

4.3 Biological Resources

This section evaluates the biological resources impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project. The term “biological resources” refers to both botanical and wildlife communities on the proposed project site. Potential impacts addressed in this section include direct and indirect impacts to sensitive plant and wildlife species, sensitive natural communities, wetlands, and wildlife movement corridors; and conflicts with local policies or ordinances and habitat conservation plans. This section is based on information and analyses from the Biological Assessment prepared for the proposed project site by L&L Environmental (2010), which utilized and incorporated research and data contained in the following documents: 1) San Dimas Northern Foothills Development and Infrastructure Study (LSA 1998); 2) Northern Foothills Implementation Program, Program Environmental Impact Report (NF-PEIR) (RBF 1999); 3) Glendora Ranch Biological Report (Chambers Group 2001); 4) Special Status Plant Species Survey, Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Update, Tree Constraints/Mature Significant Tree Survey, and review of Jurisdictional Areas, TTM 70583, City of San Dimas, California (L&L 2009) and 5) Vegetation Mapping, Delineation Map and Initial Study application (Bonterra 2008). These documents are included in Appendix C of this EIR.

4.3.1 Environmental Setting

4.3.1.1 Biological Survey Methods

The Biological Assessment prepared for the proposed project (herein referred to as BA) consists of: 1) a records search and literature review conducted to determine what species of concern are located within the project site vicinity and the proximity of the closest documented special status species; 2) a field reconnaissance to identify plants and animals on the proposed project site and to determine the presence or absence of habitat for species of concern; and 3) focused surveys for special status plant species, coastal California gnatcatcher, southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell’s vireo, California red-legged frog, quino checkerspot butterfly, and mature trees. Pertinent literature incorporated into the BA includes the studies listed in the above paragraph. This literature is incorporated by reference pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15150 and is discussed, analyzed and summarized in the Biological Assessment (L&L 2010).

As shown on Figure 4.3-1, the survey area for the BA includes approximately 314± acres, consisting of the 270 acre Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 70583, and two additional off-site parcels, both located on the southern boundary of the survey area. The larger of the two additional parcels (Parcel A) totaled approximately 38 acres and is located immediately adjacent to the southeast corner of the TTM. The proposed project proposes no development within Parcel A and would not impact this area. The smaller of the two additional parcels (Parcel B), totals approximately 6 acres and is located immediately adjacent to the southwest corner of the TTM. Approximately 2.83 acres of Parcel B falls within the proposed easement for the project and would be disturbed. In total, the proposed project would disturb a total of ±90 acres of the survey area, including the 2.83 acre easement. The remaining TTM area would be divided into various open space uses. An additional 0.18-acre offsite area on the eastern side of the project site would be disturbed by the creation of an off-site cul-de-sac for the purposes of fire department access. This off-site improvement would be located on land owned by the County of Los Angeles. As shown on Figure 4.3-1, the “development area” (displayed with a red boundary) includes the 90± acre project disturbance area and fuel modification zones. Impacts to biological

resources within the fuel modification zones were evaluated and included in the project impact calculations and mitigation. This includes areas where the fuel modification currently extends into the 83-acre remainder parcel. A more detailed discussion of the biological survey methods employed in the BA, is included in Appendix C of this EIR.

4.3.1.2 Vegetation Communities

Eleven vegetation communities are present within the proposed project site: coastal sage scrub, mixed chaparral, coastal sage/mixed chaparral, non-native grassland, southern sycamore riparian woodland, coast live oak woodland, California walnut woodland, elderberry scrub, non-native eucalyptus woodland, ornamental, and disturbed/ruderal. These vegetation communities are discussed below and identified in Figure 4.3-1. The acreage of the vegetation communities that occur on site are shown in Table 4.3-1. As shown in Figure 4.3-1 and Table 4.3-1, many of these vegetation communities co-exist within the same portions of the proposed project site.

A description of each vegetation community found on the project site is provided below.

Table 4.3-1 Proposed Project Site Vegetation Communities

Vegetation Community	Survey Area Acreage ⁽¹⁾
Coastal Sage Scrub	10.12
Coastal Sage Scrub/Mixed Chaparral	70.93
Coastal Sage Scrub/Non-native Grassland	25.82
Coastal Sage Scrub/Elderberry Scrub	2.60
Mixed Chaparral	0.18
Mixed Chaparral/ Non-native Grassland	25.44
Mixed Chaparral/Ornamental	0.69
Non-native Grassland	70.39
Non-native Grassland/Ornamental	2.23
Southern Sycamore Riparian Woodland/Coast Live Oak/California Walnut Woodland	6.52
Southern Sycamore Riparian Woodland/Coast Live Oak	1.85
Elderberry Scrub	10.40
Coast Live Oak/ California Walnut Woodland	62.05
California Walnut Woodland	4.05
Ornamental	11.05
Disturbed	8.66
Developed	1.10
Total	314.08

Source: L&L Biological Assessment 2010 (Appendix C)

(1) The biological resources survey area includes the 270 acre project site, the 0.18-acre emergency access turnaround and two additional off-site parcels, both located on the southern boundary of the survey area and owned by the project applicant.

Coastal Sage Scrub

Coastal sage scrub typically contains drought-deciduous shrubs with small leaves. California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *foliolosum*) and California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) dominate this vegetation community. On the northern portion of the proposed project site, a mixture of disturbed to relatively undisturbed coastal sage scrub is present. Most of the coastal sage scrub located in the northern area of project site mixes with non-native grasslands and mixed chaparral (Figure 4.3-1). In the central portion of the proposed project site, coastal sage scrub mixes with elderberry scrub. Plant densities range from 20-80 percent cover depending on slope exposure, level of disturbance, and other factors. Native shrubs and other conspicuous plants observed in the coastal sage scrub community on the proposed project site include laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), white sage (*Salvia apiana*), coast prickly pear (*Opuntia littoralis*), deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*) and California brickellbush (*Brickellia californica*). The coast prickly pear is part of the coastal sage scrub community although it differs from coastal sage scrub in plant height and cover and by the inclusion of substantial patches of prickly pear. On some south facing slopes within the project site the coastal sage scrub habitat is dominated by coast prickly pear.

A matrix of open patches found within typical coastal sage scrub areas are inhabited with native low-growing annuals. Due to invasive non-native grass cover throughout most coastal sage scrub areas on the project site, large open patches inhabited with native annual cover are relatively scarce. Annuals observed in small openings and along unpaved road or trail edges include slender tarweed (*Deinandra fasciculata*), wishbone bush (*Mirabilis californica*), wild hyacinth (*Dichelostemma capitatum*), slender pectocarya (*Pectocarya linearis*), dot-seed plantain (*Plantago erecta*), lilac mariposa lily (*Calochortus splendens*), cliff malacothrix (*Malacothrix saxatilis*) and soap plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*). Coastal sage scrub is considered a sensitive natural community by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) because of its limited distribution, decline in the area, and because this habitat supports numerous native species including the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher.

Mixed Chaparral

Mixed chaparral typically contains a diverse group of evergreen woody plants, mostly inhabited by sclerophyllous shrubs with broad leaves. A common associate of this community on the proposed project site is chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*). Other shrubs observed in this community include toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), lemonadeberry (*Rhus integrifolia*), thick-leaved lilac (*Ceanothus crassifolius*), hollyleaf cherry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*) and spiny redberry (*Rhamnus crocea*). Other plants observed in the more open mixed chaparral areas include sawtooth goldenbush (*Hazardia squarrosa*), sticky monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*), southern honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata*), currant (*Ribes* species), wild cucumber (*Marah macrocarpus*) and chaparral yucca (*Yucca whipplei*). Mixed chaparral is present throughout much of the undisturbed portions of the proposed project site (particularly in the center of the project site), on hillsides and ridge tops, and is mixed with coastal sage scrub areas dominated by California buckwheat. Commonly, mixed chaparral areas can contain virtually impenetrable thickets up to ten feet in height. Most mixed chaparral areas on the proposed project site are less densely vegetated, probably due to past clearing, grazing, ranching and recreational uses. A poorly developed understory is usually present in association with mixed chaparral areas, but on the proposed project site, non-native grass cover has invaded most mixed chaparral areas. Annuals observed along some road edges and other open mixed chaparral areas include golden yarrow (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum*),

farewell-to-spring (*Clarkia bottae*), California fuchsia (*Epilobium cannum*), scarlet larkspur (*Delphinium cardinale*), purple nightshade (*Solanum xanti*), California everlasting (*Gnaphalium californicum*) and perezia (*Acourtia microcephalla*). Mixed chaparral is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Coastal Sage/Mixed Chaparral

The coastal sage/mixed chaparral vegetation community is a mixture of sclerophyllous low chaparral shrubs and drought-deciduous sage scrub species, and is regarded as a transitional area between the two communities. The coastal sage/mixed chaparral community contains floristic elements of both coastal sage scrub and lower chaparral, and is present within the northern two-thirds of the proposed project site, away from coast live oak and California walnut woodland. Many native shrubs typically associated with this vegetation community are present on the project site, including chamise, laurel sumac, spiny redberry, sugar bush (*Rhus ovata*), white sage and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*). Other conspicuous plants observed include blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), cotton-thorn (*Tetradymia comosa*), lanceleaf dudleya (*Dudleya lanceolata*), cudweed aster (*Lessingia filaginifolia*), and fiesta flower (*Pholistoma auritum*). Coastal sage/Mixed Chaparral is considered a sensitive natural community by the CDFG because it contains elements of coastal sage scrub, which supports numerous native species including the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher.

Non-native Grassland

Non-native grassland is dominated by native and mostly non-native grass species, and may include native and non-native forbs and other low-growing annuals. On the proposed project site, areas containing non-native grassland occur in the northern portion and co-occur with a mixture of coastal sage/mixed chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and mixed chaparral. In addition, non-native grassland occurs on the southern half of the proposed project site within coast live oak woodland and California walnut woodland understory. The most commonly observed species are rippgut (*Bromus diandrus*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), softchess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), common wild oat (*Avena fatua*) and Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*). A mixture of native and non-native low-growing annuals is present within non-native grassland areas that are less densely inhabited with tall weedy species. However, many areas of the proposed project site are so densely impacted by non-native grassland that many native annuals are uncommon or were not observed away from road edges. Non-native grassland is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Southern Sycamore Riparian Woodland

Southern sycamore riparian woodland is dominated by western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). On the proposed project site, western sycamores are present as mostly scattered trees within canyon bottoms growing alongside California black walnut and coast live oak trees. This community was primarily observed in the northwest portion of the project site within a low-relief drainage area. Although commonly found in this community, no mulefat or willow occurs on the proposed project site. Southern sycamore riparian woodland is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Coast Live Oak Woodland

The coast live oak woodland vegetation community consists of evergreen woodlands dominated by coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), found mostly on north-facing slopes and shaded ravines. A diverse shrub understory is usually present. On the proposed project site, coast live oak woodland is mostly present on the southern half of the site in canyons and low-relief drainages. On some hillsides with the

project site, coast live oak woodland mixes with California black walnut woodland, southern sycamore riparian woodland and Eucalyptus woodland, especially along the western site boundary. Non-native grasses dominate the understory of most coast live oak trees, but other plants observed included, but were not limited to, the following: poison oak, spiny redberry and mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*). Coast live oak woodland is not considered a sensitive natural community.

California Walnut Woodland

California walnut woodlands are characterized by the presence of California walnut (*Juglans californica*). On the proposed project site, California walnut trees are present mostly as open-canopied individual trees or small stands. On the proposed project site, California walnut woodland also intergrades with denser closed-canopied coast live oak woodland, especially within canyon drainages. The understory of this community consists mainly of non-native grassland and low-growing annuals and shrubs associated with adjacent coastal sage scrub and/or mixed chaparral. The Californian walnut woodland vegetation community is considered a sensitive vegetation community by the CDFG because it supports sensitive species, such as Cooper's hawk, and is typically limited to drainages and/or areas that receive regular water. This habitat is also considered sensitive due to its limited distribution and its overall decline in southern California.

Elderberry Scrub

The Elderberry Scrub community is characterized by the presence and dominance of Mexican elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*). On the proposed project site, Mexican elderberry is the dominant shrub in this community and occurs in association with poison oak. The understory consists mainly of non-native grassland and low-growing annuals and some shrubs associated with adjacent coastal sage scrub and/or mixed chaparral. Elderberry scrub is found mainly on the southwestern part of the proposed project site on western and northwestern facing slopes. Elderberry scrub is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Non-Native Eucalyptus Woodland

Eucalyptus trees, native to Australia, are commonly found in southern California, and have been widely utilized as shade trees since the 1850s. A grove of mature eucalyptus trees is present on the central portion of the proposed project site. At the southern end of this grove, Eucalyptus trees mix with other native trees including coast live oak and California black walnut. Although eucalyptus trees are non-native, they provide important nesting locations for raptors and other birds in the area. Non-native eucalyptus woodland is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Ornamental

Non-native ornamental landscaping is present on portions of the proposed project site, mostly in association with an existing and occupied residential structure and an abandoned equestrian center. Various ornamental trees and shrubs, including gumtree (*Eucalyptus* species), ash (*Fraxinus* species), olive (*Olea europea*), pine (*Pinus* species), Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*), Palo Verde (*Parkinsonia* species) and Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) are present. Additional ornamental shrubs and trees are present along the southern boundary of the proposed project site, in association with previous residential land uses in this area. Ornamental landscaping is not considered a sensitive natural community.

Disturbed/Ruderal

Disturbed habitat on the proposed project site includes areas that contain mostly non-native plant species including ornamentals and ruderal exotics. Some non-native, weedy species have invaded areas along existing road edges or previously disturbed areas. The most common invasive plants that occur on the proposed project site include mustards (*Hirschfeldia* and/or *Sisymbrium* species), red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), totalote (*Centaurea melitensis*) and non-native grasses. Other plant species observed include Palmer's pigweed (*Amaranthus palmeri*), annual sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), milk thistle (*Silybum marianum*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), prickly-lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), sow-thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*), and horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*). Native plants that are tolerant of disturbed areas on the proposed project site include fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii* var. *intermedia*), vinegar weed (*Trichostemma lanceolatum*), doveweed (*Eremocarpus setigerus*), and horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*). Disturbed habitat is not considered a sensitive natural community.

4.3.1.3 Sensitive Plant and Animal Species

Certain plants and animals have been listed as threatened or endangered under the state or federal Endangered Species Act. Other species have not been formally listed, but declining populations or habitat availability are reasons for concern in regard to their long-term viability. These species are included in lists compiled by resource management agencies or private conservation organizations. For the purposes of this EIR, "special status" species include those species that have been recognized by either federal or state resource management agencies or conservation organizations as having special management needs due to limited distribution, limited numbers, or significant population declines associated with natural or manmade causes. Special status species include those designated as endangered, threatened, rare, protected, sensitive, or species of special concern according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), CDFG, or applicable regional plans, policies, or regulations. Special status plant and wildlife species that have the potential to occur on the proposed project site are discussed below.

Special Status Plant Species

Thirty-six special status plant species were identified in the BA as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the proposed project site. Based upon surveys reviewed and conducted by L&L Environmental during preparation of the BA and the presence or absence of specific native habitats on the project site, special status species were determined to have a varied potential of occurring on the proposed project site. The list of special status plant species was compared to the NF-PEIR to ensure that all plant species with potential to exist on the proposed project site were identified.

Special status plant species with the potential to occur on the proposed project site are identified in Table 4.3-2. As shown in this table, two special status plant species were observed on the proposed project site: Plummer's mariposa lily and southern California black walnut. Three Plummer's mariposa lily individuals were observed along the eastern project site boundary and approximately 138 southern California black walnut trees occur along the western project site boundary. Figure 4.3-2 identifies the location of California black walnut trees on the proposed project site.

Table 4.3-2 Special Status Plant Species

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Flower Season	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Symphotrichum greatae</i> Greata's aster	Perennial herb. Mesic Canyons, Broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, riparian woodland. Between 984-6888 feet elevation.	June-October	Fed: none Ca: S2.3 CNPS: List 1B.3	MODERATE – Suitable habitat. Late blooming species Located 1.5 miles north near Big Dalton Canyon Dam.
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i> Braunton's milk vetch	Scattered in Southern California Foothills, usually in chaparral. Also coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, recent burns or disturbed areas; Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange County; restricted to calcium carbonate soils. Elevation range below 2100 feet.	January - August	Fed: END Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	LOW-ABSENT – No suitable soils. Closest record 5 miles northwest.
<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i>davinsonii</i> Davinson's saltscale	Correct identification is uncertain; coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub on alkaline soils; Channel Islands, coastal Southern California, also very uncommon in San Jacinto Val near Lakeview (Riverside County).	April-October	Fed: none Ca: S2 CNPS: List 1B.2	ABSENT – Site lacks alkali soils. Closest record 6 miles southwest.
<i>Berberis nevinii</i> (<i>Mahonia nevinii</i>) Nevin's barberry	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian scrub on sandy or gravelly soils usually below 2700 feet; scattered localities in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties.	March – June (can ID all year)	Fed: END Ca: 2.2, END CNPS: List 1B.1	LOW – Not observed (readily identifiable, all year). Potential habitat. Closest record 6 miles north.
<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i> Thread-leaved brodiaea	Grasslands, vernal pools /alkali sink in inland valleys; often on upland heavy clay soils nearer coast; scattered in Southern California foothills and valleys (Los Angeles to San Bernardino and San Diego Counties), below 2500 feet elevation.	May -June	Fed: THR Ca: S2.1 END CNPS: List 1B.1	MODERATE – Not found (searched for specifically), no similar plant associations as on adjacent site. Potential habitat. Critical habitat.
<i>California macrophyllum</i> Round-leaved filaree	Clay soils, open places in shrubland or grassland, below 3500 feet elevation; Central Valley South to north Mexico and east to Utah.	March- May	Fed: none Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 2	MODERATE – Potential habitat. Prefers open areas in habitat. Not observed in focused survey (readily identifiable). No clay soils observed, but small patches possible. Closest record 6 miles north.
<i>Calochortus catalinae</i> Catilina mariposa lily	Coastal California, Santa Cruz County to San Diego County and Channel Islands; shrubland, woodland, grassland, often in heavy soil, below 2300 feet elevation.	Spring	Fed: none Ca: S3.2 CNPS: List 4.2	HIGH – Suitable habitat. Observed on adjacent site.
<i>Calochortus clavatus</i> var. <i>Gracilis</i> Slender mariposa lily	Openings in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. 1000 – 3300 feet elevation. Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Southern base of San Gabriel Mountains.	March - June	Fed: none Ca: S2 CNPS: List 1B.2	LOW – Marginal habitat. Prefers open areas in habitat. Much of habitat choked w/ non-natives. Not observed in focused survey (readily identifiable). Closest record 6 miles north.

Table 4.3-2. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Flower Season	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa lily	Chaparral, coastal scrub, pine forest, valley and foothill grassland, 300 - 5600 feet elevation; widespread but uncommon throughout Southern California mountains, foothills, and valleys.	May - June	Fed: none Ca: S3.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	OCCURS
<i>Calochortus weedii</i> var. <i>intermedius</i> Weed's mariposa lily	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley grassland, sandy or clay soils, often on sandstone outcrops between 950-2800 feet elevation; coastal south and central California Coastal.	May - July	Fed: none Ca: S2.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	LOW – Potential habitat. Not observed in focused survey. Relatively long blooming season and large populations observed on other properties. Prefers open areas in habitat. Much of habitat choked with non-natives.
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties; sandy places in alluvial washes, scrublands, valley and foothill grasslands, 1000-4000 feet elevation.	April - June	Fed: none Ca: S2 CNPS: List 1B.1	LOW – Soil and alluvial hydrology lacking. Non-native choking out many of low-growing annuals.
<i>Dodecahema leptocerus</i> Slender-horned spineflower	Open, sandy alluvial benches in valleys and canyons. Shrubland and cismontane woodland; San Fernando Valley, Santa Ana River Valley, West Riverside County Range 650 – 2500 feet elevation.	April - June	Fed: END Ca: 1.1, END CNPS: List 1B.1	LOW-ABSENT – No suitable habitat. Closest record 9 miles southeast. Very unlikely to occur.
<i>Dudleya densiflora</i> San Gabriel Mountains dudleya	Succulent perennial in chaparral, yellow pine forest and coastal sage scrub found on the granitic, steep rocky slopes/ cliffs of the San Gabriel Mts. 800-2000 feet in elevation three populations in Fish, Roberts, and San Gabriel Canyon.	May - June	Fed: none Ca: S1.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	MODERATE – Suitable habitat. Closest record 8 miles northeast in San Gabriel River.
<i>Dudleya multicaulis</i> Many-stemmed dudleya	Heavy soils, often clay, in grassland or shrubland, southwest California, below 2600 feet elevation.	April - July	Fed: none Ca: S2 CNPS: List 1B.2	MODERATE – Potential habitat. No clay soils observed, but small patches possible. Occurs 1.6 miles southwest and north within the San Dimas Experimental Forest.
<i>Dudleya cymosa</i> ssp. <i>crebrifolia</i> San Gabriel River dudleya	Perennial herb found in chaparral, on granitic slopes and flats along the San Gabriel River and in the San Gabriel Mountains between 0 - 1312 feet in elevation.	April - July	Fed: none Ca: S1.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	LOW – Limited distribution.
<i>Erigeron breweri</i> var. <i>bisanctus</i> Pious daisy	Open, dry slopes and washes, in chaparral and montane forest habitats. Occurs in Angeles National Forest.	May – September	Fed: none Ca: none CNPS: none	MODERATE – Potential habitat. <i>Erigeron</i> sp. observed (foliosus?) Occurs in Big Dalton Canyon 1.5 miles north of the site (exact location unknown).

Table 4.3-2. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Flower Season	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Fimbristylis thermalis</i> Hot springs fimbristylis	Found in fresh water wetlands, freshwater marsh, mineralized sands of springs, meadows and alkaline seeps. Elevations range 360 – 4400 feet.	July - September	Fed: none Ca: S2.2 CNPS: List 2.2	ABSENT – Site lacks suitable soil, alkalinity or hydrology.
<i>Galium grande</i> San Gabriel bedstraw	Broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, elevation of 1400 – 5000 feet. From the San Gabriel Mountains.	January - July	Fed: none Ca: S2.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	MODERATE – Suitable habitat. Not recorded in Glendora quad.
<i>Harpagonella palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i> Palmer's grappling hook	Dry clay soils in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, valley grassland; southwestern California through Baja California, Arizona, and Sonora.	March - May	Fed: none Ca: S3.2 CNPS: List 4.2	MODERATE – Potential habitat. No clay soils observed, but small patches possible.
<i>Helianthus nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>parishii</i> Los Angeles sunflower	Coastal fresh water marshes and swamps below 5500 feet elevation Distributed in Southwestern California. Presumed extinct. Last seen in 1937.	August – October	Fed: none Ca: SH CNPS: List 1A	ABSENT – Lacks suitable habitat. Not known from this area.
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>puberula</i> Mesa horkelia	Perennial herb found in chaparral, cismontane woodland and coastal scrub on sandy or gravelly soils. Elevation range 229 – 2296 feet.	February – July (Sept rare)	Fed: none Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	MODERATE – Soils are more sandy-loam, but possible habitat. Record from 1904 1.3 miles southwest, exact location unknown.
<i>Imperata brevifolia</i> California satintail	Perennial herb found in wet springs, meadows, streamsides, flood plains in chaparral, coastal scrub, Mojavean desert scrub. San Joaquin Valley, San Gabriel Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains. Elevation range 0 – 1640 feet.	September - May	Fed: none Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 2.1	LOW – Limited potential habitat along drainage. 1937 record along West fork of San Dimas River.
<i>Juglans californica</i> var. <i>californica</i> S. California black walnut	Walnut woodland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, generally 3000 feet elevation; Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino Counties.	March – August (Can ID all year)	Fed: none Ca: S3.2 CNPS: List 4.2	OCCURS
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>Coulteri</i> Coulter's goldfields	Coastal salt marsh, inland saline playas, vernal pools; coastal sites Santa Barbra to Baja California, scattered inland sites include Kern County, deserts, and West Riverside County. Elevation range 0 – 4000 feet.	February - June	Fed: none Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	ABSENT – Site lacks suitable habitat.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> Robinson's peppergrass	Shrublands (chaparral & coastal sage scrub) below about 2900 feet elevation; Los Angeles County, inland to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and south to Baja California.	January - July	Fed: none Ca: S2.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	MODERATE – Suitable habitat. Known to occur in Tanbark Flats, Angeles National Forest.
<i>Lilium parryi</i> Lemon Lily	Meadows, seeps and streambanks above about 4000-9000 feet elevation; mountains of southern California and southeast Arizona.	July - August	Fed: none Ca: S2.1 CNPS: List 1B.2	ABSENT – Site is well below the elevation range.

Table 4.3-2. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Flower Season	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Linanthus concinnus</i> San Gabriel linanthus	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest and upper montane coniferous forest in rocky openings. Elevation range 5000-7000 feet.	April - July	Fed: none Ca: S2 CNPS: List 1B.2	ABSENT – Site is well below the elevation range.
<i>Monardella macrantha</i> ssp. <i>hallii</i> Hall's monardella	Montane forests, valley and foothill grassland and mixed chaparral, on slopes and ridges 2500-6500 feet elevation; San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains, Peninsular Ranges (Riverside and San Diego County).	June – October	Fed: none Ca: S3.3 CNPS: List 1B.3	LOW – Site is below the elevation range.
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> Prostrate navarretia	Vernal pools, Alkaline floodplains, meadows and seeps; greater than 700 meters elevation, west San Joaquin Valley, Inner South Coast Ranges, Los Angeles County, Peninsular Range (Santa Rosa Plateau).	April - July	Fed: none Ca: S2.1? CNPS: List 1B.1	ABSENT – Site lacks alkali soils and vernal pools; Closest occurrence 8 miles southeast, south of Montclair.
<i>Oreonana vestita</i> Woolly mountain parsley	Lower montane coniferous forest, Subalpine coniferous forest and upper montane coniferous forest on gravel or talus. Elevational range 5300-11500 feet.	May - September	Fed: none Ca: S3.3 CNPS: List 1B.3	ABSENT – Site is well below the elevation range.
<i>Orobanche valida</i> ssp. <i>valida</i> Rock creek broomrape	Chaparral and Pinyon juniper woodland. In Inyo, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties. Elevation range 4100-6562 feet.	-	Fed: none Ca: S3.3 CNPS: List 1B.2	ABSENT – Site is well below the elevation range.
<i>Parnassia cirrata</i> Fringed grass of parnassus	Uncommon. Found in wet places, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps and upper montane coniferous forest, mesic soils, streamsides. 7000-9850 feet elevation. In the San Gabriel Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains and Mexico.	August-September	Fed: none Ca: S2.3 CNPS: List 1B.3	ABSENT – Site is well below the elevation range and has no appropriate habitat.
<i>Phacelia stellaris</i> Brand's phacelia	Dunes, alluvial scrub (sandy benches), about sea level to 1300 feet elevation; Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego Counties and Baja California.	March – June	Fed: FSC Ca: S1 CNPS: List 1B.1	LOW-ABSENT – Site lacks suitable sandy soils or alluvial scrub.
<i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i> White rabbit-tobacco	Dry, sandy creek bottoms in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland. Elevation range 0 – 6890 feet.	August - November	Fed: none Ca: S2S3.2 CNPS: List 2.2	LOW – No finely sorted sandy soils observed in drainage. Species recorded 3.5 miles southeast in San Dimas Wash. Potential only at the south edge of the site.
<i>Senecioaophanactis</i> Rayless ragwort	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, in alkaline flats below about 1300 feet elevation; west California (from Solano County south) and Baja California.	January - April	Fed: none Ca: S1.2 CNPS: List 2.2	LOW – No alkaline flats. Closest occurrence 4.5 mi. south.

Table 4.3-2. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Flower Season	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Thelypteris puberula</i> var. <i>sonorensis</i> Sonoran maiden fern	Meadows, Seeps/streambanks between 150 and 1800 feet elevation; coastal foothills of Santa Monica, San Gabriel, San Bernardino Mountains, desert foothills of San Jacinto Mountains; to Arizona and Baja California.	January-September	Fed: None Ca: S2.2 CNPS: List 2.2	LOW – Marginal Habitat. No recorded occurrences in Glendora Quad and no native ferns observed.

⁽¹⁾ **Federal designations (Fed):** END: Federally listed, endangered. THR: Federally listed, threatened. FSC: Federal Species of Concern.

California designations (Ca): Where correct category is uncertain, CDGF uses two categories or question marks. S1: Fewer than 6 occurrences or fewer than 1000 individuals or less than 2000 acres. S1.1: Very threatened. S1.2: Threatened.

S1.3: No current threats known; S2: 6-20 occurrences or 1000-3000 individuals or 2000-10,000 acres (decimal suffixes same as S1); S3: 21-100 occurrences of 3000-10,000 individuals or 10,000-50,000 acres (decimal suffixes same as S1);

S4: Apparently secure in California; this rank is clearly lower than S3 but factors exist to cause concern, i.e., there is some threat or somewhat narrow habitat. No threat rank; S5: Demonstrably secure or ineradicable in California. No threat rank.

California Natural Plant Society designations (CNPS): List 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California. List 1B: Plants rare and endangered in California and throughout their range. List 2: Occurrence confined to several populations or one extended population. List 3: Plants about which we need more information; a review list. List 4: Plants of limited distribution; a watch list.

⁽²⁾ **Occurs:** Observed on the site during surveys described here, or recorded on site by other qualified biologists.

High: Observed in similar habitat in region by qualified biologists, or often occurs in habitat similar to that on the site, and within the known range of the species.

Moderate: Reported sightings in surrounding region, or site is within the known range of the species and often occurs in habitat similar to that on the site.

Low: Site is within the known range of the species but habitat on the site is rarely used by the species.

Absent: A focused study failed to detect the species, or, no suitable habitat is present, or the site is well outside known geographic or elevational ranges.

Unknown: No focused surveys have been performed in the region, and the species' distribution and habitat are poorly known.

Source: L&L 2010

Eleven special status plant species were determined to have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site, although they were not observed during site surveys: Greata's aster, thread-leaved brodiaea, round-leaved filaree, Catalina mariposa lily, San Gabriel Mountains dudleya, many-stemmed dudleya, pious daisy, San Gabriel bedstraw, Palmer's grappling-hook, mesa horkelia, and Robinson's pepper-grass. Although the thread-leaved brodiaea was not observed on the project site during biological surveys, this species was determined to have a moderate probability (see Table 4.3-2) of occurring on-site because critical habitat for this species is located within the northwestern corner of the proposed project site. Critical habitat is the term used in the federal Endangered Species Act to identify areas critical to the survival of a species. Thread-leaved brodiaea populations were observed off site to the west during a concurrent survey of an adjacent property within coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitat. This off-site population confirmed the species was in bloom in the immediate area, at a similar elevation and microhabitat as the proposed project site, even though the species was not observed during project site surveys.

Special Status Wildlife Species

Sixty-five special status wildlife species were identified by the BA as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the proposed project site. The list of special status wildlife species included review of the NF-PEIR to ensure that all wildlife species with potential to exist on the proposed project site were identified. Based upon surveys reviewed and conducted by L&L Environmental during preparation of the BA and

the presence or absence of specific native habitats on site, these wildlife species were determined to have a varied potential to occur on the proposed project site. Special status wildlife species with the potential to occur on the proposed project site are identified in Table 4.3-3.

Fish

Three special status fish species have the potential to occur on the proposed project site: Santa Ana sucker, Santa Ana speckled dace, and Arroyo chub. Rivers, creeks and drainages of varying inundation support native fish populations; however, the BA determined that no aquatic habitat suitable to support fish species, either common or sensitive, occurs within the proposed project site. Therefore, all three of the special status fish species are considered absent from the proposed project site due to a lack of suitable aquatic habitat.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Seventeen special status reptile and amphibian species have the potential to occur on the proposed project site. No special status reptile or amphibian species were observed on the proposed project site during biological surveys conducted in support of the BA. However, five special status reptile and amphibian species have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site, including: California silvery legless lizard, coastal western whiptail, San Bernardino ringneck snake, San Bernardino mountain kingsnake, and coast horned lizard.

Birds

Thirty-one special status bird species have the potential to occur on the proposed project site. Five of these special status bird species were observed on the project site during biological surveys conducted in support of the BA: Cooper's hawk, coastal cactus wren, loggerhead shrike, northern harrier and California horned lark. Ten additional bird species have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site: sharp-shinned hawk, southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, Bell's sage sparrow, golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, yellow warbler, white-tailed kite, prairie falcon, and summer tanager.

Mammals

Thirteen special status mammal species have the potential to occur on the proposed project site. One species, the San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit, was observed on the project site during biological surveys conducted in support of the BA. Seven special status mammals have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site: pallid bat, Dulzura pocket mouse, California (western) mastiff bat, hoary bat, Yuma myotis, southern grasshopper mouse, Townsend's big-eared bat.

Invertebrates

One special status invertebrate species has the potential to occur on the proposed project site: quino checkerspot butterfly. However, the quino checkerspot butterfly was not observed during focused surveys conducted in support of the BA on the proposed project site. Therefore, the quino checkerspot butterfly is considered absent from the project site.

Table 4.3-3 Special Status Wildlife Species

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
Fish			
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Silver fish with dark irregular blotches on the dorsal surface. In small to medium permanent streams. Los Angeles and San Gabriel drainage, lower Santa Ana River.	Fed: THR Ca: None NDDB: S1	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i> (subspecies 3) Santa Ana speckled dace	Endemic to Santa Ana and San Gabriel River watersheds, historic in Big Tujunga Canyon. Santa Ana River populations in lower San Bernardino Mountain foothills & washes.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S1	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
<i>Gila orcutti</i> Arroyo chub	Slow –moving or backwater sections of warm/ cool streams with mud or sand substrates. Los Angeles, San Gabriel, San Luis Rey, Santa Ana and Santa Margarita Rivers and Malibu and San Juan creeks.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2.1	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
Reptiles and Amphibians			
<i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i> California silvery legless lizard	Various habitats, mainly shrublands, less than 6000 feet elevation; Coast Ranges from Bay area to northern Baja California. Southwest Sierra Nevada, parts of the Central Valley, Transverse and Peninsular ranges.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	MODERATE – Potential habitat museum record for site vicinity.
<i>Bufo microscaphus californicus</i> Arroyo toad	Washes and intermittent streams of semi-arid regions, sandy-banked rivers, riparian woodlands, and loose gravel. Southern California to tip of Baja California. Desert population along Mojave River.	Fed: END Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	ABSENT – No suitable habitat margin of range.
<i>Actinemys marmorata pallida</i> Southwestern pond turtle	Perennial ponds, streams, marshes, irrigation ditches; coastal South and central California, Northwest Baja California. Elevation range below 4800 feet.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	ABSENT – No suitable aquatic habitat.
<i>Batrachoseps gabrieli</i> San Gabriel Mountain slender salamander	Lives and lays eggs in moist places on land. Found under large rocks, logs, and bark. A relict species, found only in a few locations in the San Gabriel Mountains and the western end of the San Bernardino Mountains. 1,200 - 5,085 feet elevation. Inhabits forested talus slopes, and shaded areas near a stream.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2	LOW – Marginally suitable habitat.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> Coastal western whiptail	Woodlands, shrublands; Southwest California through much of Baja California. Below 7500 feet elevation.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2S3	HIGH – Suitable habitat present. Recorded on Glendora Quad.
<i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i> Northern red-diamond rattlesnake	Desert scrub, thorn scrub, and chaparral habitats below 4,000 feet. San Bernardino County south through most of Baja California, Mexico.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2?	LOW – Potential habitat outside species known range.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Diadophis punctatus ssp.</i> San Bernardino ringneck snake	Open relatively rocky areas within valley-foothill locales; mixed chaparral / annual grasslands; western San Diego and Riverside counties, southwest Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles counties, northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2	MODERATE – Potentially suitable habitat.
<i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i> Large-blotched ensatina	Moist deciduous and evergreen forests, oak woodland, chaparral and well shaded canyons. Most common in woody debris on the forest floor. Peninsular ranges of Southern California and parts of the San Bernardino Mountains. Old sightings from the San Gabriel Mountains have not been confirmed.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2S3	LOW – Potential habitat outside species known range.
<i>Lampropeltis zonata parvirubra</i> San Bernadino mountain kingsnake	Forests and chaparral with rock outcrops or talus, often riparian. 1200-8100 feet elevation; San Gabriel., San Bernardino, & San Jacinto Mountains.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2?	MODERATE – Potentially suitable habitat.
<i>Lichanura trivirgata (roseofusca)</i> (Coastal) Rosy boa	Rocky brushlands and desert. Attracted to permanent and intermittent streams. Death Valley, California, to the tip of Baja California, and coastal southern California to south-central Arizona.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3S4	LOW – Potential habitat outside species known range.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> Coast horned lizard	Coastal sage scrub, low elevation chaparral, annual grassland, oak and riparian woodlands, and coniferous forests. Southwest California to Northwest Baja California, Mexico.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3S4	HIGH – Suitable habitat present. Recorded on Glendora Quad.
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	Pools in low-gradient foothill and valley streams (especially intermittent) to 4000 feet; only extant southern California populations are in Ventura County & Santa Rosa Plateau (Riverside County).	Fed: THR Ca: SSC NDDB: S2S3	ABSENT – No suitable aquatic habitat present.
<i>Rana muscosa</i> Sierra Madre yellow-legged frog	Always encountered within a few feet of water. Tadpoles may require up to 2 years to complete development.	Fed: END Ca: SSC NDDB: S1	ABSENT – No suitable aquatic habitat present.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i> Coast patch-nosed snake	Shrublands, usually with open sand; Santa Barbara county through southwest California, to northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2S3	LOW – Marginally suitable habitat.
<i>Scaphiopus hammondi</i> Western spadefoot toad	Breeds in quiet streams and vernal pools, burrows beneath sand during dry season; Western California, Central Valley to Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	LOW – Marginally suitable habitat.
<i>Taricha torosa torosa</i> Coast range newt	Wet forests, oak forest, chaparral and rolling grasslands. This species frequents terrestrial habitats, but breeds in ponds, reservoirs and slow moving streams. Endemic to California. Coast range mountains from Mendocino to San Diego County.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S4	LOW – Marginally suitable habitat.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> Two-striped garter snake	In or near perennial fresh water and adjacent riparian habitat, usually about pools in streams; Southwest California and Northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	ABSENT – No suitable aquatic habitat present.
Birds			
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	Cismontane woodland, riparian forest, riparian woodland (including oak woodland, walnut woodland and gum trees), upper montane coniferous forest. Forages in open areas over scrublands; California, Mexico, Central America.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3 (breeding)	Nesting: HIGH Foraging: OBSERVED
<i>Accipiter striatus</i> Sharp-shinned hawk	Conifer-covered slopes near mixed stands of conifer and deciduous trees. Also uses scrub habitat in winter. In southern California most common in coastal lowlands and desert areas. Common winter resident in southern California. Breeds in high elevation forest or riparian. Likely only breeding in Northern California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3 (breeding)	Nesting: LOW-ABSENT Foraging: LOW- MODERATE Not observed over 2 years, but may occasionally forage.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> Tricolored blackbird (nesting colony)	Breeds colonially in freshwater marshes, nomadic among marshes and fields in winter; almost completely endemic to California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> Southern California Rufous-crowned sparrow	Sparse, mixed chaparral, scrub, rocky, brushy slopes. Central California to Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2S3	MODERATE – Suitable habitat.
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i> Grasshopper sparrow	Open grasslands with scattered shrubs, often an ecotone of grassland and sage scrub with an absence of trees. Southwest Canada to South America. Migrates south, including southern California in winter. Little known of winter range because of secretive habitats.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	MODERATE – Suitable habitat.
<i>Amphispiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow	Sage scrub and chaparral communities. Central Washington southward to Baja California, Mexico.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S2?	MODERATE – Suitable habitat.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> Golden eagle	Nests on rock ledges of cliffs or in large trees (e.g., oak or eucalyptus in California). Pairs may have several alternate nests and may use the same nest in consecutive years or shift to alternate nests in different years. Forages in grassland and open habitats in rolling foothills, mountainous areas, sage-juniper flats, and deserts. Western North America. This species is very sensitive to disturbance.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	Nesting: MODERATE Foraging: MODERATE Not observed over 2 years, but habitat suitable.
<i>Asio otus</i> Long-eared owl (nesting)	Breeds and roosts in riparian forests or other dense forest; forages at night over open land; ever more rare breeding in Southern California; occurs in North America / Eurasia.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	Breeding: LOW Foraging: LOW

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i> Burrowing owl	Open dry grassland, desert or shrubland areas. Small mammal burrows are an essential element of burrowing owl habitat. Although they can occasionally occupy manmade structures. Southwestern Canada south to Tierra del Fuego.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	ABSENT – No suitable burrows observed.
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's Hawk (nesting)	Grassland/agricultural; large trees for nesting, desert scrub with Joshua Tree and freemont cotton-wood overstory, near streams and open fields. Breeds overwhelmingly in Great Basin and Central Valley of California.	Fed: None Ca: THR NDDB: S2	Nesting: LOW-ABSENT Foraging: LOW Not observed over 2 years.
<i>Buteo regalis</i> Ferruginous hawk	Foraging in agricultural fields, grasslands and desert scrub from low perches. Winter migratory bird to southern California. Likely only breeds in northern California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3S4	Nesting: LOW-ABSENT Foraging: LOW-MODERATE Not observed over 2 years, but may occasionally forage.
<i>Campytorhynchus bruneicapillus couesi</i> Coastal cactus wren	Coastal sage scrub with cactus patches; southern California and northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	OCCURS
<i>Circus cyaneus</i> Northern harrier (nesting)	Coastal and river marshes, wet meadows, agricultural lands and shrubby areas. Hunts in the open nests on the ground. Throughout North America, winter migratory birds to southern California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	Nesting: LOW Foraging: OBSERVED Habitat here is not typical.
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Inhabits extensive, relatively broad, well-shaded riparian forests. Declined to only a handful of tiny populations in California. Historically it occurred in most of the United States (excluding the northwestern states), and into Baja California and northern Mexico.	Fed: Candidate Ca: END NDDB: S1	LOW – Marginal Habitat. Closest record 9 miles south (from year 1931), current record 18 miles south in Prado Basin.
<i>Cypseloides niger</i> Black swift	Mountain regions of central and southwest coastal California require waterfalls for nesting; Typically falls are permanent or intermittent in the breeding season (June to Sept). Nesting sites encircled by coniferous forests, often mixed conifer or spruce-fir forests, may include mountain shrub, aspen, or alpine components. Streams are typical mountain riparian habitat.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	ABSENT – No suitable habitat. Closest occurrence .8 miles northeast in the northern end of San Antonio Canyon.
<i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i> Yellow Warbler	Riparian, including willow, cottonwood, sycamore Alders and aspen for nesting and foraging, also conifer forest.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	LOW-MODERATE – Can occur in woodlands, but tend toward denser riparian understory.
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> White-tailed kite (nesting)	Breeds in woodlands and riparian forests or near marshes at the edge of open terrain/foraging areas such as savanna, partially cleared lands and cultivated fields, mostly in lowland situations. Pacific Coast (California, northern Baja, Oregon), other scattered localities.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	Nesting: LOW-MODERATE Foraging: MODERATE Not observed over 2 years, no marsh or wetland, but potential open woodland habitat.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Southwestern willow flycatcher	Rare and local is southern California; breeds in extensive thickets of willow riparian forests; southwest United States and northern Baja California.	Fed: END Ca: END NDDB: S1	LOW-ABSENT – No suitable riparian thickets or regular water source. Closest record 18 miles south at the Prado Dam.
<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i> California horned lark	Short-grass prairie, “bald” hills, mountain meadows, open coastal plains, fallow fields and alkali flats. Within coastal Sonoma County to San Diego County, San Joaquin Valley and east to foothills.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	OCCURS
<i>Falco columbarius</i> Merlin	Woodlands, grasslands, agricultural fields, and areas around livestock feed lots. Winter migratory bird to southern California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	Nesting: LOW Foraging: LOW Not observed over 2 years.
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> Prairie falcon (nesting)	Nests on high cliffs, primarily in desert and semi-desert areas with little disturbance. Forages primarily over open lands; occurs throughout arid western United States and Mexico. Breeding in southern California is significantly reduced.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	Nesting: LOW-ABSENT Foraging MODERATE Nesting habitat not present, but may occasionally utilize site.
<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i> American Peregrine falcon (nesting)	Found in a large variety of open habitats, but prefers accessible open water. Breeds mostly in woodland, forest and coastal habitats. In California, primarily in coastal estuaries and inland oases. Nests in cliffs along mountain valleys and river gorges usually below 9500 feet in elevation.	Fed: Delisted Ca: END NDDB: S2	LOW – No accessible open water adjacent to habitat.
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> Bald eagle	Breeds in large trees, usually near major rivers or lakes; winters more widely; wide but scattered distribution in North America; especially coastal regions.	Fed: Delisted Ca: END NDDB: S2	LOW – No suitable large bodies of water. Closest record Big Bear, San Bernardino. May occasionally forage.
<i>Icteria virens</i> Yellow-breasted chat	Summer resident, inhabits riparian thickets of willow near watercourses, low dense riparian willow.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	LOW-ABSENT – No suitable riparian thickets or regular water source.
<i>Ixobrychus exilis hesperis</i> Western least bittern	Freshwater and brackish marshes with tall, dense emergent vegetation and clumps of woody plants over deep water. Summer resident in southern California. Wide spread in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Migrates south in winter.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S1	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> Loggerhead shrike (nesting)	Open areas where small trees, shrubs, and fences can provide suitable perches. Nests in small trees and large shrubs. Throughout much of North America.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S4	Nesting: HIGH Foraging: OBSERVED 2009
<i>Polioptila californica</i> California gnatcatcher	Sage scrub communities, also chaparral, grasslands and riparian communities adjacent to or mixed with sage scrub. Southern Ventura County to Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernadino, San Diego County into Baja California.	Fed: THR Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	LOW-ABSENT – Focused surveys negative for 2 years, above typical elevation range. Observed in 2000 on adjacent parcel at a lower elevation than the project.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Piranga rubra</i> Summer tanager (nesting)	Breeds in forests and woodlands, southern half of United States; northern Mexico; winters in southern Mexico.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S2	MODERATE
<i>Riparia riparia</i> Bank swallow (nesting)	Localized along rivers, lakes and ocean coasts. Riparian species. Nest in colonies in earthen banks and bluffs and sand and gravel pits. Once locally abundant now considered absent as a breeding bird in Southern California.	Fed: None Ca: THR NDDB: S2S3	ABSENT – No suitable habitat.
<i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i> California spotted owl	In southern California. Montane hardwood and conifer forests at mid-high elevation. Coast oak woodland, valley foothill riparian at lower elevation. Less common pinyon juniper woods. Breeds/roosts in forests woods with large old trees and snags, dense canopies, multiple canopy layers. Spread through the southern Cascade Range of northern California, south along the west slope of the Sierra Nevada's and in mountains of central and southern California, nearly to the Mexico border.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	LOW – Marginal habitat. Territories occur in Big Dalton and San Dimas Canyon West Fork.
<i>Vireo belii pusillus</i> Least Bell's vireo	Found in riparian woodlands, bottomlands, and mesquite. Ranges from northern Mexico and Baja California, into southern California, and the south mid-western United States.	Fed: END Ca: END NDDB: S2	LOW-ABSENT – No suitable riparian thickets or regular water source. Closest record 5.5 miles in San Gabriel River.
Mammals			
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> Pallid bat	Rock outcrops of shrublands, below about 6000 feet elevation; in California (excludes high mountains), southwest North America to interior Oregon and Washington; hibernates in winter.	Fed: none Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	Nesting: LOW Foraging: MODERATE Potential foraging habitat. Early record in Glendora exact location unknowns.
<i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i> Dulzura pocket mouse	Usually along the border of grass-chaparral edges, also along coastal sage, chaparral and grassland up to 2600 feet in elevation in southern California.	Fed: none Ca: SSC NDDB: S2?	LOW-MODERATE – Potential habitat, Known from the San Dimas Experimental Forest, but grasses are so dense it is likely very limited.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> Pallid San Diego pocket mouse	Open sandy areas in chaparral, scrub and grassland communities. Often alluvial plains.	Fed: none Ca: SSC NDDB: S3	LOW – No finely sorted sandy soils, non-native grasses is overrunning native habitat and are so dense it likely very limited.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> California (Western) mastiff bat	Lowlands (with rare exceptions); Central and Southern California, southern Arizona, New Mexico, southwest Texas; roosts in deep rock crevices, often cliff faces. Forages over wide area. Can roost in trees.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3?	Nesting: LOW Foraging: MODERATE Potential foraging habitat. Early record in Glendora, exact location unknown.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> Hoary bat	Wooded areas where it roosts in the open by hanging from a branch, forages over wide area. Prefers trees at the edge of clearings, but can occur in heavy forests, open areas and urban areas. Widespread from Canada through the United States into Central and South America.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S4?	MODERATE – Appropriate habitat. Early records in San Dimas Creek and Big Dalton Dam.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	Chaparral, coastal or Riversidean sage scrub with adjacent open grassland. Los Angeles County south to San Quintin, Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3?	OCCURS
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i> Yuma myotis	Variety of habitats, (i.e. Juniper and riparian woodlands, Arid shrublands). Closely associated with water. Roosts in caves, attics, buildings, mines, under bridges and similar structures. Western North America from Canada to central Mexico as far east as Oklahoma. Widespread in California.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S4?	LOW-MODERATE – Suitable foraging. Closest record 2.3 miles northeast in San Dimas Canyon.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert wood rat	Arid shrublands, and rocky outcrops and crevices; cismontane California, San Luis Obispo to San Diego County and northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3?	LOW – No rocky outcrops and no sign (evidence relatively easily identified).
<i>Onychomys torridus Ramona</i> So. grasshopper mouse	Arid cismontane lowlands, Los Angeles through San Diego counties and northwest Baja California.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S3?	LOW-MODERATE – Potential habitat but grasses are so dense it likely is very limited.
<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i> Nelson's bighorn sheep	Open shrublands and conifer forest, remote mountains; scattered populations in Transverse, Mojave desert, and White Mountains. Typically inhabits slopes at elevations of 2500-5000 feet in winter and 6000-8500 feet in summer.	Fed: None Ca: None NDDB: S3	ABSENT – No sign. Below elevation range Population 6 miles north of site. Unlikely they utilize site.
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	Annual grassland, sage scrub, alluvial sage scrub. Prefers open ground with fine sandy soils. Southern California from Rancho Cucamonga (west boundary), San Geronio (east), Aguanga and Oak Grove, San Diego (south).	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S1S2	LOW – Fine sandy soils were not observed. Closest recorded located 16 miles east in Rancho Cucamonga area.
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> Townsend's big-eared bat	Many habitats throughout California and western North America; scattered populations in the east; day roosts in caves, tunnels, mines; feeds primarily on moths.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB:S2S3	MODERATE – Potential habitat.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	Mountains, deserts, interior valleys where burrowing animals are available prey and soil permits digging; Usually open treeless areas. Throughout Central and western North America.	Fed: None Ca: SSC NDDB: S4	LOW – No open loose soils observed. Dense grasses, shrubs, woodland. Closest occur 0.5 miles southwest of site.

Table 4.3-3. Continued

Special Status Species	Habitat and Distribution	Status Designation ⁽¹⁾	Occurrence Probability ⁽²⁾
Invertebrates			
<i>Euphydryas editha quino</i> Quino checkerspot butterfly	Lower elevation (sea level to 4500 feet) although increasing in upper elevation range. Meadow areas, or clearings within coastal sage scrub or grassland vegetated by their host plants; dwarf plantain and owl's clover.	Fed: END Ca: None NDDB: S1	ABSENT

- (1) **Federal designations (Fed):** END: Federally listed, endangered. THR: Federally listed, threatened. FSC: Federal Species of Concern.
California designations (Ca): END: State listed, endangered. THR: State listed, threatened. SSC: California Species of Special Concern.
Natural Diversity Database designations (NDDB): CDGF uses one category, two categories and/or question marks. S1: Fewer than 6 occurrences or fewer than 1000 individuals or less than 2000 acres. S2: 6-20 occurrences or 1000-3000 individuals or 2000-10,000 acres; S3: 21-100 occurrences of 3000-10,000 individuals or 10,000-50,000 acres; S4: Apparently secure in California; this rank is clearly lower than S3 but factors exist to cause concern, i.e., there is some threat or somewhat narrow habitat. No threat rank; S5: Demonstrably secure or ineradicable in California. No threat rank.
- (2) **Occurs:** Observed on the site during surveys described here, or recorded on site by other qualified biologists.
High: Observed in similar habitat in region by qualified biologists, or often occurs in habitat similar to that on the site, and within the known range of the species.
Moderate: Reported sightings in surrounding region, or site is within the known range of the species and often occurs in habitat similar to that on the site.
Low: Site is within the known range of the species but habitat on the site is rarely used by the species.
Absent: A focused study failed to detect the species, or, no suitable habitat is present, or the site is well outside known geographic or elevation ranges.
Unknown: No focused surveys have been performed in the region, and the species' distribution and habitat are poorly known.

Source: L&L 2010

4.3.1.4 Trees

Approximately 4,000 trees are present on the proposed project site. The City of San Dimas has established tree preservation requirements for mature significant trees in Chapter 18.162 of its municipal code. Mature trees that occur on the project site include: coast live oak, eucalyptus, scrub oak, sycamore, walnut and willow. The locations of these trees are shown in Figure 4.3-2.

4.3.1.5 Jurisdictional Areas

A jurisdictional delineation was performed for the project site in 2008 by Bonterra, and the results were verified in 2010 by L&L Environmental for the BA. In 2010, the survey area increased from the area evaluated by Bonterra in 2008 to the current 314± acre survey area. Most of Shay Canyon was not previously included in the Bonterra survey area. L&L estimated the jurisdictional area and impacts to the expanded survey area, including Shay Canyon, by aerial photo, topography and general observations of the drainage area in 2010. Based on this estimate, the proposed project site contains approximately 25.40 acres of drainages that are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and CDFG. These drainages occur in Shay Canyon, Shuler Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, and Wildwood Canyon. Drainages located on the proposed project site and under the jurisdiction of ACOE and CDFG are shown in Figure 4.3-3.

4.3.1.6 Wildlife Corridors

A wildlife corridor is an area of habitat that links two larger patches of habitat and allows animals to move between the two. Wildlife corridors can link large regional areas or smaller local tracts of land. Often tracts of suitable habitat are separated by development, rugged or impassable terrain or dense vegetation.

Wildlife movement activities usually fall into one of three movement categories: 1) dispersal (e.g., juvenile animals from natal areas, individuals extending range distributions); 2) seasonal migration; and 3) movements related to home range activities (foraging for food or water, defending territories, searching for mates, breeding areas, or cover). Without connections between tracts of open land, wildlife populations may become isolated and habitat may become fragmented. Wildlife movement corridor linkages effectively allow a series of small, connected patches to function as a larger block of habitat and perhaps result in the occurrence of higher species diversity or numbers of individuals than would otherwise occur in isolation.

The proposed project site is located at the northern limits of the developed portion of the city of San Dimas. The property is surrounded by residential development to the south and undeveloped open space areas and the Angeles National Forest to the north, and to the immediate west and east. Beyond the immediately adjacent undeveloped Angeles National Forest areas, populated and developed areas exist to the west and east of the project site and include residential uses, country club/golf course uses and institutional uses. Due to the location of the proposed project site along the southern edge of the San Gabriel Mountains and the National Forest, there is likely to be significant wildlife movement in the area. However, east to west and north to south wildlife movement may be constrained by existing development.

4.3.2 Regulatory Framework

Biological resources on the proposed project site are subject to regulatory administration by the federal government and the State of California. The federal government administers non-marine plant and wildlife-related issues through the USFWS, while federal jurisdictional issues are administered through the ACOE and the California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB). California law relating to wildlife issues is administered by the CDFG, while CDFG and the RWQCBs both administer laws relating to state jurisdictional areas.

4.3.2.1 Federal

Endangered Species Act

The U.S. Congress passed the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973 to provide a means for conserving the ecosystems that endangered and threatened species require in order to prevent species extinctions. Under the ESA, the USFWS manages and protects species listed as endangered or threatened. An endangered species is defined as a species “in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range” while a threatened species is defined as “likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.”

Take of listed species is prohibited under Section 9 (a)(1)(B) of the ESA. The term take is defined as follows in Section 3 (18) of the ESA: “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, trap, kill, capture or collect or to engage in any such conduct.” Harm is further defined as significant habitat alteration that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavior patterns such as breeding, feeding, or sheltering. The USFWS can issue a permit for take of listed species incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Procedures for obtaining a permit for incidental take are identified under Section 7 of the ESA for federal properties or where federal actions are involved, and are identified under Section 10 of the ESA for non-federal actions.

Clean Water Act, Section 404

The Clean Water Act of 1972 was designed to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the U.S. The ACOE has jurisdiction over wetlands and waters of the United States under Section 404 of the CWA. Permitting is required for activities that will result in discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the U.S. or adjacent wetlands and associated habitat. By definition these include all waterways, streams, intermittent streams, and their tributaries that could be used for interstate commerce. The term interstate commerce has been broadly interpreted to include use by migratory waterfowl and out-of-state tourism. In non-tidal waters, jurisdictional limits extend to the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), which is defined as that line on the shore established by fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear natural line impression on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, and destruction of the surrounding area. The upstream limit of ACOE jurisdiction is that point on the stream where the OHWM is no longer perceptible. Vernal pools and other types of wetlands are also regulated by the ACOE as waters of the U.S.

Clean Water Act, Section 401

The RWQCB has jurisdiction over similar wetlands and waters of the U.S. under Section 401 of the CWA and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act under the California Water Code. Permitting is

required for activities that will result in a discharge of soils, nutrients, chemicals, detrital materials, or other pollutants into waters of the U.S. or adjacent wetlands that will affect water quality of those bodies and the area watershed.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (16 USC 703-711) is an international treaty that makes it unlawful to take, possess, buy, sell, purchase, or barter any migratory bird listed in 50 CFR Part 10, including feathers or other parts, nests, eggs, or products, except as allowed by implementing regulations (50 CFR 21). The MBTA requires that project-related disturbance at active nesting territories be reduced or eliminated during critical phases of the nesting cycle (February 1 through August 31). Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort (e.g., killing or abandonment of eggs or young) or loss of habitat upon which the birds depend could be considered take and constitute a violation of the MBTA.

4.3.2.2 State

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) is administered by the CDFG and has definitions of endangered and threatened species similar to those defined in the federal ESA. The CESA defines an endangered species as "...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile or plant 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, over exploitation, predation, competition or disease." Species in serious danger of becoming extinct and threatened species are likely to become endangered species in the foreseeable future (according to Sections 2062 and 2067, respectively, of the California Fish and Game Code). Candidate species are those under formal review by the CDFG for listing as endangered or threatened species (Section 2067). Prior to being considered for protected status, the CDFG designates a species as being of special concern. Species of special concern are those for which the CDFG has information indicating decline.

California Department of Fish and Game Code, Section 1600

The CDFG Game Code regulates the taking or possession of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, and reptiles, as well as natural resources such as wetlands and waters of the State. The CDFG, through provisions of the CDFG Code (Sections 1600-1616), is empowered to issue agreements (Streambed Alteration Agreement) for projects that will adversely affect wildlife habitat associated with any river, stream, or lake edges. Streams and rivers are defined by the presence of a channel bed, banks, and intermittent flow. CDFG regulates wetland areas only to the extent that those wetlands are part of a river, stream, or lake as defined by CDFG.

Determining limits of a wetland is not typically done in obtaining CDFG agreements because the intent of the 1600 program is to safeguard riparian wildlife habitat. Riparian habitat includes willows (*Salix* sp.), mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), and other vegetation typically associated with the banks of a stream or lake shoreline. In most situations wetlands associated with a stream or lake will fall within the limits of riparian habitat. Thus, the limits of CDFG jurisdiction based on riparian habitat will automatically include any wetland areas and may include additional areas that do not meet ACOE criteria for soils and/or hydrology (e.g., where the riparian woodland canopy extends beyond the banks of a stream away from frequently saturated soils).

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act provides for the statewide coordination of water quality regulations. The Act established the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as the statewide authority and nine separate RWQCBs to oversee smaller regional areas within the state. The Act authorizes the SWRCB to adopt, review, and revise policies for all waters of the State (including both surface and ground waters); and directs the RWQCBs to develop regional basin plans. Section 13170 of the California Water Code also authorizes the SWRCB to adopt water quality control plans on its own initiative.

4.3.2.3 Local

City of San Dimas General Plan Conservation Element

The San Dimas General Plan Conservation Element is concerned with the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources such as water, soils, rivers, harbors, wildlife, minerals and other natural and cultural resources. This element of the General Plan specifically addresses the following principal categories: managed production of resources; conservation of natural resources; and conservation of cultural resources. The Conservation Element overlaps with categories of the Open Space Element that deal with open space for the preservation of natural resources and open space for the managed production of resources.

City of San Dimas General Plan Open Space Element

The San Dimas Open Space Element designates open space land which is defined by Section 65560(b) of the Government Code as “any parcel or area of land or water which is essentially unimproved and devoted to open space use...” In the General Plan, open space use is defined to encompass four principal categories: 1) natural resources; 2) management production of resources; 3) outdoor recreation; and 4) public health and safety. The Conservation Element overlaps with categories of the Open Space Element that deal with open space for the preservation of natural resources and open space for the managed production of resources.

City of San Dimas Municipal Code Chapter 18.162 Tree Preservation

The City of San Dimas has outlined tree preservation requirements in Chapter 18.162 of its municipal code. Most mature significant trees require a permit for removal or relocation. Within the code, mature significant trees are defined as follows: “A mature significant tree shall refer to any tree within the city of an oak genus which measures eight inches or more in trunk diameter and/or any other species of trees which measure ten inches or more in trunk diameter and/or a multi-trunk tree(s) having a total circumference of 38 inches or more. The multi-trunk tree shall include at least one trunk with a diameter of a minimum of four inches. The trunk diameter shall be measured at a point six inches above the ground at the base of the tree.”

4.3.3 Project Impacts and Mitigation

4.3.3.1 Issue 1 – Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Plant Species

Biological Resources Issue 1 Summary

Would implementation of the proposed project result in a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any plant species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct and indirect impacts to special status plant species.

Mitigation: Off-set thread-leaved habitat brodiaea loss (**Bio-1A**); Construction preparation (**Bio-1B**); Construction practices (**Bio-1C**); Prohibit invasive species (**Bio-1D**); Treat pesticide runoff (**Bio-1E**); Prevent intrusion (**Bio-1F**).

Significance Before Mitigation: Significant.

Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Standards of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would result in a substantial adverse effect, either directly or indirectly through habitat modifications, on any plant species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFG or USFWS.

Impact Analysis

The following discussion describes the direct and indirect impacts that the proposed project would have on candidate, sensitive or special status plant species. Information in this section is based upon the results of the BA, included as Appendix C of this EIR.

Direct Impacts

Direct impacts are those associated with direct destruction or displacement of sensitive plants or natural habitats during construction and typically occur during the site preparation stage when grading, clearing, grubbing, and other initial land disturbance activities take place.

As shown in Table 4.3-2, Special Status Plant Species, the following two special status species were observed on the proposed project site during site surveys: three individuals of Plummer's mariposa lily and 138 southern California black walnut trees. Plummer's mariposa lily was observed on the proposed project site, as shown in Figure 4.3-4, and has a status designation of 1B.2 on the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List. The plants of CNPS List 1B are considered rare, threatened or endangered in California or elsewhere. The Plummer's mariposa lily CNPS threat rank of 0.2, indicates that this species is fairly threatened in California. Plummer's mariposa lily also has a status designation of S3.2 in the State of California, which indicates approximately 3,000 to 10,000 individuals or 10,000 to 50,000 acres of habitat exists within the State. Three individuals of Plummer's mariposa lily are located on the proposed project site within the development area. Implementation of the proposed project would impact these three individuals. This impact would represent a reduction of approximately 0.001 percent of the total species. Due to the limited number of individuals that would be impacted from project implementation, impacts to the Plummer's mariposa lily would be considered less than significant.

The southern California black walnut tree is a locally significant species and is protected by the San Dimas Mature and Significant Tree Ordinance. Impacts to southern California black walnut trees in the context of the San Dimas Mature and Significant Tree Ordinance are discussed below under Section 4.3.3.6, Issue 6 – Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans.

Eleven additional special status plant species were determined to have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site: Great's aster, thread-leaved brodiaea, round-leaved filaree, Catalina mariposa lily, San Gabriel Mountains dudleya, many-stemmed dudleya, pious daisy, San Gabriel bedstraw, Palmer's grappling-hook, mesa horkelia, and Robinson's pepper-grass. However, of these species, only thread-leaved brodiaea is listed as a state or federally threatened, endangered or candidate species. This species is listed as both federally threatened and state endangered. Although the species was not observed on site, critical habitat to support this species is located in the west and northwest areas of the proposed project site. Approximately 3.95 acres of critical habitat for the thread-leaved brodiaea would be impacted directly by development of the proposed project, as shown in Figure 4.3-4. Due to its status as a federally threatened and state endangered species, the loss of thread-leaved brodiaea critical habitat would be significant.

Although implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to other plant species on the proposed project site, these species are not listed as state or federally threatened, endangered or candidate species. Therefore, project impacts to other plant species on the project site would be less than significant.

Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts are those that are not a result of direct land disturbance activities. Indirect impacts include impacts such as decreased water quality, fugitive dust, and introduction of non-native plant species, edge effects, and increased human activity. Indirect impacts can occur during all stages of construction and can also occur after construction is complete as a result of increased human activity or from operation of the project itself.

Potential indirect impacts to special status plant species from implementation of the proposed project include typical habitat edge effects, such as increased invasive species (weedy and ornamental) and intrusion of human and/or domesticated animals. During grading and construction of the project site, there is also the potential for trampling, higher levels of dust, increased trash and wind-blown debris, or spilled and discarded pollutants. Indirect impacts that could occur to special status plant species and other vegetation on site are described below. All of these impacts would be potentially significant.

Invasive Plants

Landscaping adjacent to existing open space and the proposed on site conservation area would have the potential to result in invasive plant species being introduced into sensitive vegetation communities. Temporary tracking of invasive species into the area by construction equipment or by unauthorized recreational vehicle use would also have the potential to introduce non-native species into the surrounding habitat.

Herbicides and Pesticides

Use of landscape and household chemicals would have the potential to damage adjacent sensitive habitat from overspray or runoff.

Intrusion

The placement of residential development adjacent to existing open space and the proposed conservation area would increase the likelihood of human intrusion into sensitive habitat areas. Indirect impacts from this intrusion may result from increased recreational use or the dumping of trash. Construction personnel may intrude into native habitat areas on lunch and rest breaks or park vehicles outside of the approved project footprint.

Dust

Wind-blown dust from the construction area would have the potential to create an indirect impact on sensitive habitat in the area.

Summary

Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to thread-leaved brodiaea, a federally threatened and state endangered plant species. Additionally, implementation of the proposed project would have the potential to result in a variety of indirect impacts to special status plant species and vegetation communities. Therefore, indirect impacts to special status plant species would be significant.

Mitigation Measures

Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-1A would reduce direct impacts to thread-leaved brodiaea to a less than significant level. Implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F would reduce indirect impacts to sensitive plant and vegetation communities to a less than significant level. In addition to the mitigation measures listed below, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) will be developed as a part of the permitting process in consultation with local, state and federal agencies. The project proponent, its designee, the Home Owners Association, an approved conservation agency or other agency approved entity would be responsible for the long term care and conservation of any land used for mitigation on site.

- Bio-1A** To prevent impacts to thread-leaved brodiea, the following shall occur:
- i. Prior to grading, an informal consultation with the USFWS, the CDFG, and a biologist provided by the applicant and approved by the City on the issue of critical habitat for the thread-leaved brodiea shall occur. If determined by the USFWS or CDFG that proposed project impacts would not threaten the long-term survivability of the thread-leaved brodiea species, no further mitigation shall be required. If determined by the USFWS or CDFG that proposed project impacts would threaten the long-term survivability of the thread-leaved brodiea species, avoidance, to the extent possible, of the on-site critical habitat areas shall be required.

- ii. If thread-leaved brodiaea is observed within the proposed development area prior to project construction, one of the following measures shall be required, as approved by USFWS and CDFG:
 - a. Land shall be purchased in an approved mitigation bank to off-set the loss of this species; or
 - b. A plan shall be developed to relocate the plants and soils to a portion of the preserved project site with adequate light, water and suitable vegetation. Relocation may occur either on a large or small scale, dependent upon the population, but shall include a minimum of 12 inches of soil both in depth and a 12 inch surface radius from the plants to provide the necessary soils for the survival and perpetuation of the species.

Bio-1B

Prior to the start of project construction, the on-site construction superintendent and a City-approved biologist provided by the applicant shall ensure the following measures are in place:

- i. Work areas shall be fenced with highly visible fencing (e.g., orange construction fencing) to ensure impacts do not occur outside of the project footprint identified in the project grading plan. Fencing locations shall be approved by a qualified City-approved biologist and verified in the field.
- ii. A City-approved biologist shall conduct a preconstruction education program to be held on site, prior to the beginning of any vegetation or earth-disturbing activities. This education program shall be designed to acquaint project construction personnel and equipment operators with the natural resources in the area and to inform them of the need to comply with avoidance and minimization measures.

Bio-1C

During project construction, the construction superintendent and a City-approved biologist shall ensure the following measures are in place:

- i. Signage shall be placed at the employee parking area, at the equipment office and staging area, and at other points of high visibility instructing construction personnel to remain within the fenced project footprint, to park in designated areas, and not to enter the surrounding natural vegetation areas for rest or lunch periods.
- ii. Staging areas shall be placed in unvegetated areas within the development footprint.
- iii. Employee parking and rest/lunch/break periods shall occur in designated locations within the development footprint. No take of additional habitat or communities shall occur for these purposes.
- iv. A biological mitigation monitor shall be present during vegetation clearing to ensure proper placement and compliance with conditions of approval and the regulatory permits for the project. A mitigation monitor shall make periodic visits to the project site during the construction program to ensure that the avoidance and minimization measures are maintained and in compliance. Monthly, Quarterly and Annual reports shall be issued by the biological monitor to the project applicant indicating compliance. All reports shall be compiled into a final report at the end of the earth moving phase of

the construction program. Annual reports shall include percent survival, percent cover of native and non-native species, tree height of select species, overall site condition and required corrective measures to bring the mitigation program into compliance. Corrective measures shall include instructions on weeding, replacement of container materials, reseeding, increased or decreased watering and other measures as determined necessary by the project biologist.

- v. Proper use and disposal of oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, antifreeze and other toxic substances shall be enforced.
- vi. All heavy equipment shall be washed prior to bringing it onto the project site.
- vii. All refuse created or brought on site by construction personnel or contractors must be placed in covered containers, removed from the site daily and disposed of at an appropriate disposal site.
- viii. Active construction areas shall be watered as needed to control dust and minimize effects to adjacent habitat.
- ix. Crushing and mulching of plant communities with greater than 10 percent weedy annual species shall not occur and any areas/topsoil suitable for crushing, mulching and transplanting shall be selected by the project biologist prior to vegetation disturbance on the property.

Bio-1D To prevent indirect impacts from invasive species, no plant species listed on the California Exotic Pest Plant Council's List of Most Invasive Wildland Pest Plants or the Angeles National Forest's List of Invasive Species shall be used in the project landscaping or revegetation.

Bio-1E Herbicides and pesticides shall not be applied in such a way as to allow overspray or runoff to enter and damage adjacent habitat. The project's Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R) and homeowners association (HOA) guidelines shall educate and inform future homeowners of these requirements. Ordinary runoff from landscaped areas shall be treated through the project's water quality/debris detention basins prior to discharge. The detention basins shall be designed with the storage time necessary to allow for pollutant removal.

Bio-1F The HOA guidelines and the CC&Rs shall prevent intrusion by limiting resident use to the development footprint and approved multi-use trails in the area. Informational signs at the edge of the development shall inform residents that recreational activities are restricted to the existing trails and roadways and warn them not to stray into native habitat or allow domestic animals to enter open space habitat. Horseback riding shall be limited to the designated trail system and cross country riding shall not be allowed.

4.3.3.2 Issue 2 – Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Wildlife Species

Biological Resources Issue 2 Summary

Would implementation of the proposed project result in a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any wildlife species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct and indirect impacts to special status wildlife species.

Mitigation: Construction preparation (**Bio-1B**); Construction practices (**Bio-1C**); Prohibit invasive species (**Bio-1D**); Treat pesticide run off (**Bio-1E**); Prevent intrusion (**Bio-1F**); Avoidance of nesting raptors (**Bio-2A**); Construction and operational lighting (**Bio-2B**); Burrowing owl survey (**Bio-2C**).

Significance Before Mitigation: Significant.

Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Standards of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would result in a substantial adverse effect, either directly or indirectly through habitat modifications, on any wildlife species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFG or USFWS.

Impact Analysis

The following discussion describes the direct and indirect impacts that the proposed project would have on candidate, sensitive or special status wildlife species. Information in this section is based upon the results of the BA, included in Appendix C of this EIR.

Direct Impacts

Construction of the proposed project would result in the removal of habitat, which supports a wide variety of local wildlife by providing nesting, denning, foraging and other basic needs. Removal of native and non-native habitats could result in the direct loss of small, less mobile wildlife species that use the proposed project site, such as amphibians, reptiles and mammals. Larger and more mobile species may be able to avoid direct losses, but may be forced to relocate to surrounding habitats. Species required to relocate may be affected by an increased demand on resources in adjacent areas, as well as other development in the area. For the proposed project, the BA determined that it is unlikely that the loss of overall habitat would result in impacts to the long-term viability of general wildlife populations in the region. This is due to the fact that undisturbed native habitats surround the proposed project site, including the permanent open space areas in the Angeles National Forest.

Special status wildlife species that have the potential to occur on the proposed project site are identified in Table 4.3-3. Impacts to these wildlife species from implementation of the proposed project are discussed below.

Fish

The proposed project site has no suitable habitat for fish and all special status fish species are considered absent from the proposed project site. Therefore, impacts to special status fish species would be less than significant.

Reptiles and Amphibians

No sensitive reptile or amphibian species were observed on the proposed project site during the surveys conducted in support of the BA. Five sensitive reptile and amphibian species were determined to have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site: California silvery legless lizard, coastal western whiptail, San Bernardino ringneck snake, San Bernardino mountain kingsnake and coast horned lizard. Implementation of the proposed project would reduce native and non-native habitat for these species. However, none of these reptile and amphibian species are currently listed as threatened or endangered by state and/or federal resource agencies. Additionally, the BA determined that native reptile and amphibian habitats, similar to those found on the proposed project site, are also located in areas adjacent to the proposed project site and are common within the region. Therefore, impacts to sensitive reptiles and amphibians would be less than significant.

Birds

Five bird species were observed on the proposed project site during the surveys conducted in support of the BA: Cooper's hawk, coastal cactus wren, loggerhead shrike, California horned lark and northern harrier. Ten additional bird species have a moderate or high potential to occur on the proposed project site: sharp-shinned hawk, southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, Bell's sage sparrow, golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, yellow warbler, white-tailed kite, prairie falcon, and summer tanager. Implementation of the proposed project would reduce native and non-native sensitive bird species habitats and would result in the reduction of foraging habitat for bird species. However, none of the bird species with the potential to occur on site are currently listed as threatened or endangered by state and/or federal resource agencies.

No burrowing owl, occupied burrows or burrowing owl signs were observed during the surveys conducted on the site by L&L Environmental in 2009 and 2010. However, potential habitat for the migratory burrowing owl occurs on the project site. The presence of this potential habitat is considered a significant impact because the burrowing owl is protected under the MBTA of 1918 and is a special species of concern to California.

The BA determined that native bird foraging and nesting habitats are found on the proposed project site, in areas adjacent to the proposed project site, and are common within the region. Trees suitable for raptor nesting, including the golden eagle and possibly the white-tailed kite, and containing evidence of previous and current nesting are present within and around the proposed project site. Impacts to nesting raptors would occur if raptors are nesting within the proposed project area immediately prior to or during project development. Nesting raptors are protected under the MBTA. In addition to being regulated under the MBTA, the golden eagle and white-tailed kite are CDFG fully protected species. Fully protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research and relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock. Nesting habitat for these species occurs within the open woodlands of the proposed project site, mainly in oak and eucalyptus. The potential for nesting habitat for the white-tailed kite is less likely as there is no wetland or marsh habitat associated with the

woodlands (or elsewhere) within the proposed development area. Impacts to nesting raptors from implementation of the proposed project would be significant.

Mammals

One special status mammal was observed on the proposed project site, the San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit. Seven special status mammal species were determined to have a moderate to high potential to occur on the project site, including: Dulzura pocket mouse, hoary bat, Yuma myotis, southern grasshopper mouse, Townsend's big-eared bat, pallid bat and California (western) mastiff bat. The proposed project would result in the removal of habitat for these species. However, none of these mammal species are listed as threatened or endangered by state and/or federal resource agencies. Additionally, native mammal habitats, similar to those found on the proposed project site, are located in areas adjacent to the proposed project site and are common within the region. Therefore, impacts to special status mammal species would be less than significant.

Invertebrates

One sensitive invertebrate species has the potential to occur on the proposed project site: quino checkerspot butterfly. Although the NF-PEIR (RBF 1999) indicates that habitat for the quino checkerspot butterfly may be found on the project site, the Recovery Plan for the Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (USFWS 2003) and the CNDDDB records for this species indicate that the project site is located well outside of the current known range of the species. Records from Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange Counties are historic and are listed on the Quino Recovery Plan as occurring before 1986 and consist of very few records. The closest recorded quino checkerspot butterfly location is an historic record in Orange County, approximately 4.5 miles to the southwest of the site. Therefore, impacts to special status invertebrates would be less than significant.

Indirect Impacts

In addition to habitat removal, which may disturb and displace wildlife that relies on the project area for shelter and food, implementation of the proposed project would result in a variety of indirect impacts that could impact sensitive wildlife species. The indirect impacts that could occur to sensitive wildlife species due to proposed project implementation are described below. All of these impacts would be significant, unless otherwise specified.

Lighting

Artificial lighting introduced into the proposed project site both during and after project construction would have the potential to indirectly impact wildlife in surrounding natural habitat areas. This would be considered a significant impact.

Noise/Vibration

Increased residential noise and temporary construction noise and vibration would have the potential to indirectly impact sensitive wildlife species in adjacent open space and conservation areas. Noise and vibration disturbance may displace some wildlife species by causing temporary or permanent abandonment or avoidance of areas in close proximity to the disturbance area. However, construction of the proposed project would be intermittent and would not occur simultaneously on the entire project site. Further, the proposed project must comply with the City's noise ordinance. The temporary nature

of construction disturbance and the requirement to abide by the City's noise ordinance would limit noise pollution and vibration and reduce impacts to below a level of significance.

Intrusion

Habitat to support nesting raptors is present in the project area and within the project footprint and increased indirect impacts to nesting birds would potentially occur via the introduction of humans and domestic animals. During construction, noise and increased disturbance would also have the potential to disrupt the nesting/fledging cycle.

Summary

Implementation of the proposed project would have the potential to result in disturbances to nesting raptors and habitat for the burrowing owl, which represents a significant impact. Additionally, indirect impacts to special status wildlife species from implementation of the proposed project would potentially occur from the introduction of new lighting and intrusive sources. Therefore, the proposed project would result in direct and indirect impacts to special status wildlife species.

Mitigation Measures

Implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F would reduce direct and indirect impacts to sensitive plant and vegetation communities on the project site, which serve as habitat areas for special status wildlife species. Therefore, these mitigation measures would also reduce direct and indirect impacts to special status wildlife species. In addition, implementation of mitigation measure Bio-2A would reduce direct impacts to nesting raptors to below a significant level. Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-2B would reduce indirect lighting impacts to sensitive wildlife species to below a significant level. Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-2C would reduce direct impacts to the burrowing owl to a level below significant.

Bio-2A To prevent impacts to nesting raptors, the on-site construction superintendant and a City-approved biologist shall enforce the following:

- i. All phases of construction, including mass grading and house construction, shall avoid the raptor nesting season (February 1 through August 31) for any raptor species identified in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Department of Fish and Game Code.
- ii. If construction cannot avoid the raptor nesting season, a pre-construction survey for nesting raptors, including the burrowing owl, shall be conducted prior to any site disturbance or vegetation removal on the project site. This survey shall be conducted within 72 hours prior to the start of construction.
- iii. In the event that a fully protected species is found to be nesting on the project site, all work in the area shall stop and a consultation with the regulatory agencies shall occur. If nesting raptors, or any migratory bird regulated under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, are present within or immediately adjacent to the proposed project development footprint, the following shall be required, as approved by the regulatory agencies:

- a. Temporary avoidance of nests/shrubs/trees/area including the provision of a suitable buffer (300 to 500 linear feet for raptors, 25-500 linear feet for other species as determined by the City-approved biologist) shall be required until such time as the biologist has verified that the young have fledged or the nest has otherwise become inactive and passive relocation (removal of the tree and nest after abandoned) may occur;
- b. Avoidance of the nest and permanent preservation of the area; or
- c. Development of an approved alternative nesting site (after the nest is determined to be no longer active).

Bio-2B During construction, lighting shall be limited to daylight hours and directed towards equipment and away from natural areas. Upon project completion and operation, all installed exterior residential lighting shall be directed away from natural areas toward patios, gardens, driveways, recreational sites, residential structures, garages, or outbuildings so as to prevent spill-over into adjacent natural areas.

Bio-2C Prior to project construction, a preconstruction clearance survey for burrowing owl shall be conducted by a City-approved biologist in compliance with the CDFG's burrowing owl project clearance protocol.

4.3.3.3 Issue 3 – Riparian Habitat and Other Sensitive Natural Communities

Biological Resources Issue 3 Summary

Would implementation of the proposed project have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFG or USFWS?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to coastal sage scrub and California walnut woodland habitats.

Mitigation: Construction preparation (**Bio-1B**); Construction practices (**Bio-1C**); Prohibit invasive species (**Bio-1D**); Treat pesticide run off (**Bio-1E**); Prevent intrusion (**Bio-1F**); Off-set coastal sage scrub loss (**Bio-3A**); Off-set indirect impacts from on-site mitigation (**Bio-3B**); Off-set mature tree removal (**Bio-6A**).

Significance Before Mitigation: Significant.

Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Standards of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFG and USFWS.

Impact Analysis

Direct Impacts

Construction and operation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to on- and off-site vegetation communities, including riparian habitat and sensitive natural communities. Table 4.3-4, identifies impacts that would occur to vegetation communities from implementation of the proposed project. As shown in this table, the proposed project would result in direct impacts to approximately 83.8 acres of on-site vegetation communities and 0.18-acres of off-site vegetation communities. An additional 25.97 acres falls within the fuel modification zone and would be impacted based on the conditions of the Fire Protection Plan (Appendix F). Direct impacts to vegetation communities would primarily occur through project grading and the creation of fuel modification zones for fire protection.

Table 4.3-4 Impacts to Vegetation Communities from the Proposed Project (acres)

Vegetation Community ⁽¹⁾	Total Survey Area Acreage ⁽²⁾	Impacts from Grading	Impacts from Fuel Modification Zone	Acreage Not Impacted
Coastal Sage Scrub	10.12	6.25	2.31	1.56
Coastal Sage Scrub/Mixed Chaparral	70.93	28.35	8.81	33.77
Coastal Sage Scrub/Non-native Grassland	25.82	2.76	0.95	22.11
Coastal Sage Scrub/Elderberry Scrub	2.60	0	0	2.60
Mixed Chaparral	0.18	0.01	0	0.17
Mixed Chaparral/Non-native Grassland	25.44	0.27	0.98	24.19
Mixed Chaparral/Ornamental	0.69	0	0	0.69
Sycamore/Coast Live Oak/Walnut Woodland	6.52	1.05	0.77	4.70
Sycamore/Coast Live Oak Woodland	1.85	0	0	1.85
Elderberry Scrub	10.40	0.73	0.08	9.59
Coast Live Oak/Walnut Woodland	62.05	15.35	6.82	39.88
Walnut Woodland	4.05	1.32	1.18	1.55
Non-native Grassland	70.39	13.56	2.43	54.40
Non-native Grassland/Ornamental	2.23	1.67	0.23	0.33
Ornamental	11.05	7.13	0.94	2.98
Disturbed	8.66	4.98	0.36	3.32
Developed	1.10	0.55	0.11	0.44
Total	314.08	83.8	25.97	204.13

⁽¹⁾ Vegetation communities considered sensitive by CDFG are shown in bold.

⁽²⁾ The survey area includes the 270 acre project site, the 0.18-acre emergency access turnaround, and two additional off-site parcels, both located on the southern boundary of the survey area and owned by the project applicant.

Source: L&L 2010

Two vegetation communities that exist on site are considered sensitive by CDFG: coastal sage scrub and California walnut woodland. Approximately 8.56 acres of coastal sage scrub would be directly impacted from grading and the creation of fuel modification zones. An additional 40.87 acres of mixed coastal sage scrub communities would be impacted by grading and the creation of fuel modification zones. The direct impact to coastal sage scrub and mixed coastal sage scrub communities from implementation of the proposed project would be significant because this community is considered sensitive by CDFG.

Approximately 2.50 acres of California walnut woodland would be directly impacted from grading and the creation of fuel modification zones. An additional 24.0 acres of mixed California walnut woodland communities would be impacted by grading and the creation of fuel modification zones. The direct impact to California walnut woodland and mixed California walnut woodland communities from implementation of the proposed project would be significant because this community is considered sensitive by CDFG.

Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts to riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities would be the same as those listed above in Section 4.3.3.1, Issue 1 – Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Species. Impacts to drainages and associated habitats such as sycamore and coast live oak woodland are regulated by the ACOE (Section 404) and CDFG (Section 1603). Indirect impacts to on-site vegetation communities and wildlife supported by this vegetation could occur during the installation of an on-site mitigation or revegetation area. As a result of the implementation of project mitigation measures, portions of the project site would require non-native vegetation removal and native revegetation. Impacts to habitat, including non-native grasslands, could indirectly disturb and displace wildlife that relies on these areas for shelter and food. This would be considered a potentially significant indirect impact. Impacts to drainages are discussed below in Section 4.3.3.4, Issue 4 – Wetlands.

Summary

Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to coastal sage scrub and California walnut woodland, which are considered sensitive communities by CDFG. In addition, indirect impacts from the displacement of habitat would also have the potential to occur from implementation of project mitigation measures. Therefore, the project would result in a significant impact to these communities.

Mitigation Measures

Implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F would reduce direct and indirect impacts to vegetation communities to a less than significant level. Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-3A would reduce impacts to coastal sage scrub to a less than significant level. Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-3B would reduce indirect impacts from on-site mitigation to a less than significant level. Mitigation measure Bio-6A, provided in below Section 4.3.3.6, Issue 6 – Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans would mitigate the loss of California walnut woodland to a less than significant level.

- Bio-3A** To mitigate impacts to coastal sage scrub, the on-site construction superintendant and a City-approved biologist shall ensure that following measures are implemented:
- i. Coastal sage scrub (CSS) shall be revegetated at a ratio of 2:1, revegetation for CSS and native species integrades (i.e. CSS/chaparral or CSS/elderberry scrub) shall occur at a 1:1 ratio and revegetation for CSS and non-native grasslands/ruderals shall occur at a 0.5:1 ratio.
 - ii. CSS or CSS communities shall be mitigated through the following methods, as approved by the regulatory agencies:
 - a. On-site as restoration of non-native or disturbed/developed areas within avoided and preserved sections of the project;
 - b. On-site as enhancement of CSS/non-native communities;
 - c. Off-site within approved mitigation bank(s) or off-site within other property(ies) (i.e. restoration/enhancement programs) available at the time of grading; or
 - d. A combination of the above.
 - iii. Revegetation shall be implemented in stages. The initial stage shall begin during site grubbing and shall consist of crushing/mulching scrub within areas to be graded with a dozer. The crushed/ mulched material along with the top four to six inches (10 to 15 cm) of topsoil shall then be removed in one operation with a loader or dozer and stockpiled nearby as directed by the biologist. Soil stockpiles shall be stored at depths no greater than seven feet (2 m) until revegetation sites are prepared and shall be maintained free of contamination (storage depths may require adjustment based upon length of storage). Stockpiles shall be stored no longer than six months. Once a restoration site is prepared the stockpiled soil shall be spread to a depth of approximately one foot (30 cm). Appropriate scrub container stock shall be incorporated into the revegetation areas as outlined in the detailed mitigation/ restoration plan to be developed by the biologist. In addition, container stock consisting of native bunchgrasses shall be incorporated into the planting. The redistributed material, along with the container stock, shall be watered by a temporary irrigation system until established, as determined by the biologist.
 - iv. Crushed plant material and soil to be stockpiled shall be obtained from various locations on site. Areas to be revegetated shall be determined by the City-approved biologist based upon such factors as the configuration of the cut and/or fill slopes and proximity to areas of intact scrub communities.
 - v. The timing of the stockpiling of plant material and topsoil shall be dictated by the grading/construction schedule. Reintroduction of stockpiled material to revegetation sites shall be conducted between September 1 and November 30. Container stock shall be planted during the same time period.
 - vi. Performance standards shall be developed by the City-approved biologist and apply for the revegetation of coastal sage scrub. Generally these standards include 75 percent coverage by redistributed vegetative materials, seeded species, and container stock (whichever of the three or combination is used) at the end of five years. In addition, if a

50 percent survival rate has not been achieved, replanting with appropriate size container stock necessary to achieve this standard shall be performed.

- vii. Success criteria for any on-site mitigation or enhancement shall be finalized in the mitigation plan after consultation with the regulatory agencies, but shall include no less than a 40 percent survival rate of container plants and a non-native or weedy species component of not more than ten percent after five years as judged by data collected at permanent transect locations, and reported annually in mitigation monitoring reports. While success is difficult to judge in the first three years due to naturally slow growth rates, and success in these years is related primarily to adequate weeding programs and watering programs, reasonable progress should be reported in the fourth and fifth year. Thereafter, whole year(s) will be added to the monitoring program until such time as the program meets the success criteria of 50 percent survival and no more than 10 percent weed cover. If success standards are not met, remedial measures, including hand seeding, hydroseeding, or introduction of additional container stock shall be implemented as directed by City staff and the biologist.

Bio-3B The City-approved project biologist, provided by the applicant, in coordination with the regulatory agencies, shall determine the best on-site area to be utilized for restoration and enhancement. Selection of specific on or off-site mitigation locations shall be based on an analysis of the availability of space, water, and accessibility as well as appropriate soils and topography. Mitigation areas shall not be placed in areas which are so remote or topographically challenging that maintenance crews cannot reasonably access the area and or provide for the stated success criteria. The final decision for the placement of mitigation (on or off-site) shall be made by the project biologist in consultation with the City and appropriate regulatory agencies and shall be based on a reasonable expectation of success, but in no event shall the ratios fall below those ratios stated above in mitigation measures Bio-3A, Bio-4B and Bio-6A. The biologist shall supervise the installation and establishment of any on-site habitat mitigation area to insure that indirect impacts do not occur to nesting or regulated species within the avoided area of the project or within conservation areas.

4.3.3.4 Issue 4 – Wetlands

Biological Resources Issue 4 Summary

Would implementation of the proposed project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would result in impacts to six acres of drainages under the jurisdiction of the ACOE and CDFG.

Mitigation: Construction preparation (**Bio-1B**); Construction practices (**Bio-1C**); Prohibit invasive species (**Bio-1D**); Treat pesticide runoff (**Bio-1E**); Prevent intrusion (**Bio-1F**); Off-set direct drainage impacts (**Bio-4A**); Wetland and riparian revegetation and restoration (**Bio-4B and Bio-4C**); Construction practices (**Bio-4D**); Invasive species removal (**Bio-4E**).

Significance Before Mitigation: Significant.

Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Standards of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.

Impact Analysis

Direct Impacts

Approximately 25 acres of drainage areas occur within the four canyons (Shuler, Sycamore, Shay and Wildwood) located on the proposed project site that fall under the jurisdiction of the ACOE and CDFG. The location of these drainages is identified in Figure 4.3-3, Jurisdictional Drainage Features. Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to 6.31 acres of jurisdictional drainages, including approximately 5.0 acres of drainages in Shuler Canyon, 1.0 acres in Wildwood Canyon and less than 0.5 acre in Shay Canyon. The proposed project would not impact drainage areas of Sycamore Canyon. Impacts to jurisdictional drainages from implementation of the proposed project are identified in Table 4.3-5. Direct impacts to jurisdictional drainages from development of the proposed project would be a significant impact.

Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts to drainages from implementation of the proposed project include increased trash/debris and pollutants from storm drain outfalls, increased sedimentation during construction, and erosion and transportation of silt to adjacent waterways and downstream riparian areas. Additionally, construction measures designed to prevent downstream siltation and prevent erosion could impede flows to downstream habitat. Indirect impacts to jurisdictional drainages from development of the proposed project would be a significant impact.

Table 4.3-5 Jurisdictional Drainages and Planned Impacts

Canyon	Drainages On Site			Proposed Project Impacts to Drainages			Jurisdiction
	Length (feet)	Area (square feet)	Acres	Length (feet)	Area (square feet)	Acres	
Schuler	11,506	841,776	19.324	5,213	217,692	4.998	CDFG/ACOE
Sycamore	2,042	18,410	0.423	0	0	0	CDFG/ACOE
Wildwood	9,498	187,818	4.312	3,216	47,917	1.100	CDFG/ACOE
Shay	2,343	58,575	1.345	345	9,200	0.21	CDFG/ACOE
Total	25,389	1,106,579	25.40	8,774	274,809	6.31	

Source: L&L Environmental 2010

Summary

Implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to 6.31 acres of drainages that are under the jurisdiction of ACOE and CDFG. Additionally, indirect impacts to drainages would have the

potential to occur from construction and operation of the proposed project. Therefore, impacts to jurisdictional drainages would be significant.

Mitigation Measures

Implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F would reduce direct and indirect impacts to sensitive vegetation communities, including drainage areas, to a less than significant level. Implementation of mitigation measures Bio-4A through Bio-4E would reduce direct impacts to on-site drainages to a less than significant level.

Bio-4A Impacts to wetlands and/or riparian habitats shall be mitigated as part of the mitigation required for any CDFG Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement and/or ACOE 404 Permit that may be processed for future development projects. As part of the permit/agreement, a conceptual streambed/riparian related mitigation plan shall be developed. The objective of the mitigation is to ensure that there is no net loss of habitat values from the project. The mixed willow riparian forest and coast live oak riparian forest are vegetation types that would be impacted by future development projects within the project area and shall require permitting. The mitigation plan for impacts to these communities shall include the following elements:

- i. Responsibilities and qualifications of the personnel to implement/supervise the plan;
- ii. Plant material and seed mixes;
- iii. Site preparation and planting implementation;
- iv. Performance criteria;
- v. Monitoring and maintenance plan;
- vi. Long-term preservation of the site;
- vii. Agency coordination; and
- viii. Construction document preparation.

Bio-4B As approved by the regulatory agencies, prior to project construction mitigation for project impacts to all jurisdictional drainages/streambeds and “waters of the U.S.” shall occur:

- i. On-site as restoration within avoided and preserved areas of the project site;
- ii. On-site as enhancement of native communities;
- iii. Off-site within approved mitigation bank(s);
- iv. Off-site within other properties (i.e. restoration/enhancement programs) available at the time of grading; or
- v. A combination of the above.

Bio-4C Ratios for wetland/riparian jurisdictional drainages shall occur at a 2:1 ratio as measured from streambed top of bank to opposite top of bank, or bed and bank to bed and bank. Riparian or wetland trees shall be mitigated on a 2:1 ratio under the mature significant tree mitigation program as discussed in Bio-6A. Unvegetated or upland vegetated drainages shall be mitigated at a 1:1 basis and temporary drainage impacts shall be mitigated at a

0.5:1 ratio. Success criteria for any on-site mitigation or enhancement shall be finalized in the mitigation plan after consultation with the regulatory agencies but shall include no less than a 40 percent survival rate of container plants and a non-native or weedy species component of not more than 10 percent after five years as judged by data collected at permanent transect locations, and reported annually in mitigation monitoring reports. While native tree success is difficult to judge in the first three years due to naturally slow growth rates and success in these years is related primarily to adequate weeding and watering programs, reasonable progress should be reported in the fourth and fifth year. Thereafter, whole year(s) shall be added to the monitoring program until such time as the program meets the success criteria of 50 percent survival and no more than 10 percent weed cover.

Bio-4D During project construction, the construction superintendent and a City-approved biologist shall ensure that the following measures are implemented:

- i. No unauthorized activity shall occur in drainages.
- ii. The project applicant shall employ all standard best management practices to ensure that toxic materials, silt, debris, or excessive erosion do not enter waters of the United States during project construction. The use of silt fencing and other measures shall be required adjacent to any protected (jurisdictional) drainage.
- iii. Staging areas shall be placed in such a way as to prevent contaminated runoff into waters of the U.S.

Bio-4E Invasive species shall be removed from the drainage areas, including any eucalyptus or pepper tree species that are within a drainage system, or that is in a tributary area to a drainage.

4.3.3.5 Issue 5 — Wildlife Movement Corridors

Biological Resources Issue 5 Summary

Would the implementation of the proposed project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident migratory corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would not interfere with wildlife movement corridors. **Mitigation:** No mitigation is required.

Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant. **Significance After Mitigation:** Less than significant.

Thresholds of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant impact if it would interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident migratory corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

Impact Analysis

The City of San Dimas and its Northern Foothills area supports a number of wildlife movement corridors. The property falls between residential development to the south and the Angeles National Forest to the north. Due to the location of the project site along the southern edge of the San Gabriel Mountains and the Angeles National Forest, there is likely significant wildlife movement in the area. Approximately 90 acres of the 273 acre site is proposed for development. Although limitations to wildlife movement would take place as a result of the proposed project, as described below, it would not occur to the extent that it would be considered regionally significant. Implementation of this project would limit wildlife movement within the boundary of the property, but would not cut off linkages to other open space or conservation areas.

Total disturbance on the project site from implementation of the proposed project would be approximately 90 acres, leaving an additional 183 acres of the site undisturbed, including an 83-acre parcel to the north that would be preserved as open space. The majority of the disturbance would occur within portions of the Shay, Shuler and Wildwood Canyons and would likely reduce or redirect wildlife movement within these drainages. However, the proposed project's no build areas and the proposed 83-acre parcel of open space would continue to allow for wildlife movement on the project site. Wildlife movement would continue to occur around the disturbed areas in both the undisturbed portions of the affected canyons and through the remaining open tracts of land both on-site and adjacent to the project site. Although limitations to wildlife movement would take place as a result of implementation of the proposed project, it would not occur to the extent that it would impact regional wildlife movement. Therefore, impacts to wildlife movement corridors would be less than significant.

Summary

Implementation of the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of regional wildlife species because a large majority of the site would remain undeveloped and the project site does not serve as an important regional wildlife corridor linkage. Impacts to local wildlife movement corridors would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

Impacts to wildlife movement corridors would be less than significant; therefore, mitigation is not required.

4.3.3.6 Issue 6 — Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans

Biological Resources Issue 6 Summary

Would implementation of the proposed project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance, or would it conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?

Impact: Implementation of the proposed project would conflict with the San Dimas Mature Tree Ordinance.

Mitigation: Off-set mature tree removal (**Bio-6A**).

Significance Before Mitigation: Significant.

Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Thresholds of Significance

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, implementation of the proposed project would have a significant adverse impact if it would conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance, or conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan.

Impact Analysis

According to the San Dimas General Plan, Exhibit II-4.1, the proposed project site is not located within a conservation overlay area. Additionally, the proposed project site does not fall under the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan. However, the City of San Dimas does maintain a Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 18.162 of the San Dimas Municipal Code) that applies to the proposed project site. Potential conflicts with this ordinance from implementation of the proposed project are discussed below.

City of San Dimas Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance

The proposed project site has a total of approximately 4,000 trees on site, which include varieties of coast live oak, eucalyptus, scrub oak, sycamore, walnut and willow. Figure 4.3-2 identifies the location of mature trees within the development footprint of the proposed project. Trees located on site that meet the City of San Dimas' definition of a mature significant tree and would be impacted by construction of the proposed project include: 220 coast live oak, 138 walnut, five sycamore, and 67 eucalyptus trees. In total, implementation of the proposed project would result in the direct loss of 430 mature significant trees, or approximately 11 percent of the total trees present on site. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a conflict with the San Dimas Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance.

In addition to the 430 mature significant trees that would be directly impacted by the proposed project, more mature trees may be impacted from implementation of the project's Fire Protection Plan, which requires the development of fuel modification zones that are cleared of vegetation. Mature trees located with the proposed fuel modification zones are not planned for removal, but may require pruning

under the conditions of the Fire Protection Plan. Tree pruning would result in a significant impact if it affects the long-term health of the tree.

Summary

The proposed project would result in a conflict with the San Dimas Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance, which would result in a significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

Implementation of mitigation measure Bio-6A would reduce direct impacts to mature significant trees to a less than significant level.

Bio-6A To off-set impacts to on-site mature significant trees, the construction superintendant and a City-approved biologist shall ensure implementation of the following measures:

- i. A minimum of two 15-gallon native trees shall be planted on site as a replacement for every one mature and significant tree removed. Trees shall be replaced within landscaped areas of the project, within avoided open space areas where natural water is available or within preserved mitigation areas for impacts to jurisdictional drainages.
- ii. The landscape architect/designer for the project shall design replacement trees into landscape plans which shall be subject to review by the City.
- iii. Planting specifications shall consider the following:
 - a. The newly planted trees shall be planted high, as much as 0.75 foot above the new adjacent grade.
 - b. Amend the backfill soil with wood shavings. However, it is not recommended when existing soil is high in natural organic matter with a sandy loam texture.
 - c. In regard to the need of planting amendments and drainage systems, recommendations shall be based on soil tests on the project site and approved by the City.
- iv. Any City-approved work within the driplines of saved trees, including branch removal or any modification necessary to comply with fuel modification requirements, shall be under the inspection of a qualified arborist.
- v. Copies of the "Tree Report," the Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance and the City-approved grading plans shall be maintained on site during all site construction.
- vi. Impacts to mature trees shall be monitored by a project biologist and shall be counted and compared to the pre-project tree inventory. The project biologist shall verify the number of replacement trees and this number shall be reported in a mitigation monitoring report. The success criteria for mature trees shall be fully developed in the mitigation monitoring plan, but shall include survival standards of not less than 50 percent after 5 years and not more than a 10 percent weedy species cover in the mitigation/landscape areas.

4.3.4 Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation

Biological Resources Cumulative Issue Summary		
Would implementation of the proposed project have a cumulatively considerable contribution to a cumulative biological resources impact considering past, present, and probable future projects?		
<i>Cumulative Impact</i>	<i>Cumulative Significance</i>	<i>Proposed Project Contribution</i>
Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Plant Species. Regional loss of sensitive plants.	Significant	Not cumulatively considerable with implementation of project mitigation measures.
Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Wildlife Species. Regional loss of sensitive wildlife.	Significant	Not cumulatively considerable with implementation of project mitigation measures.
Riparian Habitat or other Sensitive Natural Communities. Regional loss of riparian communities or other sensitive communities.	Significant	Not cumulatively considerable with implementation of project mitigation measures.
Wetlands. Regional loss of wetlands, waters or riparian resources under the jurisdiction of the Corps, CDFG, and RWQCB.	Significant	Not cumulatively considerable with implementation of project mitigation measures.
Wildlife Movement Corridors. Regional loss of wildlife movement corridors/ habitat linkages.	Significant	Not cumulatively considerable.
Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans. Regional conflicts with policies, ordinances, and habitat conservation plans.	Less than significant.	Not cumulatively considerable.

The geographic scope of the cumulative impact analysis for biological resources includes the foothill areas of the San Gabriel Mountains, including areas of the cities of San Dimas and Glendora. Discussed below is the potential for the proposed project to contribute to a significant cumulative biological resources impact to sensitive species or habitats, wetlands, wildlife movement corridors, and inconsistencies with applicable policies, ordinances, and habitat conservation plans.

4.3.4.1 Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Plant Species

Past and present cumulative projects in the foothills region of the City of San Dimas and the City of Glendora have resulted in development that caused the direct loss of plant species. In combination, these impacts resulted in the populations of many plant species to drop below self-sustaining levels. These plants have since been identified as candidate, sensitive, or special status by the CDFG, USFWS and local and regional plans and policies. As indicated by their sensitive status, a significant cumulative impact has already occurred from the loss of sensitive plant populations as a result of development of past and present cumulative projects, and future cumulative projects would also result in a significant cumulative impact.

As discussed above in Section 4.3.3.1, Issue 1: Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Plant Species, implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to thread-leaved brodiaea, a federally threatened and state endangered plant species. Additionally, implementation of the proposed project would have the potential to result in a variety of indirect impacts to special status plant species and vegetation communities. Therefore, the proposed project would result in direct and indirect impacts to special status plant species. However, with implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1A through Bio-1F, the proposed project's direct and indirect impacts would be reduced to a level below significant and the proposed project's contribution to the regional impact would not be cumulatively considerable.

4.3.4.2 Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Wildlife Species

Past and present cumulative projects in the foothills region of the City of San Dimas and the City of Glendora have resulted in development that caused the direct loss of habitat that supports wildlife species. In combination, these impacts resulted in the populations of many wildlife species to drop below self-sustaining levels. The affected species have since been identified as candidate, sensitive, or special status by the CDFG, USFWS and local and regional plans and policies. As indicated by their sensitive status, a significant cumulative impact has already occurred from the loss of habitat supporting sensitive wildlife populations as a result of development of past and present cumulative projects, and future cumulative projects would also result in a significant cumulative impact.

As discussed above in Section 4.3.3.2, Issue 2: Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Wildlife Species, implementation of the proposed project would have the potential to result in disturbances to nesting raptors and habitat for the migrating burrowing owl, which represents a significant impact. Additionally, indirect impacts to special status wildlife species from implementation of the proposed project would potentially occur from the introduction of new lighting and intrusive sources. Therefore, the proposed project would result in direct and indirect impacts to special status wildlife species. However, with implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F and Bio-2A through Bio-2C, the proposed project's direct and indirect impacts would be reduced to a level below significant and the project's contribution to the regional impact would not be cumulatively considerable.

4.3.4.3 Riparian Habitat or other Sensitive Natural Communities

Past and present cumulative projects in the foothills region of the City of San Dimas and the City of Glendora have resulted in development that caused the disturbance or direct loss of riparian habitat and sensitive natural communities that support sensitive plant and wildlife species. In combination, these impacts resulted in the loss or disturbance of habitat communities so that areas of these communities are no longer able to support viable populations of sensitive or characteristic plant and wildlife species. Due to their importance to biodiversity in the region, a significant cumulative impact would occur from the loss of riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities as a result of development of the cumulative projects identified in Table 4.0-2, Past, Present and Probable Future Projects.

As discussed above in Section 4.3.3.3, Issue 3, Riparian Habitat or Other Sensitive Natural Communities, implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to coastal sage scrub and California walnut woodland, which are considered sensitive communities by CDFG. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a significant impact to these communities. However, with implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F and Bio-3A, Bio-3B and Bio-6A, the

proposed project's direct impacts would be reduced to a level below significant and the project's contribution to the regional impact would not be cumulatively considerable.

4.3.4.4 Wetlands

Past and present cumulative projects in the foothills region of the City of San Dimas and the City of Glendora have resulted in development that caused substantial adverse effect on wetlands, waters, or riparian resources under the jurisdiction of Corps, CDFG, and/or RWQCB through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. In combination, these impacts resulted in the loss or disturbance of wetland resources so that these communities are no longer able to support viable populations of characteristic riparian species, which is considered a significant cumulative impact.

As discussed above in Section 4.3.3.4, Issue 4, Wetlands, implementation of the proposed project would result in direct impacts to 6.31 acres of drainages that are under the jurisdiction of ACOE and CDFG. Additionally, indirect impacts to drainages would have the potential to occur from construction and operation of the proposed project. Therefore, impacts to jurisdictional drainages would be significant. However, with implementation of mitigation measures Bio-1B through Bio-1F and Bio-4A through Bio-4E, the proposed project's direct and indirect impacts would be reduced to a level below significant and the project's contribution to the regional impact would not be cumulatively considerable.

4.3.4.5 Wildlife Movement Corridors

Past and present cumulative projects in the foothills region of the City of San Dimas and the City of Glendora have resulted in development that has restricted wildlife access between habitats, directly by removing habitat and indirectly through increases in traffic that create a barrier to wildlife. In combination, these impacts resulted in the loss of wildlife movement corridors, which are important to the viability of wildlife species populations by ensuring the exchange of genes between populations to maintain genetic diversity and providing access to habitat suitable for the reproduction of species. Due to their importance in maintaining wildlife populations in the region, a significant cumulative impact would occur from the construction of cumulative projects which would create barriers that block major wildlife movement corridors.

As discussed above in Section 4.3.3.5, Issue 5, Wildlife Movement Corridors, implementation of the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of regional wildlife species because a large majority of the site would remain undeveloped and the project site does not serve as an important regional wildlife corridor linkage. Impacts to local wildlife movement corridors would be less than significant and the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution.

4.3.4.6 Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans

Similar to the proposed project, cumulative projects would be required to demonstrate compliance with the applicable General Plan and other local policies, such as the City of San Dimas Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance, as part of the CEQA process prior to project approval. Therefore, a significant cumulative impact would not occur.

As discussed in Section 4.3.3.6, Issue 6: Local Policies or Ordinances and Habitat Conservation Plans, the proposed project would result in a conflict with the San Dimas Mature Tree Preservation Ordinance, which would result in a significant impact. However, with implementation of mitigation measure Bio-6A, project impacts would be reduced to a level below significant. and the project would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact.

4.3.5 Issues With No Potential to Have a Significant Effect on the Environment

All of the issues identified in the Biological Resources section of CEQA Appendix G: Environmental Checklist Form are fully analyzed for potential impacts in EIR Sections 4.3.3 and 4.3.4, above; therefore, no issues are addressed in this section.

4.3.6 References

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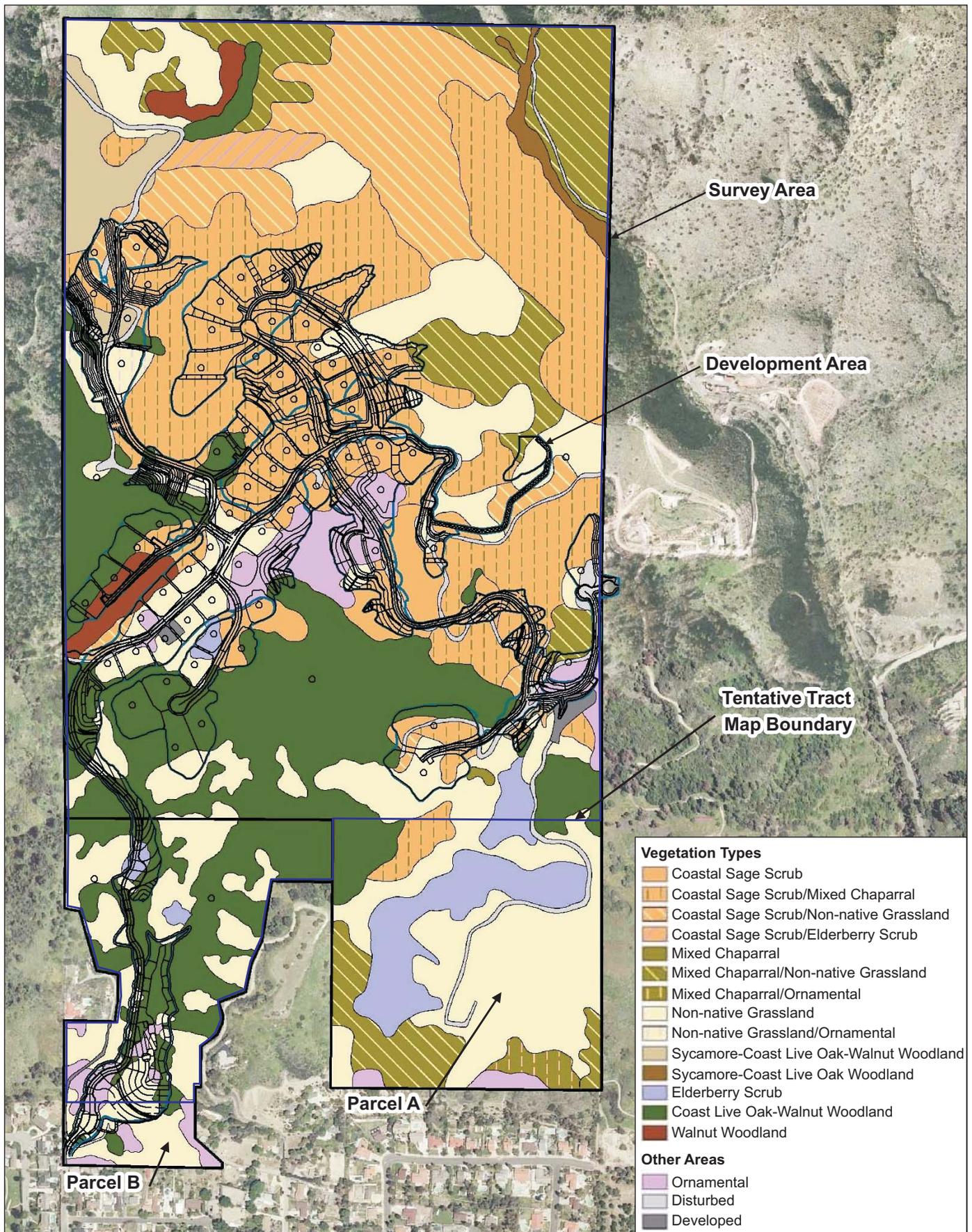
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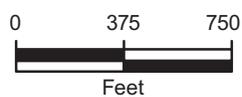
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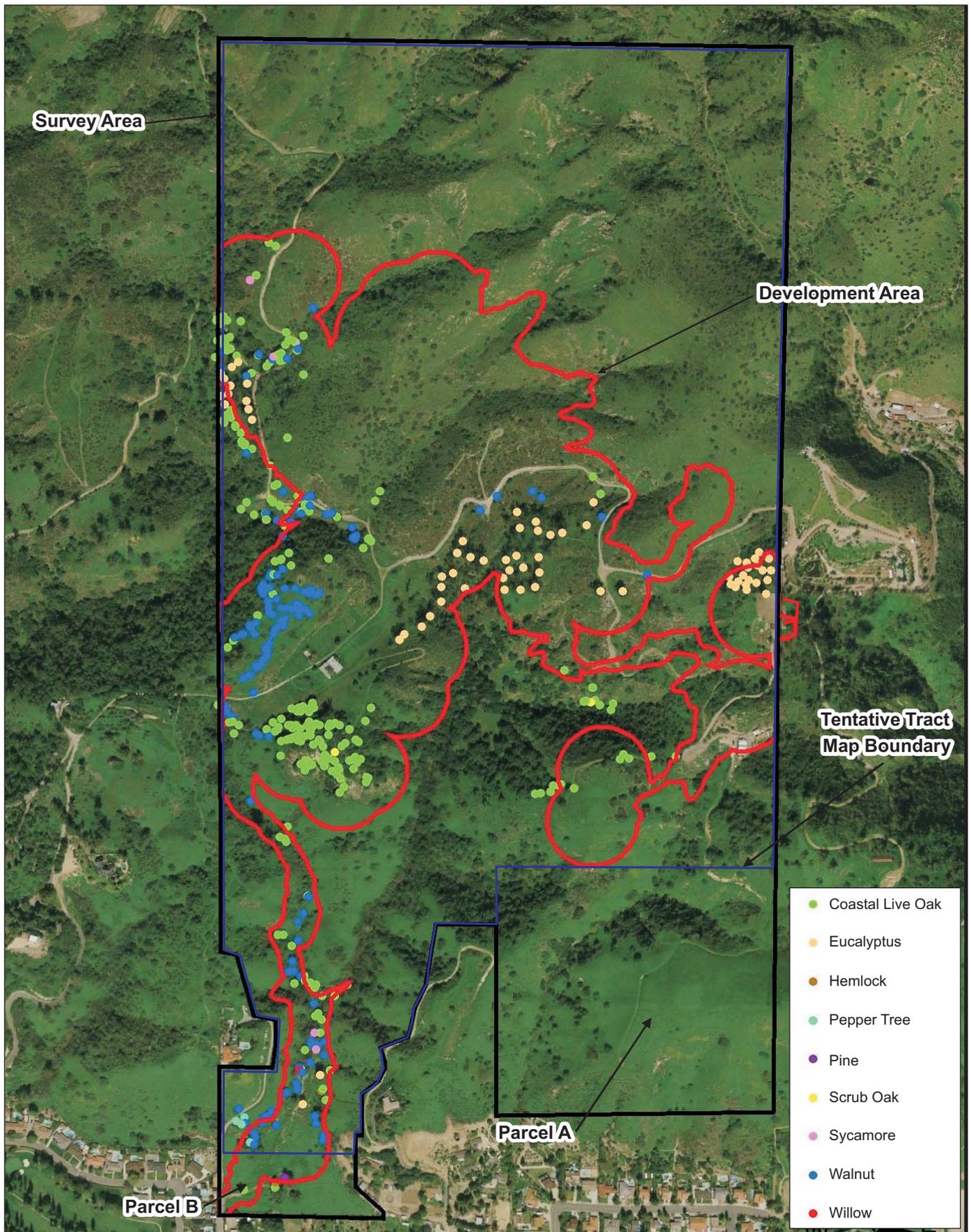
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Source: L&L Environmental, Inc. 2010



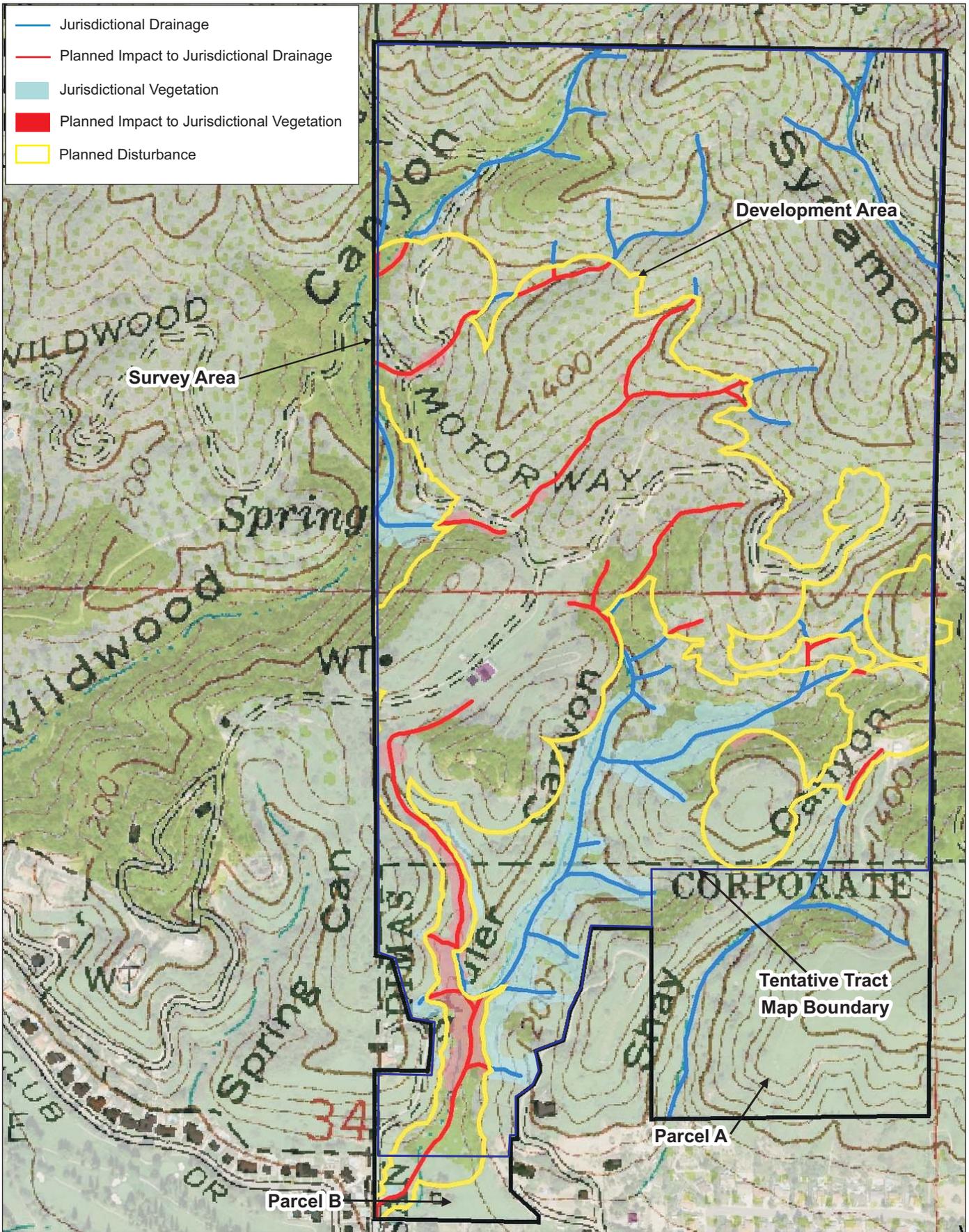
**VEGETATION COMMUNITIES
FIGURE 4.3-1**



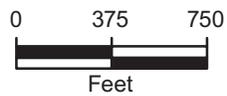
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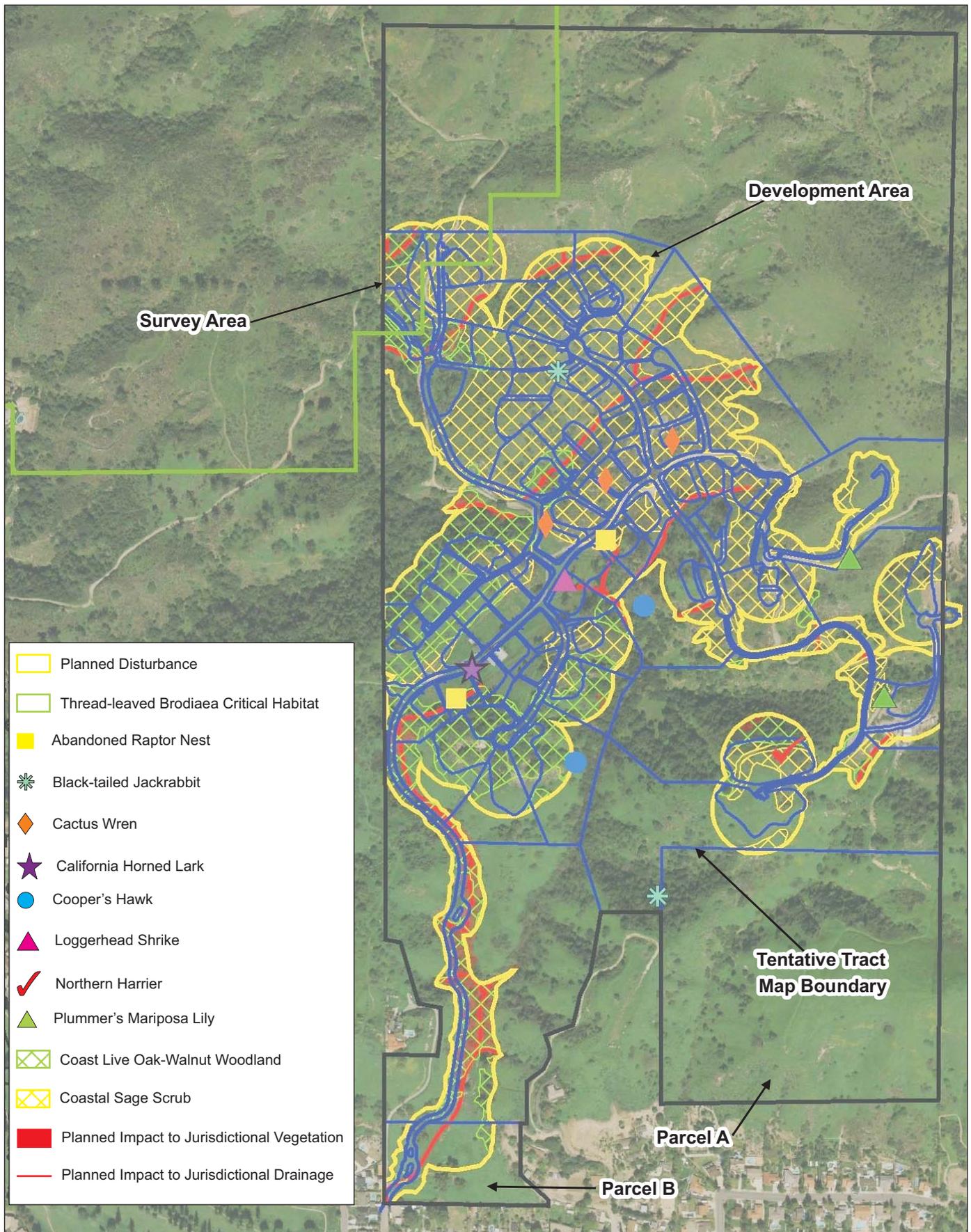
**MATURE SIGNIFICANT TREES
FIGURE 4.3-2**



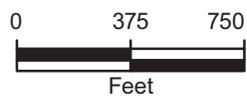
Source: L&L Environmental, Inc. 2010



**JURISDICTIONAL DRAINAGE FEATURES
AND IMPACT AREAS
FIGURE 4.3-3**



Source: L&L Environmental, Inc. 2010



**DIRECT IMPACTS TO SENSITIVE
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES
FIGURE 4.3-4**