will likely be approx. 0.98, mostly associated with fuel management.
PC2	Big Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *tridentata*) Scrub	*Eriodictyon crassifolium* var. *nigrescens-Chrysothamnus nauseosus* ssp*. consimilis*	N/A	None	Intact	3.2	3.2	-
PC3	Wildflower-Rock Field	*Bromus* spp.-*Nassella lepida-Calochortus* spp.-*Delphinium parryi* ssp*. purpureum*-rock outcrops	N/A	CDFG Rare (G2, S2.2), LIC	Intact	0.4	0.4	-
PC4	Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*)	*Bromus diandrus*	N/A	None	Intact	3.0	3.0	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	0.56	0.56	Access road with fuel mod
					Totals	**10.1**	**10.1**	-

LIC.....Locally Important Plant Community
ESHA.....Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (Coastal Zone)
CDFG Rare:
G1 or S1.....Critically Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G2 or S2.....Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state)
G3 or S3.....Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction Globally or Subnationally (state)
Cal OWA.....Protected by the California Oak Woodlands Act

Physical Features

Physical Features		
Map Key	Physical Feature	Comments
None	N/A	-

Waters and Wetlands

See Appendix One for an overview of the local, state and federal regulations protecting waters, wetlands and riparian habitats. Wetlands are complex systems; delineating their specific boundaries, functions and values generally takes a level of effort beyond the scope of an Initial Study Biological Assessment (ISBA). The goal of the ISBA with regard to waters and wetlands is simply to identify whether they may exist or not and to determine the potential for impacts to them from the proposed project. This much information can be adequate for designing projects to avoid impacts to waters and wetlands. Additional studies are generally warranted to delineate specific wetland boundaries and to develop recommendations for impact minimization or impact mitigation measures.

Protected waters or wetlands were not found within the survey area(s).

Waters and Wetlands Summary

The survey area is in the non-coastal zone. Chorro Grande Canyon is just over 300 feet southwest of the construction footprint (Figure 3). Sespe Creek is approximately 1,000 feet south of the construction footprint (Figure 1). No wetlands are present within the construction footprint. Because these features are greater than 300 feet from the construction footprint, detailed information is not required or provided. However, a 100-foot buffer from Chorro Grande Canyon is recommended and mapped for illustrative and precautionary purposes on Figure 3. The creek is intact with riparian scrub habitat, and is not expected to be impacted by the proposed project.

Waters and Wetlands Table

Waters and Wetlands						
Map Key	Wetland Type	Wetland Name	Wetland Status	Wetland Size	Hydrologic Status	Primary Water Source
None	Intermittent stream	Chorro Grande Creek	USACE, CDFG, County General Plan	-	Flowing (intermittent)	Precipitation, groundwater, natural runoff
USACE .....U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulated CDFG.....California Department of Fish & Game regulated County .....County General Plan protected wetland WPD .....Co. Watershed Protection District (red-line stream)						

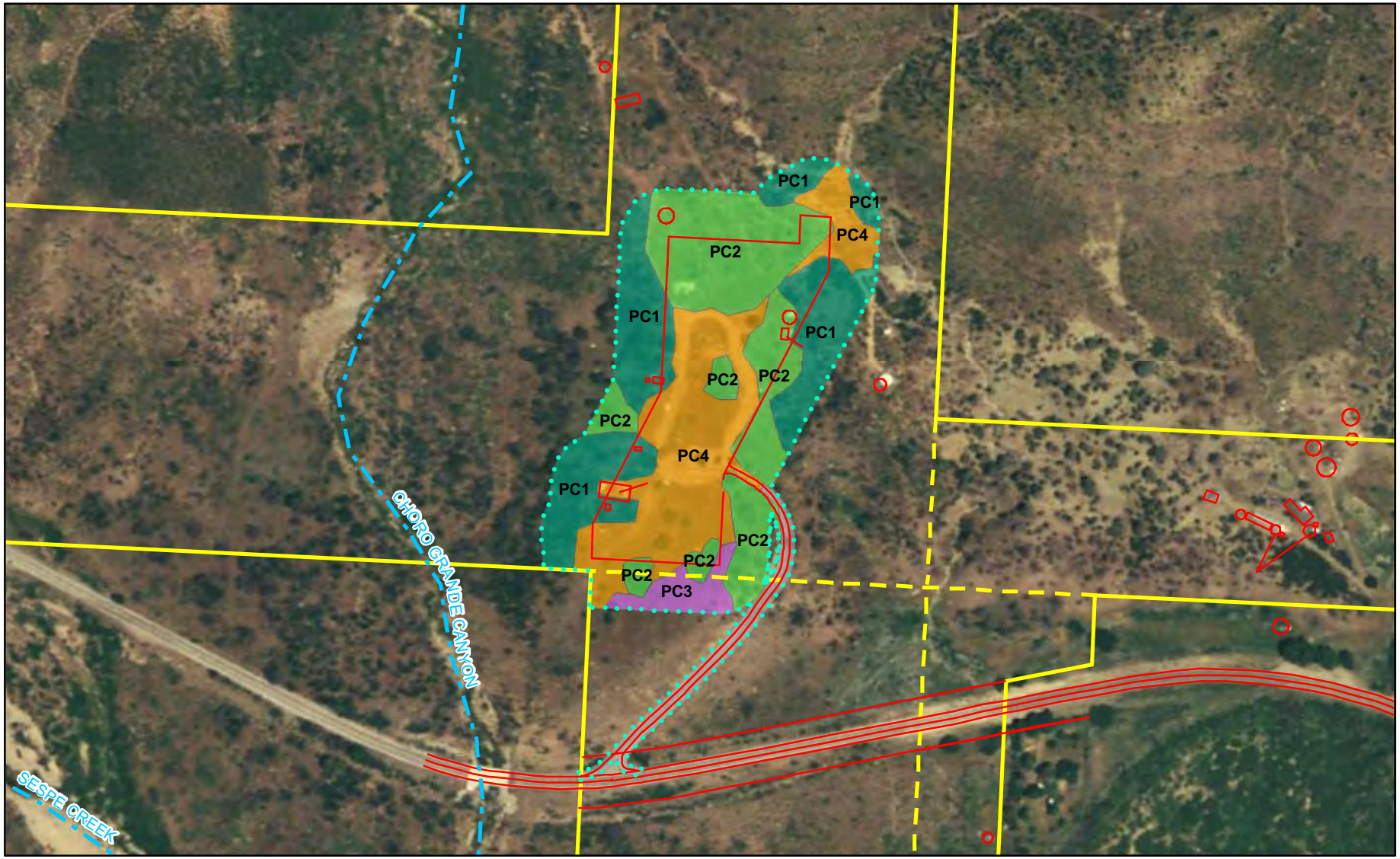
Waters and Wetlands (continued)			
Map Key	County Wetland Significance	Wetland Distance from Project	Comments
None	Significant	~300 feet	Drainage is a tributary of Sespe Creek. Contains healthy, relatively undisturbed riparian habitat with few invasive species.

Water/Wetland Buffers Table

Water/Wetland Buffers		
Map Key	Recommended Buffer	Comments
W1B1	100’	A 100-foot buffer is mapped in Figure 3, and the drainage is approximately 300 feet from the construction footprint

Other Areas/Observations

Other Observations		
Map Key	Describe Features (Violations, other observations, etc.)	Comments
None	N/A	



Legend

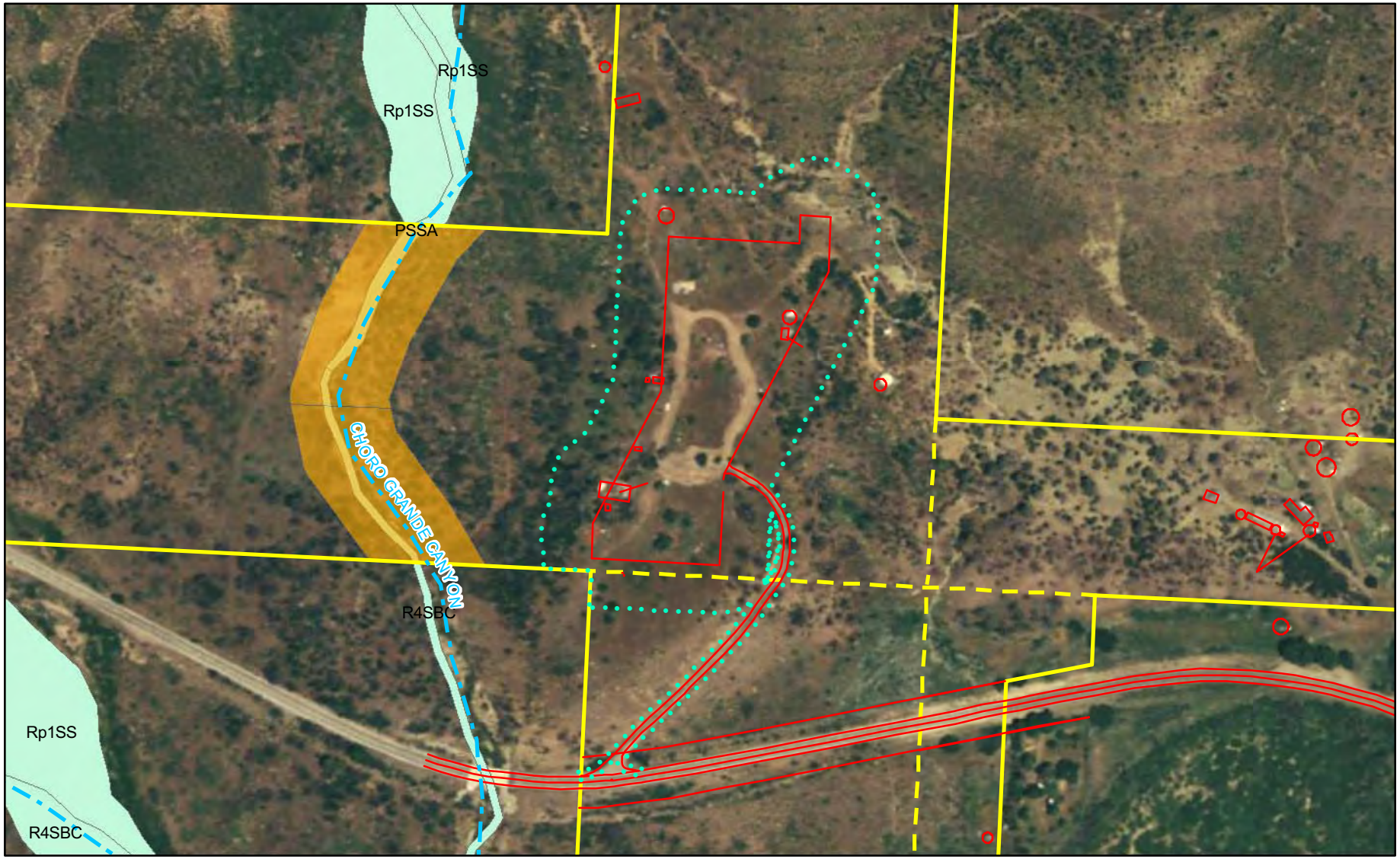
- Construction Footprint
- Existing Lot Lines
- Survey Area (SA1)
- Canyon Live Oak Chaparral (PC1)
- Big Sagebrush-Yerba Santa Scrub (PC2)
- Wildflower-Rock Field (PC3)
- Cheatgrass-Brome Grassland (PC4)
- Access Road

N

0 100 200 Feet

Plant Communities Map

Figure 2



Legend

- Construction Footprint
- Existing Lot Lines
- Survey Area (SA1)
- 100-Foot Waters and Wetlands Buffer (W1B1)
- National Wetlands Inventory

N

0 100 200 400 Feet

Waters and Wetlands

Figure 3

3.2 Species

Observed Species

A total of 84 plant species were observed onsite, including 70 (83%) that are native and 14 (17%) that are non-native. Two of these plant species are special status, and are CNPS List 4 species: Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*) and Mount Pinos larkspur (*Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum*). The Mount Pinos larkspur is also a Ventura County locally important plant species. Catalina mariposa lily was found in two locations on the site, with about 10 individuals at one area and approximately 300 individuals in another area. About 40 Mount Pinos larkspur were found in the same area along with the larger Catalina mariposa lily population. Canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) was present onsite in the canyon live oak chaparral habitat, and while this species is not very common in this region, it is not listed as a rare species. One reptile, four bird and three mammal species were detected during the survey. All of the animal species observed are native, common species. See Appendix Two for a complete list of species observed onsite during the survey.

Endangered, Threatened, Rare, and Locally Important Species and Nests
(Initial Study Checklist A & E)

See Appendix One for definitions of the types of special status species that have federal, state or local protection and for more information on regulations that protect birds' nests.

Endangered, threatened, rare, or locally important species were observed or have a moderate to high potential to occur within the survey area(s).

Habitat suitable for nests of birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does exist within the survey area(s).

Special-Status Species Summary

Two special status plant species were observed onsite: Catalina mariposa lily (*Calochortus catalinae*; CNPS List 4.2) and Mount Pinos larkspur (*Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum*; CNPS List 4.3). The Mount Pinos larkspur is also a Ventura County locally important plant species. Coast horned lizard (CDFG SSC) is also reported onsite by the property owner.

Figure 6 and Attachment A2 detail the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB)-tracked species (point occurrences) that have been documented within a 5- and 10-mile radius of the project boundaries. Observed special status species and the habitat of potential special status species tracked within five miles of the project site are indicated on Figure 4.

Observed and Potential Special Status Species Table

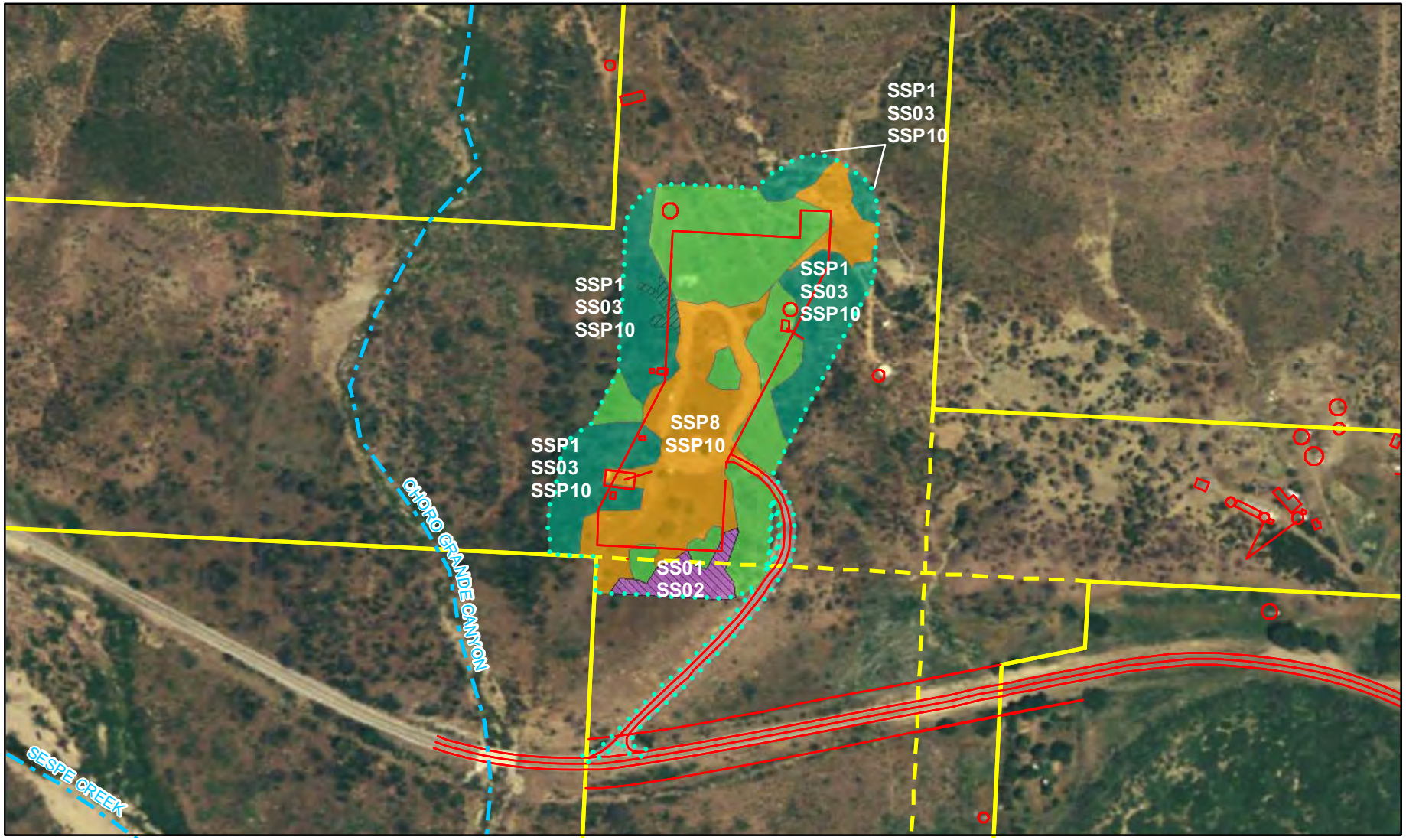
Special Status Species						
Map Key	Survey/Source	Scientific Name	Common Name	Species' Status	Potential to Occur	Habitat Requirements
PLANTS						
SSP1	CNDDB	*Acantho-scyphus* (=*Oxytheca*) *parishii* var. *abramsii*	Abrams' oxytheca	CNPS 1B VC LIS	Moderate to Low.	Chaparral. Shale to sandy places. 3,770-6,760 ft.
SS01	SD1	*Calochortus catalinae*	Catalina mariposa lily	CNPS 4	**Observed**	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland. 50 to 2,295 ft.
SSP2	CNDDB	*Calochortus palmeri* var. *palmeri*	Palmer's mariposa-lily	CNPS 1B	Low	Meadows and seeps, chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest. Vernally moist places in yellow-pine forest, chaparral. 1,970-7,365 ft.
SS02	SD1	*Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum*	Mount Pinos larkspur	CNPS 4, VC LIS	**Observed**	Chaparral, Mojavean desert scrub, and pinyon and juniper woodland. 3,280 to 8,530 ft.
SSP3	CNDDB	*Delphinium umbraculorum*	Umbrella larkspur	CNPS 1B	Low	Cismontane woodland. Mesic sites. 1,310-5,250 ft.
SSP4	CNDDB	*Layia heterotricha*	Pale-yellow layia	CNPS 1B	Low	Cismontane woodland, pinyon-juniper woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Alkaline or clay soils; open areas. 885-4,480 (8775) ft.
SSP5	CNDDB	*Monardella linoides* ssp. *oblonga*	Tehachapi monardella	CNPS 1B	Low	Lower montane coniferous forest, upper montane coniferous forest, pinyon-juniper woodland. On dry slopes of yellow pine forest, decomposed granitic soils; also in roadside disturbed areas. 5,560-8,100 ft.
ANIMALS						
SSP6	CNDDB	*Actinemys marmorata pallida*	Southwestern pond turtle	SSC	Low	Inhabits permanent or nearly permanent bodies of water in many habitat types; below 6000 ft elev. Require basking sites such as partially submerged logs, vegetation mats, or open mud banks. Needs suitable nesting and overwintering sites in upland areas. Likely occurs in Sespe Creek outside the development footprint.
SSP7	CNDDB	*Anaxyrus californicus*	Arroyo toad	FE, SSC	None	Semi-arid regions near washes or intermittent streams, including valley-foothill and desert riparian, desert wash, etc. Rivers with sandy banks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores; loose, gravelly areas of streams in drier parts of range. Critical habitat present downstream Sespe Creek, but site exceeds typical elevation maximum (3,000 feet) for this toad.
SSP8	CNDDB	*Falco mexicanus*	Prairie falcon	G3, (nesting)	Moderate to Low	Inhabits dry, open terrain, either level or hilly. Breeding sites located on cliffs. Forages far afield, even to marshlands and ocean shores. Potentially forages onsite; no nesting habitat.
SSP9	CNDDB	*Gila orcuttii*	Arroyo chub	SSC	None	Limited to coastal streams at low elevation in southwestern California. Slow water stream sections with mud or sand bottoms. Feeds on aquatic vegetation & associated invertebrates.
SSP10	CNDDB	*Gymnogyps californianus*	California condor	FE, SE	Moderate	Require vast expanses of open savannah, grasslands, and foothill chaparral in mountain ranges of moderate altitude. Deep canyons containing clefts in the rocky walls provide nesting sites. Forages up to 100 miles from roost/nest. May forage in project area.
SSP11	CNDDB	*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*	Southern steelhead - southern California ESU	FE, SSC	Low	Fed listing refers to pops from Santa Maria River south to southern extent of range (San Mateo Creek In San Diego Co.). Southern steelhead likely have greater physiological tolerances to warmer water & more variable conditions.
SS03	CNDDB	*Phrynosoma coronatum*	Coast horned lizard	SSC	Reported by property owner	Inhabits coastal sage scrub and chaparral in arid and semi-arid climate conditions. Prefers friable, rocky, or shallow sandy soils.
SSP12	CNDDB	*Thamnophis hammondii*	Two-striped garter snake	SSC	Possible along Sespe Creek	Coastal California from vicinity of Salinas to northwest Baja California. From sea to 7,000 ft elevation. Highly aquatic, found in or near permanent fresh water. Often along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth.

Special Status Species (continued)				
Map Key	Adequate Habitat Onsite	Adequate Habitat Size	Max Acreage Impacted	Comments
SSP1	Yes	Yes	2.9	Chaparral habitat adequate onsite and within typical elevation range. Blooming period is June to September; however, site survey of May 21, 2009 likely confirmed the absence of this annual species onsite.
SS01	Yes	Yes	9.5	Observed in the wildflower-rock field and in a small opening of canyon live oak chaparral within the survey area.
SSP2	No	No	0.0	Blooms May –July. May 21, 2009 survey confirmed absence of this species within the survey area.
SS02	Yes	Yes	6.2	Observed in the wildflower-rock field community within the survey area
SSP3	No	No	0.0	Blooms May –July. May 21, 2009 survey confirmed absence of this species within the survey area.
SSP4	Yes	No	0.0	Blooms March-June. May 21, 2009 survey confirmed absence of this species within the survey area.
SSP5	No	No	0.0	Blooming period is June-August; however, site survey of May 21, 2009 likely confirmed the absence of this perennial species onsite.
SSP6	No	No	0.0	Unlikely to use upland habitats of the survey area/construction footprint for nesting and overwintering.
SSP7	No	No	0.0	No suitable riparian habitat within the study area; does not occur at this elevation.
SSP8	Yes	Yes	9.5	Moderate potential foraging habitat onsite; low potential for nesting as nesting habitat is not present onsite.
SSP9	No	No	0.0	Does not occur at this elevation or in this area.
SSP10	Yes	Yes	9.5	Potential foraging habitat is present; nesting habitat is not present
SSP11	No	No	0.0	No aquatic habitat within the study area. Rainbow trout in Sespe Creek at site may contain steelhead genes, but actual use by ocean-run fish limited by downstream development.
SS03	Yes	Yes	9.5	Exact location of the sightings reported by property owner are not known, but could use most habitats onsite
SSP12	No	No	0.0	No aquatic habitat within the study area. Possibly occurs along Sespe Creek, but not within the development footprint.

FE .....Federal Endangered
FT .....Federal Threatened
FC .....Federal Candidate Species
FSC.....Federal Species of Concern
SFP.....California Fully Protected Species
SE .....California Endangered
ST .....California Threatened
SR.....California Rare
SSC .....California Species of Special Concern
CDFG/NatureServe Rank: G1 or S1 - Critically Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state); G2 or S2 - Imperiled Globally or Subnationally (state); G3 or S3 - Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction Globally or Subnationally (state)
CNPS 1A .....California Native Plant Society listed as presumed to be extinct
CNPS 1B .....California Native Plant Society listed as rare or endangered in California and elsewhere
CNPS 2.....California Native Plant Society listed as rare or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
CNPS 3.....**A review list only.** California Native Plant Society listed as in need of more information.
CNPS 4.....**A watch list only**. California Native Plant Society listed as of limited distribution or infrequent throughout a broader area in California; vulnerability to threat appears relatively low.
LIS .....Locally Important Species

Nesting Bird Summary

No active nests were observed onsite during the survey, however, potential exists for birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to nest onsite during the appropriate time of year (many species begin nesting in early summer in this location rather than the May survey period).



Legend

- Construction Footprint
- Existing Lot Lines
- Survey Area (SA1)
- ~ 10 Calochortus catalinae (SS01)
- Wildflower Field with ~300 Calochortus calatinae (SS01) and ~ 40 Delphinium parryi ssp. purpureum (SS02)
- Cheatgrass-Grome Grassland (PC4)
- Canyon Live Oak Chaparral (PC1)
- Big Sagebrush-Yerba Santa Scrub (PC2)
- Wildflower-Rock Field (PC3)
- Access Road

N

0 100 200 Feet

Species Map

Figure 4

3.3 Wildlife Movement and Connectivity
(Initial Study Checklist D)

Wildlife movement or connectivity features, or evidence thereof, were not found within the survey area(s).

The lexicon of wildlife movement varies, with different interpretations of the same words. For the purpose of this report, the following defines the various connectivity features:

- Travel Route – A landscape feature (such as a ridgeline, drainage, canyon, or narrow riparian strip) within a large natural habitat area that is used frequently by local animals to facilitate movement and to provide access to necessary resources (e.g. water, food, cover, den sites). The travel route is a preferred route because it provides the least amount of local topographic resistance in moving from one area to another. Also referred to as "movement pathway" or "movement route."
- Wildlife Corridor – A portion of habitat, usually linear in nature, that connects two or more habitat patches that would otherwise be fragmented or isolated from one another. Wildlife corridors are usually bounded by developed land areas or other areas unsuitable for wildlife. A corridor generally contains suitable cover, food, and water to support species and facilitate movement while in the corridor. "Wildlife Corridor" is often used interchangeably with "Landscape Linkage," but a corridor is generally for habitats of smaller scale.
- Landscape Linkage - Large, regional (landscape level) connections between habitat blocks ("core areas") meant to facilitate animal movements and essential genetic flows between different sections of the landscape. These linkages are not necessarily currently constricted, but are essential to maintain connectivity function in the ecoregion. Landscape linkages are typically on the scale of mountain ranges and valleys, but at times can refer to a patchy landscape of suitable habitat (ie: groupings of vernal pools within a valley).
- Wildlife Crossing – A small, narrow area, relatively short in length and generally constricted in nature, that allows wildlife to pass under or through an obstacle or barrier that otherwise hinders or prevents movement. Crossings typically are manmade and include culverts, underpasses, drainage pipes, and tunnels to provide access across or under roads, highways, pipelines, or other physical obstacles.
- Connectivity Choke-Point - A narrow, impacted, or otherwise tenuous habitat linkage connecting two or more habitat blocks ("core areas"). Choke-points are essential to maintain landscape-level connectivity, but are particularly in danger of losing connectivity function. An example would be an underpass of a major roadway that is critical for animal movement between habitat blocks. One or a series of wildlife crossings can form a connectivity choke-point.

Mapped Corridors or Linkages

The study area does not lie directly within a mapped corridor or linkage; however, the study area exists in the vicinity of the Castaic-Sierra Madre Wildlife Corridor (approximately two miles south and five miles north - Figure 5).

Discussion for Lack of Connectivity Features

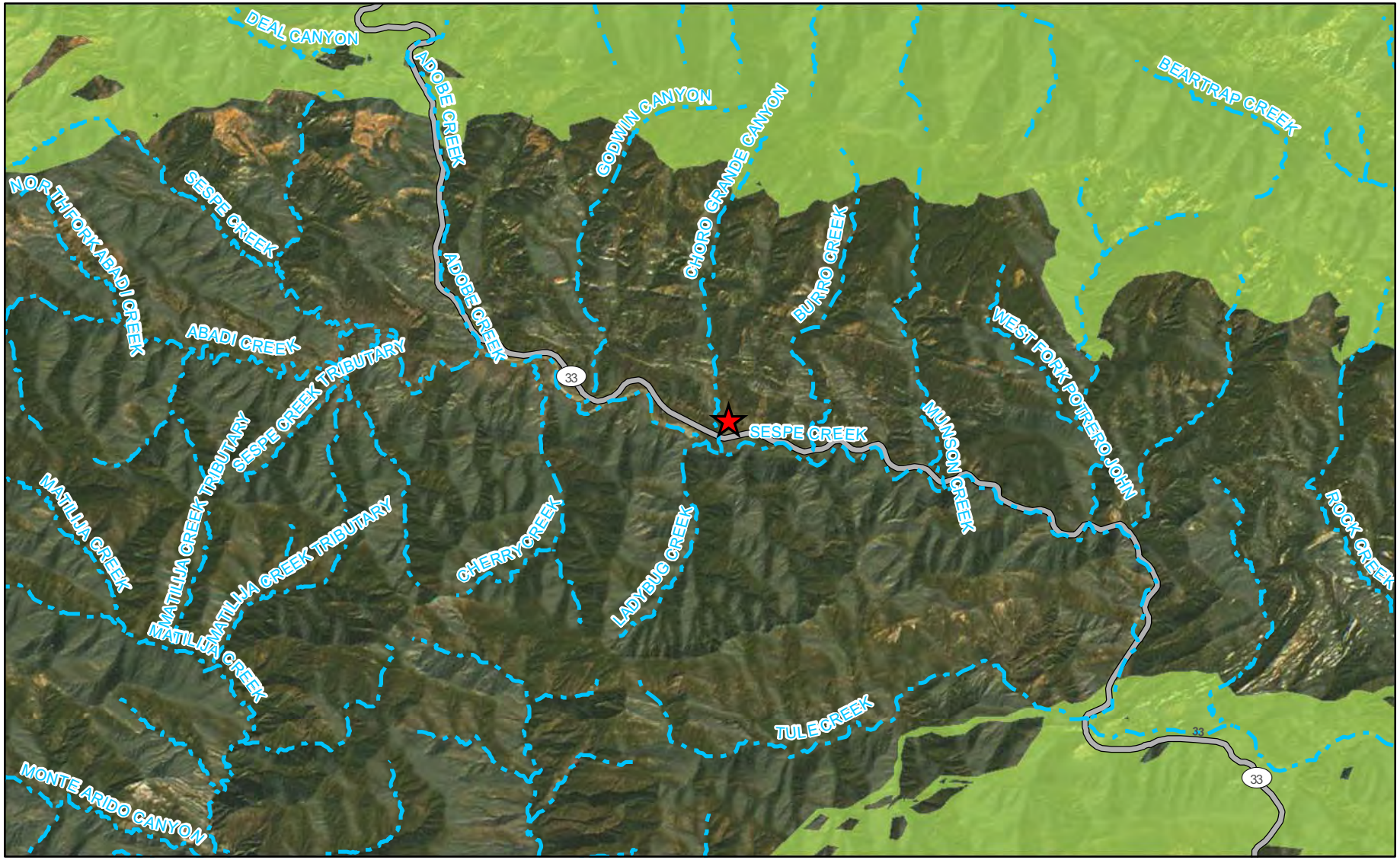
Sespe Creek (~1,000 feet to the south) and Chorro Grande Creek (~300 feet to the west) provide adequate cover and resources for local travel and for traveling to the adjacent regional level Castaic-Sierra Madre Landscape Linkage. However, neither of these connectivity features exist within the survey area/construction footprint. The study area contains wildlife habitat for local wildlife species; but no features exist that would facilitate wildlife movement.

Crossing Structures Table

Crossing Structures						
Map Key	Type of Crossing Structure	Passable?	Functional Group/Species Expected	Species Observed	Evidence	Comments
N/A	None					

Connectivity Barriers Table

Barriers			
Map Key	Barrier Type	Species/Functional Groups Affected	Comments
N/A	None		



Basemap Source: CIRGIS, 2007, and Map images copyright © 2009 ESRI and its licensors. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Additional layers from Ventura County Watershed Protection District, 2007 and Ventur County Resource Management Agency, 2008.

Legend

Project Location

Castaic - Sierra Madre Wildlife Corridor

N

0 1 2 Miles

Wildlife Connectivity Map

Figure 5

Section 4: Impact Assessment & Mitigation

4.1 Sufficiency of Biological Data

Additional information needed to make CEQA findings and develop mitigation measures:

None

Additional biology-related surveys or permits needed prior to issuance of land use permit:

None. The Biological Assessment contains adequate information to determine impacts and appropriate mitigation.

4.2 Impacts and Mitigation

A. Endangered, Threatened, or Rare Animal or Plant Species, or Their Habitats Project: PS-M; Cumulative: LS

No federally or state listed endangered, threatened, or rare animal or plant species were observed onsite. California condor (federal and state listed endangered) likely forage in the vicinity of the project site. The site does not occur in critical habitat for the California condor; however, its critical habitat is mapped less than five miles away (east and west) form the subject property. Breeding habitat for condor is not present onsite. The creation of a single-family rural residence as could occur under zoning for this area would not result in the direct elimination of foraging habitat for condor. Project effects on condor are considered a less than significant impact.

It is likely that birds that are protected by the California Fish and Game Code and the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act nest onsite.

Significance Finding – Project Impacts: The proposed project creates the potential to impact protected nesting birds as a result of subsequent development during the nesting season, and this would be considered a potentially significant, but mitigable impact.

Significance Finding – Cumulative Impacts: The proposed construction footprint is relatively small in comparison to the amount of preserved open space surrounding it. In addition, it is unlikely that the entire proposed construction footprint will actually be cleared of vegetation or impacted. Furthermore, substantial development in the vicinity is not expected due to the high proportion of land owned by the U.S. Forest Service. The cumulative impacts to California condor and nesting birds potentially using the construction footprint of the property is considered less than significant.

Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Any subsequent development should also be designed to avoid impacts to bird nesting habitat that may be occupied by active nests or raptor nests. To avoid impacts to nesting birds, development should also be conducted outside of the bird breeding season (February 1 - August 31).

MM1: Nesting Bird Surveys and Buffers

Mitigation Goal:

The goal is to reduce direct project impacts to protected nesting birds to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Action:

Grading and the initiation of construction shall either: a) take place outside of the bird nesting season (January 1 to September 30), or b) be subject to bird survey requirements. If development is proposed within nesting habitat and within the breeding season, pre-construction bird nesting surveys shall be conducted to determine the locations of nesting birds. Bird survey requirements include a nesting bird survey to be conducted by a qualified

biologist two weeks prior to the start of grading or construction. If a nesting bird or special-status species is located, consultation with the local CDFG representative shall occur to determine what avoidance actions may be taken. Generally, if an active bird nests is found, an approximate 100-foot buffer surrounding the nest(s) shall be flagged for avoidance. If any active raptor nests are found, typically a suitable buffer area of 250-500 feet from the nest shall be established until the nest becomes inactive (vacated). Disturbance can occur within the buffer area after the birds are no longer reliant on the nest.

Monitoring & Timing:

Bird surveys are required only for the start of grading or construction within the bird nesting season (January 1 to September 30). Surveys shall be conducted two weeks prior to site disturbance.

Standard of Success:

Success of this mitigation measure would be the avoidance of the bird nesting season, or conducting nesting bird surveys and avoidance of active nests. Implementation of this mitigation measure would reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

B. Wetland Habitats Project: LS; Cumulative: LS

No wetlands occur within the construction footprint, and Chorro Grande Canyon and Sespe Creek are more than 300 feet away from the construction footprint. In addition, a 100-foot buffer from Chorro Grande Canyon is recommended to avoid any potential impacts. Therefore, potential project impacts and cumulative impacts to wetland habitats and drainages onsite are considered less than significant.

C. Coastal Habitats Project: N; Cumulative: N

The project site is not located within or adjacent to the coastal zone, nor is there significant habitat connectivity between the survey area and the coastal zone.

D. Wildlife Movement and Connectivity (migration corridors) Project: LS; Cumulative: LS

The entire upper Sespe Creek watershed and surrounding mountains are almost entirely undeveloped, and wildlife access and movement within this area is unimpeded. The 10.1-acre potential disturbance footprint represents an insignificant area in comparison to the open space surrounding the site. Complete development of the proposed construction footprint would not affect wildlife movement, either locally or with respect to the more regional Castaic-Sierra Madre Wildlife Corridor. Therefore, potential project impacts and cumulative impacts to wildlife movement and connectivity onsite are considered less than significant.

E. Locally Important Species/Communities Project: PS-M; Cumulative: PS-M

One locally important wildlife species, Coast horned lizard (CDFG SSC), potentially uses the habitats within the small area of the construction footprint. Coast horned lizard is tracked by CNDDB more than five miles away form the project site; however, the property owner reported this species onsite. The construction footprint/study area contains 2.9 acres of chaparral that is likely habitat for coast horned lizard, of which all 2.9 acres could potentially be impacted as a result of the proposed project.

Two locally important plant species (Catalina mariposa lily and Mount Pinos larkspur) occur within the potential impact area. These plant species are not tracked within the 5- or 10-mile CNDDB search; however, Catalina mariposa lily is a CNPS List 4 species and Mount Pinos larkspur is a CNPS List 4 species and a Ventura County Locally Important Species. Catalina mariposa lily and Mount Pinos larkspur occupy the 0.39-acre site wildflower-rock field in the southern portion of the construction footprint, and few Catalina mariposa lily individuals were also observed in a small area in the

northwestern portion of the construction footprint in an opening of canyon live oak chaparral. These two areas onsite (including wildflower-rock field) containing locally rare plant species are located primarily within the fuel modification zone, and likely would be subject to mowing/weed whacking. Additional impacts could result from the introduction of non-native plant species.

Two rare plant communities - wildflower-rock field and canyon live oak chaparral - also occur within the potential impact area. These plant communities are not tracked within the 5- or 10-mile CNDDB search; however, wildflower-rock field is considered rare by CDFG (G2, S2.2) and is a Ventura County Locally Important Community. Potential disturbances include trampling, top soil removal, and mowing or disking activities associated with fuel modification. The proposed project could **potentially impact up to 0.4 acre of wildflower-rock field**. Canyon live oak chaparral is protected by the California Oak Woodlands Act, Section 21083.4 of the Public Resources Code. Canyon live oak individuals (which actually take the form of shrubs rather than trees) are also protected under the Ventura County Tree Ordinance. Potential disturbances to canyon live oak chaparral could include removal, thinning, and clearing under the large shrubs (potentially removing seedlings) associated with fuel modification. The proposed project could potentially impact up to 2.9 acres of canyon live oak chaparral; however, the three small structures anticipated to be built onsite will likely not *directly* impact any canyon live oak chaparral. Only *indirect* impacts associated with fuel modification are expected to affect this sensitive habitat. The maximum of 2.9 acre is not anticipated to be impacted onsite. Specifically, a total of **0.98 acre of indirect impact to canyon live oak chaparral is anticipated**, and the following summarizes the impacts associated with fuel modification for the proposed structures:

- Approximately 0.58 acre of indirect impacts would result from shrub thinning (decreased shrub density) within the 100-foot fuel modification zone around the residence to be built in the southwestern corner of the development area.
- Approximately 0.32 acre of indirect impacts would result within the 100-foot fuel modification zone from shrub thinning and limbing around the storage facility existing on the northeastern edge of the development area.
- Approximately 0.08 acre of indirect impacts would result within the 100-foot fuel modification zone from shrub thinning and limbing around the proposed shed in the northeastern corner of the development area. Very little fuel modification will be required in this area since the oak chaparral currently existing in this location is in the outer perimeter of the fuel modification zone and is already of low in density.

Significance Finding – Project Impacts: The proposed project could potentially impact locally important species and communities as a result of subsequent development, and this would be considered a potentially significant but mitigable impact.

Significance Finding – Cumulative Impacts: Potential impacts to locally important species and communities onsite could contribute to the continued loss of such species and communities in the region and would be considered a potentially significant but mitigable impact.

Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Any subsequent development within the proposed construction footprint should be designed to avoid impacts to any locally important species, plant communities, and Ventura County protected trees onsite. If impacts are unavoidable, all locally important plant species and communities that are not intended to be impacted during any construction activities shall be flagged off to minimize impacts to the maximum extent possible.

MM2: Include Wildflower-Rock Field and Setback in Restrictive Covenant

Mitigation Goal:

The goal is to reduce the project impacts to protected wildflower-rock field habitat, to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Action:

Subsequent development shall be designed to avoid any impacts to wildflower-rock field. Specifically, no burnable structures shall be developed within 100 feet from the wildflower-rock field. Situating structures at least 100 feet from wildflower-rock field will also avoid any required fuel modification associated with structures. The 0.4-acre wildflower-rock field existing within the proposed development footprint and a 100-foot setback shall be included with the restrictive covenant that will be placed on undeveloped areas of the property to minimize impacts to this sensitive plant community (MM2 on Figure 6).

MM3: Obtain Tree Permit and Restore Canyon Live Oak Chaparral

Mitigation Goal:

The goal is to reduce the project impacts to protected canyon live oak chaparral, which is also habitat for coast horned lizard, to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Action:

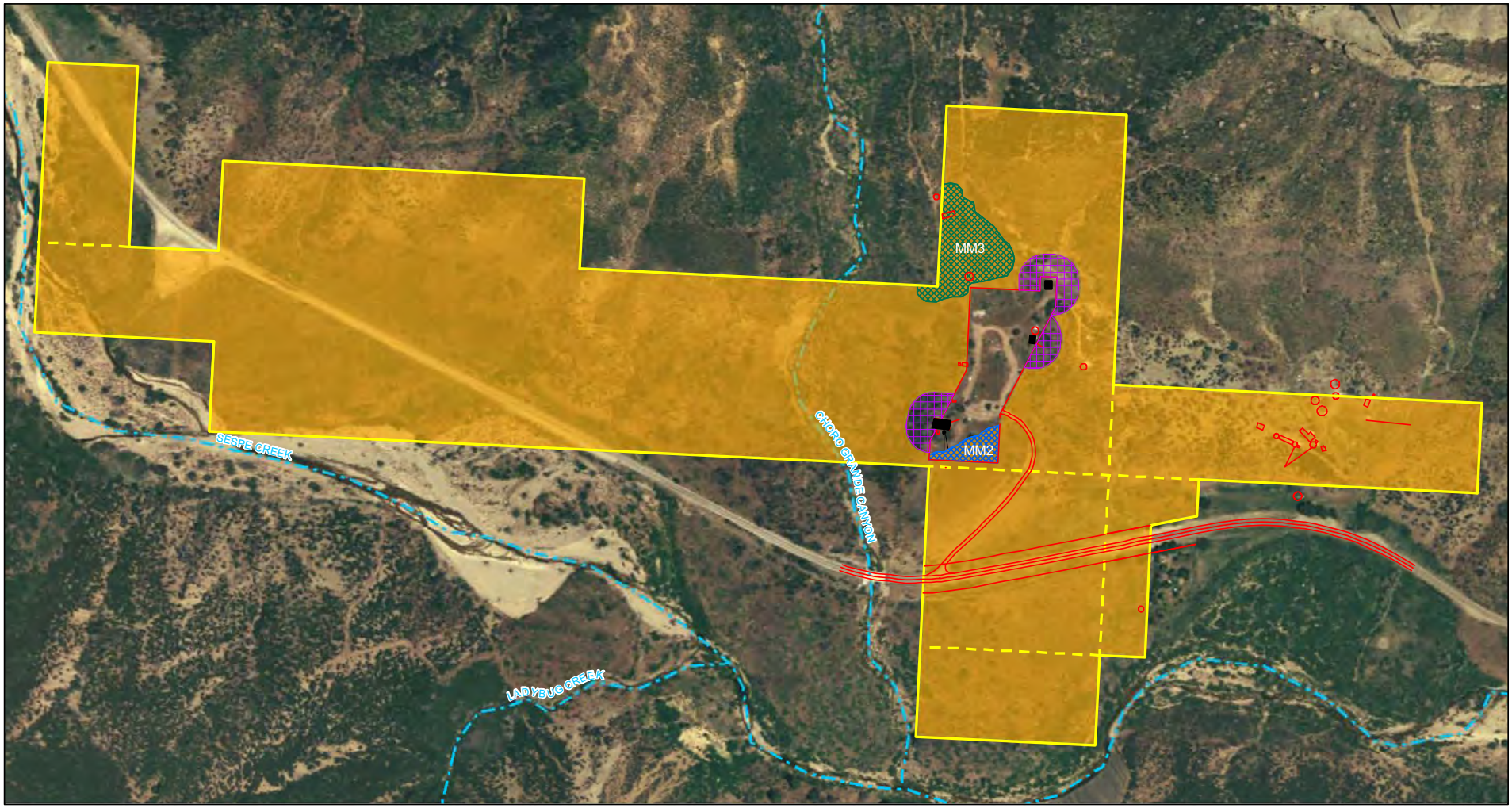
To mitigate for 0.98 acre of indirect impacts to canyon live oak chaparral existing onsite, a Ventura County Tree Permit shall be obtained. Mitigation shall also include the restoration of canyon live oak chaparral in the suitable mitigation area onsite, as indicated on Figure 6 (MM3), using gallon container plantings propagated from acorns collected onsite. Impacts to canyon live oak chaparral shall be mitigated by enhancing and restoring oak chaparral habitat and its functions that would be lost at a 2:1 mitigation ratio. Therefore, **approximately 1.96 acres of canyon live oak will be restored onsite**. A sufficient number of acorns shall be collected onsite for planting stock. Acorns shall be planted in containers or in the ground, as determined appropriate for canyon live oak. Container stock shall be grown to the appropriate size prior to planting in the revegetation area. Planted oaks shall be fenced from herbivores and shall be watered during the initial establishment period.

Monitoring & Timing:

During the first five years following planting, a qualified biologist shall evaluate the success of canyon live oak chaparral habitat establishment. Included shall be the preparation of an annual report detailing the revegetation program, methods used, monitoring performed, measurements of success, and recommendations. Supplemental plantings shall be performed as needed throughout the five year period in order to meet mitigation ratios.

Standard of Success:

The canyon live oak chaparral restoration shall be considered successful when the mitigation plantings are established and surviving for at least two years without supplemental irrigation. Success criteria shall be the establishment of the prescribed acreage of canyon live oak chaparral habitat meeting the 2:1 ratio, after five years following planting. Since fuel modification will only thin the oak habitat onsite and will not clear the habitat, mitigation shall be consistent with moderately dense stands existing within the immediate vicinity. Specifically, oak and native shrub restoration shall reach a minimum of 50% cover after the five year monitoring period. Invasive species shall not cover more than 10 percent of the mitigation area. Implementation of this measure would reduce impacts to a less than significant level.



Legend

- Construction Footprint
- Existing Lot Lines
- Recommended Restrictive Covenant
- Mitigation for Wildflower Field (decreases project footprint)
- Fuel Modification Zone
- Potential Mitigation Area for Canyon Live Oak Chaparral
- Approximate location of 1000-gallon septic tank with two 60-foot (max) leech lines
- Structure

N

0 200 400 800 Feet

Restrictive Covenant Map

Figure 6

Mosaic Land Planning, LLC

MM4: Conduct Pre-Construction Wildlife Surveys

Mitigation Goal:

The goal is to reduce the project impacts to sensitive wildlife species, such as coast horned lizard, to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Action:

Two weeks prior to construction within the project site, a pre-construction survey for special-status wildlife species shall be conducted by a qualified biologist and submitted to the Ventura County Planning Division. Locally important wildlife species or wildlife Species of Special Concern, which are not formally listed, would be captured by a qualified biologist, when possible, and relocated to adjacent appropriate habitat within the open space onsite or in suitable habitat adjacent to the project area. A silt fence shall be constructed at the edge of the grading footprint and the adjacent undisturbed areas to prevent animals, such as desert woodrat, coast horned lizard, and western whiptail, from returning into the construction area. CDFG and County shall be notified and consulted regarding the presence of a special-status wildlife species onsite. If a federally listed species is found prior to grading of the site, the USFWS shall also be notified. Only a USFWS approved biologist would be allowed to capture and relocate these animals.

Section 5: Conditions of Approval

Conditions of Approval (none)

Section 6: Photos

Photos	
Location South end of construction footprint **Map Key** P1 **View Direction** Northwest **Description** Cheatgrass grassland with ornamental trees on the right and left, scattered canyon live oaks at the edge of this proposed construction footprint in the background, and big sagebrush shrub in the foreground.	
Location Middle of construction footprint **Map Key** P2 **View Direction** Northwest **Description** Burned and dead single-leaf pinyons are present in the survey area. Canyon live oak shrubs are in the background. The access road is in the foreground.	

Photos	
Location Middle of construction footprint **Map Key** P3 **View Direction** East northeast **Description** Cheatgrass grassland.	
Location North end of construction footprint **Map Key** P4 **View Direction** North **Description** Cheatgrass grassland.	

Appendix One

Summary of Biological Resource Regulations

The Ventura County Planning Division, as “lead agency” under CEQA for issuing discretionary land use permits, uses the relationship of a potential environmental effect from a proposed project to an established regulatory standard to determine the significance of the potential environmental effect. This Appendix summarizes important biological resource regulations which are used by the Division’s biologists (consultants and staff) in making CEQA findings of significance:

Sensitive Status Species Regulations
Nesting Bird Regulations
Plant Community Regulations
Waters and Wetlands Regulations
Coastal Habitat Regulations
Wildlife Migration Regulations
Locally Important Species/Communities Regulations

Sensitive Status Species Regulations

Federally Protected Species

Ventura County is home to 29 federally listed endangered and threatened plant and wildlife species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regulates the protection of federally listed endangered and threatened plant and wildlife species.

FE (Federally Endangered): A species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

FT (Federally Threatened): A species that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

FC (Federal Candidate): A species for which USFWS has sufficient information on its biological status and threats to propose it as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but for which development of a proposed listing regulation is precluded by other higher priority listing activities.

FSC (Federal Species of Concern): A species under consideration for listing, for which there is insufficient information to support listing at this time. These species may or may not be listed in the future, and many of these species were formerly recognized as "Category-2 Candidate” species.

The USFWS requires permits for the ‘taking’ of any federally listed endangered or threatened species. Take is defined by the USFWS as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct; may include significant habitat modification or degradation if it kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns including breeding, feeding, or sheltering.”

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) does not provide statutory protection for candidate species or species of concern, but USFWS encourages conservation efforts to protect these species. USFWS can set up voluntary Candidate Conservation Agreements and Assurances, which provide non-Federal landowners (public and private) with the assurance that if they implement various conservation activities to protect a given candidate species, they will not be subject to additional restrictions if the species becomes listed under the ESA.

State Protected Species

The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) regulates the protection of endangered, threatened, and fully protected species listed under the California Endangered Species Act. Some species may be jointly listed under the State and Federal Endangered Species Acts.

SE (California Endangered): A native species or subspecies which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.

ST (California Threatened): A native species or subspecies that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as "rare" on or before January 1, 1985, is a "threatened species."

SFP (California Fully Protected Species): This designation originated from the State's initial effort in the 1960's to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds. Most fully protected species have also been listed as threatened or endangered species under the more recent endangered species laws and regulations.

SR (California Rare): A species, subspecies, or variety of plant is rare under the Native Plant Protection Act when, although not presently threatened with extinction, it is in such small numbers throughout its range that it may become endangered if its present environment worsens. Animals are no longer listed as rare; all animals listed as rare before 1985 have been listed as threatened.

SSC (California Species of Special Concern): Animals that are not listed under the California Endangered Species Act, but which nonetheless 1) are declining at a rate that could result in listing, or 2) historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist.

The CDFG requires permits for the taking of any State-listed endangered, threatened, or fully protected species. Section 2080 of the Fish and Game Code prohibits "take" of any species that the California Fish and Game Commission determines to be endangered or threatened. Take is defined in Section 86 of the Fish and Game Code as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill."

The California Native Plant Protection Act protects endangered and rare plants of California. Section 1908, which regulates plants listed under this act, states: “no person shall import into this state, or take, possess, or sell within this state, except as incident to the possession or sale of the real property on which the plant is growing, any native plant, or any part or product thereof, that the commission determines to be an endangered native plant or rare native plant, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.”

The California Endangered Species Act does not provide statutory protection for California species of special concern, but they should be considered during the environmental review process.

California Native Plant Society Listed Species

Plants with CNPS listings 1A, 1B and 2 should always be addressed in CEQA documents. Plants with CNPS listings 3 and 4 do not explicitly qualify for legal protection, but can be addressed in CEQA documents depending on the circumstances and opinion of the biologist conducting the assessment.

CNPS 1A: Plants presumed to be extinct because they have not been seen or collected in the wild in California for many years. This list includes plants that are both presumed extinct in California, as well as those plants which are presumed extirpated in California. A plant is extinct in California if it no longer occurs in or outside of California. A plant that is extirpated from California has been eliminated from California, but may still occur elsewhere in its range.

CNPS 1B: Plants that are rare throughout their range with the majority of them endemic to California. Most of the plants of List 1B have declined significantly over the last century.

CNPS 2: Plants that are rare throughout their range in California, but are common beyond the boundaries of California. List 2 recognizes the importance of protecting the geographic range of widespread species.

Plants identified on CNPS Lists 1A, 1B, and 2 meet the definitions of Sec. 1901, Chapter 10 (Native Plant Protection Act) or Secs. 2062 and 2067 (California Endangered Species Act) of the California Department of Fish and Game Code, and are eligible for state listing. They should be fully considered during preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA.

CNPS 3: A review list for plants for which there is inadequate information to assign them to one of the other lists or to reject them.

CNPS 4: A watch list for plants that are of limited distribution or infrequent throughout a broader area in California and their vulnerability or susceptibility to threat appears relatively low at this time.

Global and Subnational Rankings

Though not associated directly with legal protections, species have been given a conservation status rank by NatureServe, an international non-profit conservation organization that is the leading source for information about

rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems. The Ventura County Planning Division considers the following ranks as sensitive for the purposes of CEQA impact assessment (G = Global, S = Subnational or State):

G1 or S1 - Critically Imperiled
G2 or S2 – Imperiled
G3 or S3 - Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction

Locally Important Species

Locally important species' protections are addressed in a separate Appendix document, "Locally Important Species/Communities Regulations."

For lists of some of the species in Ventura County that are protected by the above regulations, go to www.ventura.org/rma/planning/bio_resources/index.htm.

Nesting Bird Regulations

The Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Code (3503, 3503.5, 3511, 3513 and 3800) protect most native birds. In addition, the federal and state endangered species acts protect some bird species listed as threatened or endangered. Project-related impacts to birds protected by these regulations would occur during the breeding season, because unlike adult birds, eggs and chicks are unable to escape impacts.

The MBTA implements various treaties and conventions between the U.S. and Canada, Japan, Mexico, and Russia for the protection of migratory birds, which occur in two of these countries over the course of one year. The Act maintains that it is unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture or kill; attempt to take, capture or kill; possess, offer to or sell, barter, purchase, deliver or cause to be shipped, exported, imported, transported, carried or received any migratory bird, part, nest, egg or product, manufactured or not. Bird species protected under the provisions of the MBTA are identified by the List of Migratory Birds (Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 10.13 as updated by the 1983 American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) Checklist and published supplements through 1995 by the USFWS).

CDFG Code 3513 upholds the MBTA by prohibiting any take or possession of birds that are designated by the MBTA as migratory nongame birds except as allowed by federal rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to the MBTA. In addition, there are CDFG Codes (3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3800) which further protect nesting birds and their parts, including passerine birds, raptors, and state "fully protected" birds.

NOTE: These regulations protect almost all *native nesting birds*, not just sensitive status birds.

Plant Community Regulations

Plant communities are provided legal protection when they provide habitat for protected species, when the community is in the coastal zone and qualifies as environmentally sensitive habitat area (ESHA), or when the community qualifies as locally important.

Global and Subnational Rankings

Though not associated directly with legal protections, plant communities have been given a conservation status rank by NatureServe, an international non-profit conservation organization that is the leading source for information about rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems. The Ventura County Planning Division considers the following ranks as sensitive for the purposes of CEQA impact assessment (G = Global, S = Subnational or State):

G1 or S1 - Critically Imperiled
G2 or S2 - Imperiled
G3 or S3 - Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction

CDFG Rare

Rare natural communities are those communities that are of highly limited distribution. These communities may or may not contain rare, threatened, or endangered species. Though the Native Plant Protection Act and the California Endangered Species Act provide no legal protection to plant communities, CDFG considers plant communities that

are ranked G1-G3 or S1-S3 (as defined above) to be rare or sensitive, and therefore these plant communities should be addressed during CEQA review.

Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas

The Coastal Act specifically calls for protection of "environmentally sensitive habitat areas" or ESHA, which it defines as: "Any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments" (Section 30107.5).

ESHA has been specifically defined in the Santa Monica Mountains. For projects in this location, the Coastal Commission, the agency charged with administering the Coastal Act, has developed a specific three-part test for determining whether habitat there should be considered coastal sage scrub/chaparral ESHA. A memo from a Coastal Commission biologist outlining this test can be found at: www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/bio_resources/ESHA_Santa_Monica_Mountains.pdf.

Locally Important Communities

The Ventura County Initial Study Assessment Guidelines defines a locally important community as one that is considered by qualified biologists to be a quality example characteristic of or unique to the County or region, with this determination being made on a case-by-case basis. The County has not developed a list of locally important communities, but has deemed oak woodlands to be a locally important community.

Waters and Wetlands Regulations

Numerous agencies control what can and cannot be done in or around streams and wetlands. If a project affects an area where water flows, ponds or is present even part of the year, it is likely to be regulated by one or more agencies. Many wetland or stream projects will require three main permits or approvals (in addition to CEQA compliance). These are:

- 404 Permit (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- 401 Certification (Regional Water Quality Control Board)
- Streambed Alteration Agreement (California Department of Fish and Game)

In addition, the Ventura County General Plan calls for protection of wetlands and there are several other federal, state and local permits that could be required when a project involves disturbance to wetlands or waters. For a more thorough explanation of wetland permitting, see the Ventura County's "Wetland Project Permitting Guide" at www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/prog_servs/bio_resources/FinalPDF.pdf.

404 Permit (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Most projects that involve streams or wetlands will require a 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act is the primary federal program regulating activities in wetlands. The Act regulates areas defined as "waters of the United States." This includes streams, wetlands in or next to streams, areas influenced by tides, navigable waters, lakes, reservoirs and other impoundments. For nontidal waters, USACE jurisdiction extends up to what is referred to as the "ordinary high water mark" as well as to the landward limits of adjacent Corps-defined wetlands, if present. The ordinary high water mark is an identifiable natural line visible on the bank of a stream or water body that shows the upper limit of typical stream flow or water level. The mark is made from the action of water on the streambank over the course of years.

Permit Triggers: A USACE 404 Permit is triggered by moving (discharging) or placing materials—such as dirt, rock, geotextiles, concrete or culverts—into or within USACE jurisdictional areas. This type of activity is also referred to as a "discharge of dredged or fill material."

401 Certification (Regional Water Quality Control Board)

If your project requires a USACE 404 Permit, then you will also need a Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) 401 Certification. The federal Clean Water Act, in Section 401, specifies that states must certify that any activity subject to a permit issued by a federal agency, such as the USACE, meets all state water quality standards.

In California, the state and regional water boards are responsible for certification of activities subject to USACE Section 404 Permits.

Permit Trigger: A RWQCB 401 Certification is triggered whenever a USACE 404 Permit is required, or whenever an activity could cause a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. or wetlands.

Streambed Alteration Agreement (California Department of Fish and Game)

If your project includes alteration of the bed, banks or channel of a stream, or the adjacent riparian vegetation, then you may need a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The California Fish and Game Code, Sections 1600-1616, regulates activities that would alter the flow, bed, banks, channel or associated riparian areas of a river, stream or lake—all considered “waters of the state.” The law requires any person, state or local governmental agency or public utility to notify CDFG before beginning an activity that will substantially modify a river, stream or lake.

Permit Triggers: A Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) is triggered when a project involves altering a stream or disturbing riparian vegetation, including any of the following activities:

- Substantially obstructing or diverting the natural flow of a river, stream or lake
- Using any material from these areas
- Disposing of waste where it can move into these areas

Some projects that involve routine maintenance may qualify for long-term maintenance agreements from CDFG. Discuss this option with CDFG staff.

Ventura County General Plan

The Ventura County General Plan contains policies which also strongly protect wetland habitats.

Biological Resources Policy 1.5.2-3 states**:**

> Discretionary development that is proposed to be located within 300 feet of a marsh, small wash, intermittent lake, intermittent stream, spring, or perennial stream (as identified on the latest USGS 7½ minute quad map), shall be evaluated by a County approved biologist for potential impacts on wetland habitats. Discretionary development that would have a significant impact on significant wetland habitats shall be prohibited, unless mitigation measures are adopted that would reduce the impact to a less than significant level; or for lands designated "Urban" or "Existing Community", a statement of overriding considerations is adopted by the decision-making body.

Biological Resources Policy 1.5.2-4 states:

> Discretionary development shall be sited a minimum of 100 feet from significant wetland habitats to mitigate the potential impacts on said habitats. Buffer areas may be increased or decreased upon evaluation and recommendation by a qualified biologist and approval by the decision-making body. Factors to be used in determining adjustment of the 100 foot buffer include soil type, slope stability, drainage patterns, presence or absence of endangered, threatened or rare plants or animals, and compatibility of the proposed development with the wildlife use of the wetland habitat area. The requirement of a buffer (setback) shall not preclude the use of replacement as a mitigation when there is no other feasible alternative to allowing a permitted use, and if the replacement results in no net loss of wetland habitat. Such replacement shall be "in kind" (i.e. same type and acreage), and provide wetland habitat of comparable biological value. On-site replacement shall be preferred wherever possible. The replacement plan shall be developed in consultation with California Department of Fish and Game.

Coastal Habitat Regulations

Ventura County’s Coastal Area Plan and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance, which constitute the "Local Coastal Program" (LCP) for the unincorporated portions of Ventura County’s coastal zone, ensure that the County's land use plans, zoning ordinances, zoning maps, and implemented actions meet the requirements of, and implement the provisions and polices of California’s 1976 Coastal Act at the local level.

Environmentally Sensitive Habitats

The Coastal Act specifically calls for protection of “environmentally sensitive habitat areas” or ESHA, which it defines as: “Any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments” (Section 30107.5).

Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states:

(a) "Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on such resources shall be allowed within such areas."

(b) "Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas, and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas."

There are three important elements to the definition of ESHA. First, a geographic area can be designated ESHA either because of the presence of individual species of plants or animals or because of the presence of a particular habitat. Second, in order for an area to be designated as ESHA, the species or habitat must be either rare or it must be especially valuable. Finally, the area must be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities.

Protection of ESHA is of particular concern in the southeastern part of Ventura County, where the coastal zone extends inland (~5 miles) to include an extensive area of the Santa Monica Mountains. The Coastal Commission, the agency charged with administering the Coastal Act, developed a specific three-part test for determining whether habitat in the Malibu area of the Santa Monica Mountains should be considered coastal sage scrub/chaparral ESHA. Given that Malibu is immediately adjacent to the Ventura County part of the Santa Monica Mountains, this three-part test can be used for assessing whether coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitat in the Ventura County coastal zone meets the definition of ESHA. A memo from a Coastal Commission biologist outlines this test and can be found at: www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/bio_resources/ESHA_Santa_Monica_Mountains.pdf.

The County’s Local Coastal Program outlines other specific protections to environmentally sensitive habitats in the Coastal Zone, such as to wetlands, riparian habitats and dunes. Protections in some cases are different for different segments of the coastal zone.

Copies of the Coastal Area Plan and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance can be found at: www.ventura.org/rma/planning/programs_services/local_coast/local_coast.htm.

Wildlife Migration Regulations

The Ventura County General Plan specifically includes wildlife migration corridors as an element of the region’s significant biological resources. In addition, protecting habitat connectivity is critical to the success of special status species and other biological resource protections. Potential project impacts to wildlife migration are analyzed by biologists on a case-by-case basis. The issue involves both a macro-scale analysis—where routes used by large carnivores connecting very large core habitat areas may be impacted—as well as a micro-scale analysis—where a road or stream crossing may impact localized movement by many different animals.

Locally Important Species/Communities Regulations

Locally important species/communities are considered to be significant biological resources in the Ventura County General Plan, thus one of the County’s threshold criteria for the evaluation of impacts to biological resources is whether the project impacts locally important species/communities.

Locally Important Species

The following criteria were developed with the assistance of local biologists:

Locally Important Animal Species Criteria

1. Taxa for whom habitat in Ventura County is crucial for their existence either globally or in Ventura County. This includes taxa for whom:
    - Populations in Ventura County represents 10% or more of the known extant global distribution; or

- In Ventura County, there are less than 6 element occurrences, or less than 1,000 individuals, or less than 2,000 acres.

2. Native taxa that are generally declining throughout their range and/or are in danger of extirpation in Ventura County.

Locally Important Plant Species Criteria

A locally important plant is a taxon that is declining throughout the extent of its range AND has a maximum of five (5) element occurrences in Ventura County.

Locally Important Animal and Plant Species Criteria

In some cases, to be determined on an individual basis, there are taxa whose population(s) do not qualify as locally important species; however, certain locations where a taxon occurs will be defined as locally important. This includes:

- If known, the published type locality for a holotype specimen.
- The edge of a taxon's range. This criteria does not apply to non-native taxa or those taxa whose range and population(s) size is expanding.

The County maintains a list of locally important species, which can be found on the Planning Division website at: www.ventura.org/rma/planning/programs_services/bio_resources/bio_resources.htm. *This list should not be considered comprehensive.* Any species that meets the criteria qualifies as locally important, whether or not it is included on this list.

Locally Important Communities

The Ventura County Initial Study Assessment Guidelines defines a locally important community as one that is considered by qualified biologists to be a quality example characteristic of or unique to the County or region, with this determination being made on a case-by-case basis. The County has not developed a list of locally important communities. Oak woodlands have however been deemed by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to be a locally important community.

The state passed legislation in 2001, the Oak Woodland Conservation Act, to emphasize that oak woodlands are a vital and threatened statewide resource. In response, the County of Ventura prepared and adopted an Oak Woodland Management Plan that recommended, among other things, amending the County's Initial Study Assessment Guidelines to include an explicit reference to oak woodlands as part of its definition of locally important communities. The Board of Supervisors approved this management plan and its recommendations.

Appendix Two

Observed Species Table

Species Observed				
Vascular Plants				
Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Native**	**Habit[1]**	**Family**
Adenostoma fasciculatum	Chamise	Yes	S	Rosaceae
Agoseris grandiflora	Mountain dandelion	Yes	PH	Asteraceae
Allophyllum gilioides ssp. *gilioides*	Straggling gilia	Yes	AH	Polemoniaceae
Amorpha californica var. *californica*	California false indigo	Yes	S	Fabaceae
Amsinckia menziesii var. *intermedia*	Rancher's fire	Yes	AH	Boraginaceae
Arctostaphylos glandulosa ssp. *mollis*	Santa Ynez Mountains manzanita	Yes	S	Ericaceae
Artemisia tridentata ssp. *tridentata*	Big sagebrush	Yes	S	Asteraceae
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrowleaf milkweed	Yes	PH	Apocynaceae
Avena barbata	Slender wild oat	No	AG	Poaceae
Balsamorhiza deltoidea	Balsamroot	Yes	PH	Asteraceae
Bloomeria crocea ssp. *crocea*	Goldenstars	Yes	PH	Themidaceae
Bromus carinatus var. *carinatus*	California brome	Yes	PG	Poaceae
Bromus diandrus	Ripgut grass	No	AG	Poaceae
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft chess	No	AG	Poaceae
Bromus madritensis ssp. *rubens*	Red brome	No	AG	Poaceae
Bromus tectorum var. *tectorum*	Cheat grass	No	AG	Poaceae
Calochortus catalinae	**Catalina mariposa lily**	Yes	PH	Liliaceae
Calochortus venustus	Butterfly mariposa lily	Yes	PH	Liliaceae
Calystegia malacophylla ssp. *pedicellata*	Sierra morning-glory	Yes	PV	Convolvulaceae
Cardaria pubescens	White-top	No	PH	Brassicaceae
Castilleja applegatei ssp. *martinii*	Martin Indian paintbrush	Yes	PH	Orobanchaceae
Ceanothus leucodermis	Chaparral whitethorn	Yes	S	Rhamnaceae
Centaurea melitensis	Tocalote	No	AH	Asteraceae
Centaurea solstitialis	Yellow star-thistle	No	AH	Asteraceae
Cercocarpus betuloides var. *betuloides*	Birchleaf mountain mahogany	Yes	S	Rosaceae
Chaenactis glabriuscula var. *glabriuscula*	Common yellow pincushion	Yes	AH	Asteraceae
Chenopodium californicum	California goosefoot	Yes	PH	Chenopodiaceae
Chrysothamnus nauseosus ssp. *consimilis*	Common rubber rabbitbrush	Yes	S	Asteraceae
Cirsium occidentale var. *californicum*	California thistle	Yes	BH	Asteraceae
Clarkia purpurea ssp. *quadrivulnera*	Four-spotted purple clarkia	Yes	AH	Onagraceae
*Convolvulus arvensis**	Bindweed	Yes	PV	Convolvulaceae
Cordylanthus rigidus ssp. *rigidus*	Rigid Birds-beak	Yes	AH	Orobanchaceae
Cryptantha clevelandii	Cleveland forget-me-not	Yes	AH	Boraginaceae
Delphinium parryi* ssp. *purpureum	**Mount Pinos larkspur**	Yes	PH	Ranunculaceae
Eriodictyon crassifolium var. *nigrescens*	Thickleaf yerba santa	Yes	S	Hydrophyllaceae
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. *polifolium*	Hoary California buckwheat	Yes	S	Polygonaceae
Eriophyllum confertiflorum var. *confertiflorum*	Golden yarrow	Yes	PH	Asteraceae
Erodium cicutarium	Redstem filaree	No	AH	Geraniaceae
Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia var. *chrysanthemifolia*	Common eucrypta	Yes	AH	Hydrophyllaceae
Fremontodendron californicum ssp.	California flannel bush	Yes	S	Sterculiaceae

[1] Habit definitions: AG = annual grass or graminoid; PG = perennial grass or graminoid; AH = annual herb; PH = perennial herb; PV = perennial vine; S= shrub; T = tree.

Species Observed				
californicum				
Galium andrewsii ssp. *andrewsii*	Pine mat	Yes	PH	Rubiaceae
Galium angustifolium ssp. *angustifolium*	Chaparral bedstraw	Yes	S	Rubiaceae
Hesperoyucca whipplei ssp. *whipplei*	Our Lord's candle	Yes	S	Agavaceae
Heterotheca sessiliflora ssp. *echioides*	Hairy golden-aster	Yes	PH	Asteraceae
Hirschfeldia incana	Summer mustard	No	PH	Brassicaceae
Juncus mexicanus	Mexican rush	Yes	PG	Juncaceae
Juniperus californica	California juniper	Yes	S	Cupressaceae
Lessingia filaginifolia var. *filaginifolia*	California cudweed-aster	Yes	PH	Asteraceae
Leymus triticoides	Creeping wildrye	Yes	PG	Poaceae
Lomatium dasycarpum ssp. *dasycarpum*	Hairy wing-fruit	Yes	PH	Apiaceae
Lonicera subspicata var. *denudata*	Southern honeysuckle	Yes	S	Caprifoliaceae
Lotus procumbens var. *procumbens*	Silky California broom	Yes	PH	Fabaceae
Lotus purshianus var. *purshianus*	Spanish clover	Yes	AH	Fabaceae
Lotus scoparius var. *scoparius*	Deerweed	Yes	PH	Fabaceae
Lupinus bicolor	Bicolored lupine	Yes	AH	Fabaceae
Lupinus sp. (no flowers)	Lupine	Yes	AH	Fabaceae
Marah fabaceus var. *agrestis*	California man-root	Yes	PV	Cucurbitaceae
Marrubium vulgare	White horehound	No	S	Lamiaceae
Melica imperfecta	Coast melic grass	Yes	PG	Poaceae
Nassella lepida	Foothill needlegrass	Yes	PG	Poaceae
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler	Yes	PH	Veronicaceae
*Penstemon heterophyllus*var. *heterophyllus*	Mountain penstemon	Yes	PH	Veronicaceae
Phacelia imbricata ssp. *imbricata*	Mountain phacelia	Yes	PH	Hydrophyllaceae
Phacelia ramosissima	Branching phacelia	Yes	PH	Hydrophyllaceae
Phoradendron villosum	Oak mistletoe	Yes	PH	Viscaceae
Pinus monophylla	Singleleaf pinyon	Yes	T	Pinaceae
Platystemon californicus var. *californicus*	Cream cups	Yes	AH	Papaveraceae
Populus fremontii ssp. *fremontii*	Fremont cottonwood	Yes	T	Salicaceae
Quercus chrysolepis	Canyon live oak	Yes	T	Fagaceae
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	Yes	S	Rhamnaceae
Rhamnus tomentella ssp. *tomentella*	Hoary coffeeberry	Yes	S	Rhamnaceae
Romneya coulteri	Coulter Matilija poppy	Yes	S	Papaveraceae
Salix exigua	Narrow-leaved Willow	Yes	S	Salicaceae
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	Yes	T	Salicaceae
Salvia apiana	White sage	Yes	S	Lamiaceae
Salvia columbariae	Chia	Yes	AH	Lamiaceae
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	Yes	S	Lamiaceae
Sambucus mexicana	Blue elderberry	Yes	S	Caprifoliaceae
Sisymbrium irio	London rocket	No	AH	Brassicaceae
Solanum umbelliferum	Blue witch	Yes	S	Solanaceae
Ulmus sp.	Elm	No	T	Ulmaceae
Uropappus lindleyi	Silver puffs	Yes	AH	Asteraceae
Verbena lasiostachys var. *lasiostachys*	Western verbena	Yes	AH	Verbenaceae
Vulpia myuros var. *myuros*	Rattail fescue	No	AG	Poaceae

Species Observed			
Animals			
Scientific Name (Genus species)	Common Name	Native (1)	Notes (2)
Reptiles			
Uta stansburiana	Common side-blotched lizard	Yes	
Birds			
Aphelocoma californica	Western scrub-jay	Yes	
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk	Yes	
Callipepla californica	California quail	Yes	
Euphagus cyanocephalus	Brewer's blackbird	Yes	
Mammals			
Canis latrans	Coyote	Yes	Scat observed
Neotoma macrotus	Large-eared woodrat	Yes	Midden observed
Sylvilagus audubonii	Audubon's cottontail	Yes	

Attachment A. CNDDB Reported Species Within 5 and 10 Miles of 22048, 22050 Maricopa Highway, Ojai, California

Scientific Name	Common Name	G-Rank	S-Rank	Federal List	State List	CDFG/ CNPS	Blooming Period	Distance
Animals								
Actinemys marmorata pallida	Southwestern pond turtle	G3G4T2T3Q	S2	None	None	SC	-	5 & 10 mile radius
Anaxyrus californicus	Arroyo toad	G2G3	S2S3	Endangered	None	SC	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Danaus plexippus (overwintering)	Monarch butterfly	G5	S3	None	None	None	-	10 mi radius
Falco mexicanus	Prairie falcon	G5	S3	None	None	None	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Gila orcuttii	Arroyo chub	G2	S2	None	None	SC	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Gymnogyps californianus	California condor	G1	S1	Endangered	Endangered	None	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary bat	G5	S4?	None	None	None	-	10 mi radius
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus	Southern steelhead - SoCal ESU	G5T2Q	S2	Endangered	None	SC	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Phrynosoma coronatum (blainvillii)	Coast horned lizard	G4G5	S3S4	None	None	SC	-	10 mi radius
Rana draytonii	California red-legged frog	G4T2T3	S2S3	Threatened	None	SC	-	10 mi radius
Thamnophis hammondii	Two-striped garter snake	G3	S2	None	None	SC	-	5 & 10 mi radius
Plants								
Acanthoscyphus parishii var. *abramsii*	Abrams' oxytheca	G4?T2	S2.2	None	None	1B.2	JUN-SEP	10 & 5 mi radius
Calochortus palmeri var. *palmeri*	Palmer's mariposa-lily	G2T2	S2.1	None	None	1B.2	MAY-JUL	5 & 10 mi radius
Calochortus weedii var. *vestus*	Late-flowered mariposa-lily	G3G4T2	S2.2	None	None	1B.2	JUN-JUL	10 mi radius
Chorizanthe blakleyi	Blakley's spineflower	G2	S2.3	None	None	1B.3	APR-JUN	10 mi radius
Delphinium umbraculorum	Umbrella larkspur	G2G3	S2S3.3	None	None	1B.3	MAY-JUL	5 &10 mi radius
Fritillaria ojaiensis	Ojai fritillary	G1	S1.2	None	None	1B.2	APR-MAY	10 mi radius
Imperata brevifolia	California satintail	G2	S2.1	None	None	2.1	SEP-DEC	10 mi radius
Layia heterotricha	Pale-yellow layia	G2G3	S2S3.1	None	None	1B.1	MAR-JUN	5 & 10 mi radius
Monardella linoides ssp. *oblonga*	Tehachapi monardella	G5T2	S2.2	None	None	1B.3	JUN-AUG	5 &10 mi radius
Navarretia ojaiensis	Ojai navarretia	G1	S1	None	None	1B.1	APR-JUN	10 mi radius
Nolina cismontana	Peninsular nolina	G1	S1.1	None	None	1B.2	APR-JUN	10 mi radius
Sidalcea neomexicana	Salt Spring checkerbloom	G4?	S2S3	None	None	2.2	APR-JUN	10 mi radius
-	Southern Calif. steelhead stream	G?	SNR	None	None	None	-	10 mi radius