



**Biological Resources Report for the
Meadowood Water Pipeline
Infrastructure Project:
Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline
San Diego County, California**

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anna Leavitt".

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BMO	Biological Mitigation Ordinance
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
CNDDDB	California Native Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
County	County of San Diego
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
DIP	ductile iron pipe
ESRI	Environmental Systems Research Institute
HLP	Habitat Loss Permit
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MSCP	Multiple Species Conservation Program
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Planning
PAMA	Pre-Approved Mitigation Area
project	Meadowood Water Pipeline Infrastructure Project: Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline
PVC	polyvinyl chloride(
RAA	Resource Avoidance Area
RECON	RECON Environmental, Inc.
RMWD	Rainbow Municipal Water District
RPO	Resource Protection Ordinance
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

Executive Summary

The Meadowood Water Pipeline Infrastructure Project: Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline (project) is located east of Interstate 15 and north of State Route 76 in San Diego County. The survey area included a 50-foot buffer on the centerline of an approximately 4,500-linear-foot existing Rainbow Municipal Water District (RMWD) easement, for a total of a 100-foot-wide area.

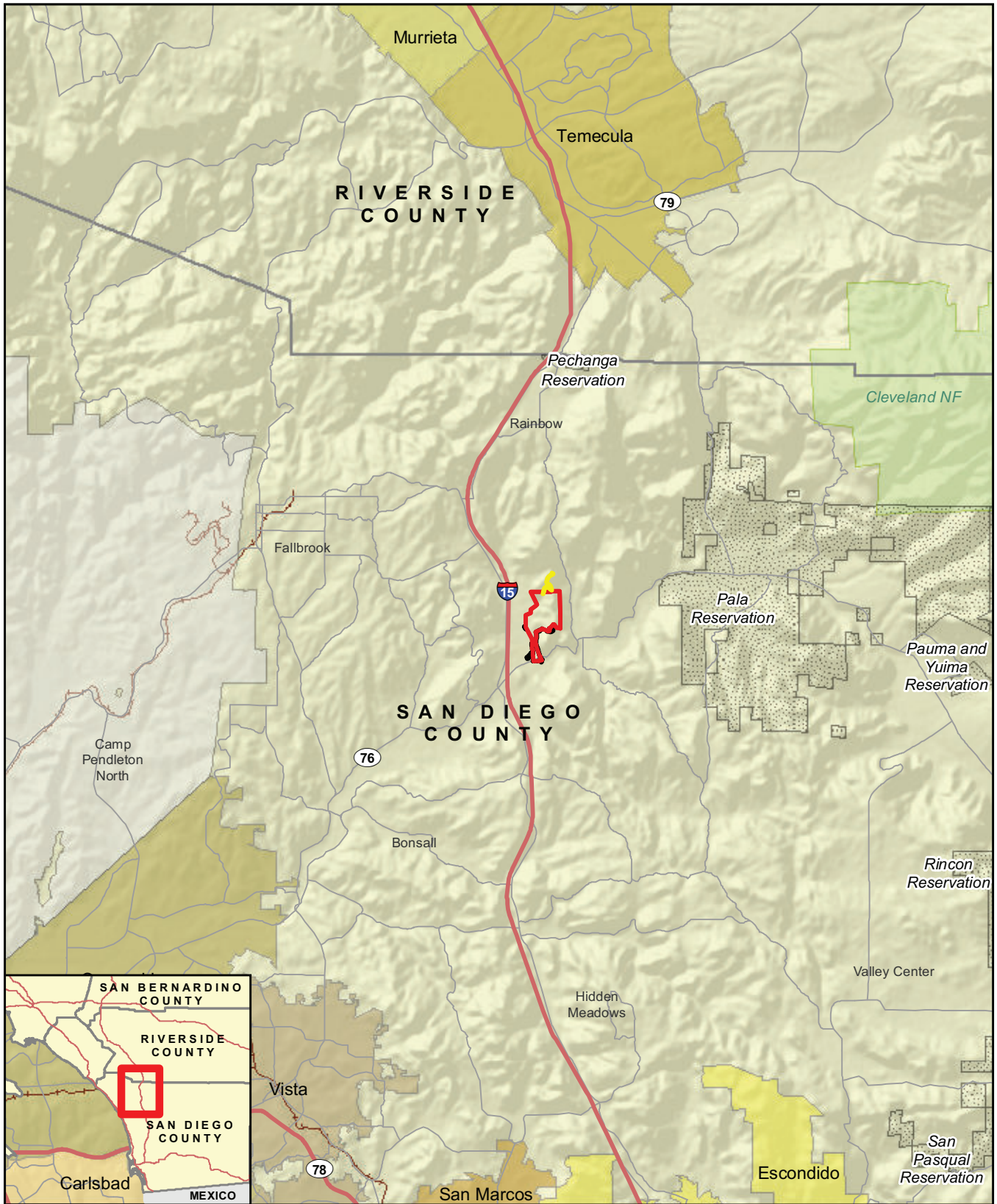
Three vegetation communities/land cover types were identified within the survey area: coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, and developed land. Coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral are considered sensitive by the County of San Diego.

No sensitive or narrow endemic plant or wildlife species were observed within the survey area. The project may directly impact migratory or nesting birds on-site if construction occurs during the raptor breeding season (February 1–July 15) or typical bird breeding season (February 15–September 15).

To avoid direct impacts to nesting and migratory birds, a pre-construction survey would be conducted within the development footprint during the typical bird breeding season listed above to determine the presence or absence of breeding birds and ensure that no impacts occur to any nesting birds or their eggs, chicks, or nests. If construction is proposed during the breeding season for the coastal California gnatcatcher (February 15 – August 31), three focused surveys will take place for coastal California gnatcatcher, on separate days to determine the presence of nesting birds..

1.0 Introduction

This report describes the results of the biological survey conducted within the survey area for the proposed Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline associated with the Meadowood development project. The survey area is located in the community of Fallbrook, east of Interstate 15 and north of State Route 76 (Figure 1). The survey area occurs within Township 09 South Range 03 West of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map, Bonsall quadrangle (Figure 2; USGS 1975). An aerial photograph of the survey area is shown on Figure 3. The survey area occurs within coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) Critical Habitat, and the County of San Diego (County) Draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan Pre-Approved Mitigation Area (PAMA), Preserve Area, and Special Districts (Figure 4).



- Meadowood Project Boundary
- Meadowood Off-site Features
- RMWD Easement

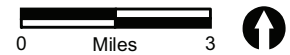
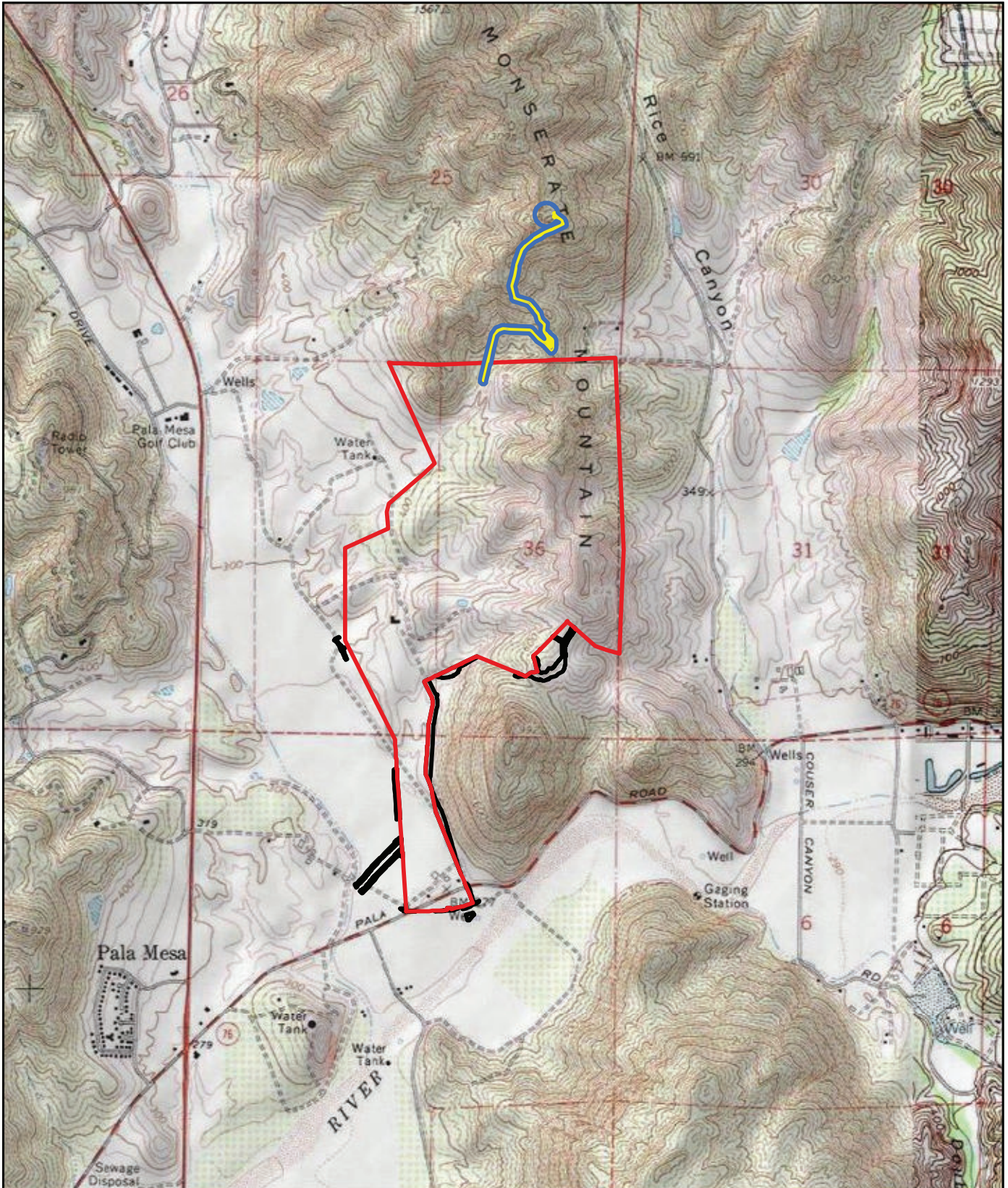


FIGURE 1
Regional Location






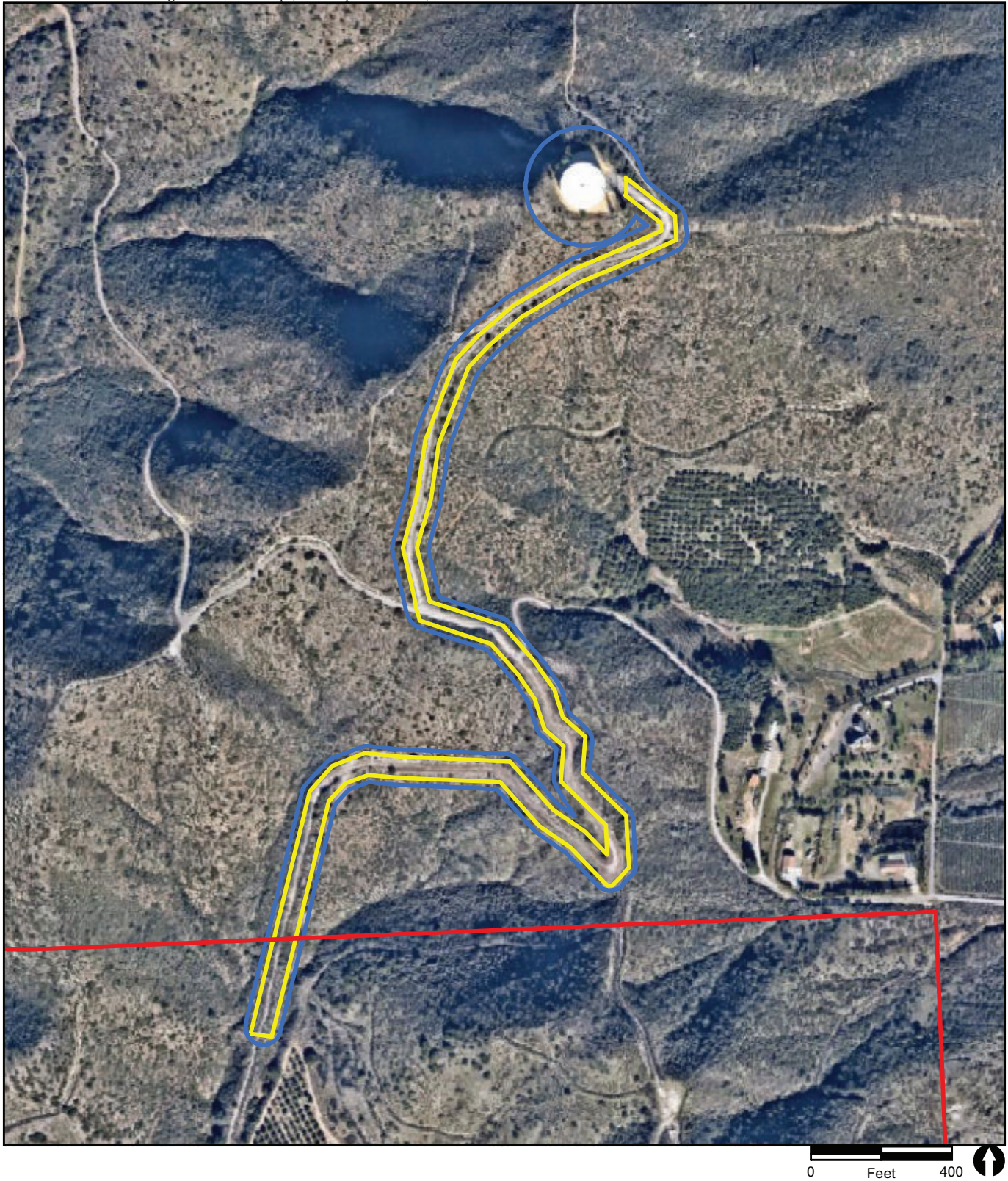
-  Meadowood Project Boundary
-  RMWD Easement
-  Meadowood Off-site Features
-  Survey Area

FIGURE 2

Project Location on USGS Map



- Meadowood Project Boundary
- RMWD Easement
- Survey Area

FIGURE 3

Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline Project on Aerial Photograph

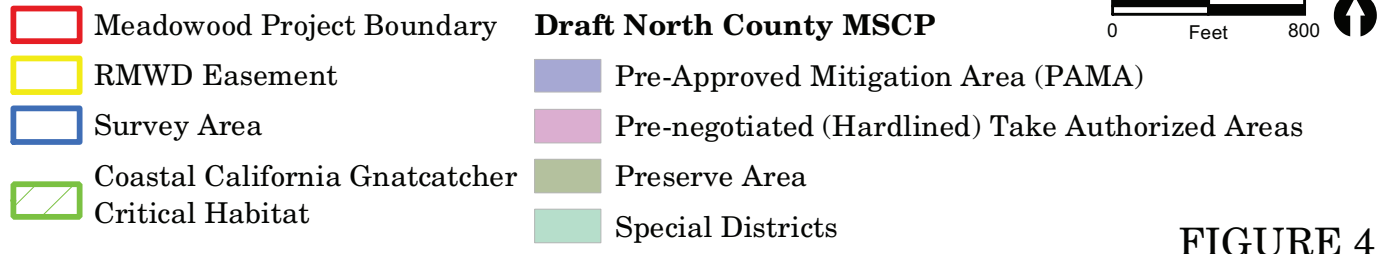
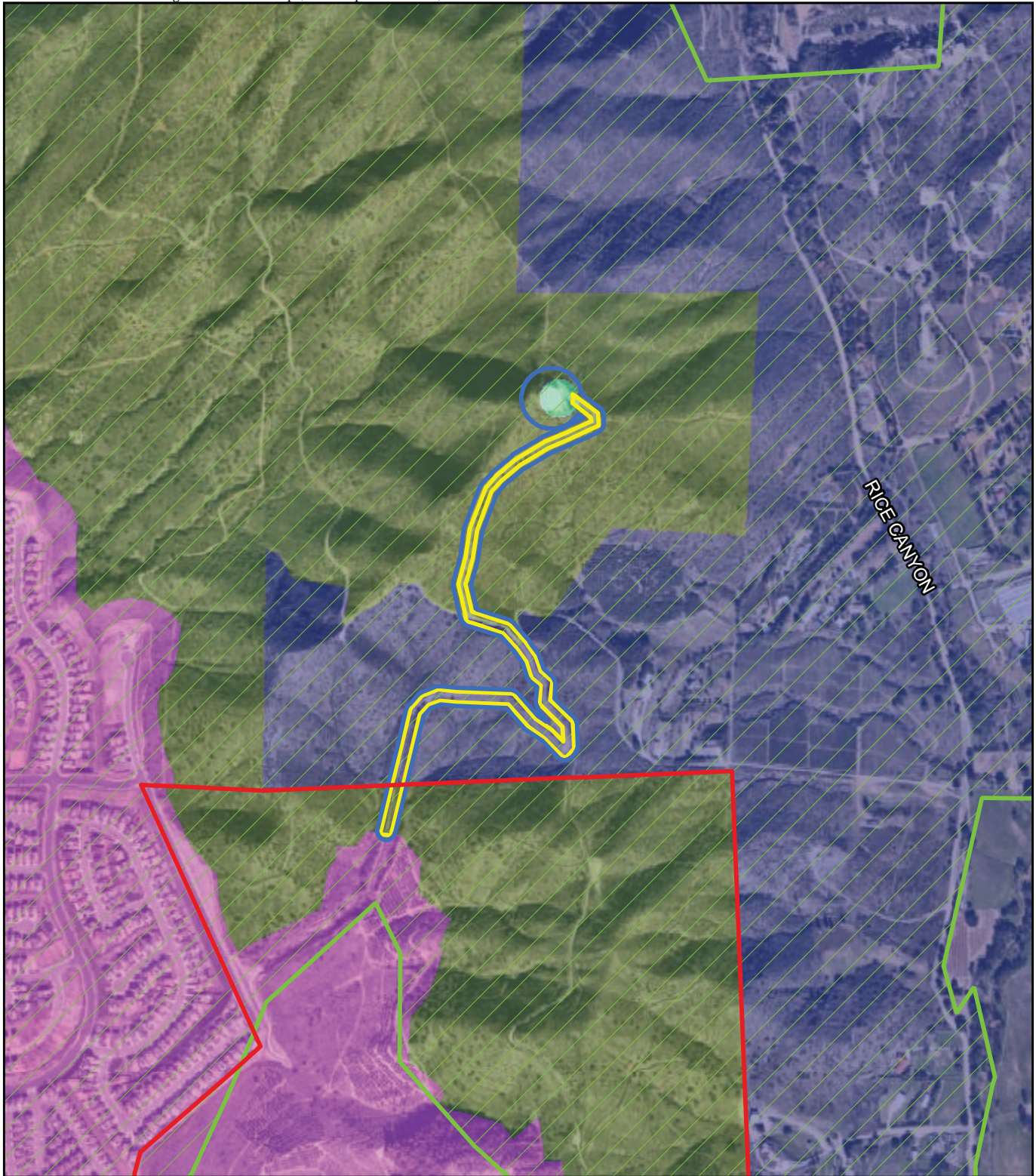


FIGURE 4

Project in Relation to Draft MSCP Preserve Areas and USFWS Critical Habitat

Water service for the Meadowood project would be provided by the Rainbow Municipal Water District (RMWD). In order to provide a potable water supply to the Meadowood development, construction of 4,500 linear feet of 18-inch water main pipeline is proposed. The water main would connect proposed RMWD facilities within the Meadowood project footprint following a disturbed road located generally west of Rice Canyon and north of the Meadowood development area to an existing RMWD water tank.

This report provides the necessary biological data and background information required to identify biological resources impacts associated with the Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline in relation to the certified Environmental Impact Report for the Meadowood Project. The report assumes compliance according to guidelines set forth in the draft North County MSCP Subarea Plan, if it is adopted.

1.1 Project Description

The project consists of the construction of 4,500 linear feet of 18-inch water main pipeline within an existing RMWD easement shown in Figure 3. The water main would connect proposed RMWD facilities within the Meadowood project footprint north along Monserate Mountain generally west of Rice Canyon to an existing RMWD water tank. The water line would follow an existing disturbed paved and dirt road within the RMWD easement.

RMWD currently owns and operates the Rice Canyon Water Tank located approximately 2,000 feet north of the Meadowood project boundary. The proposed Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline would deliver water from the Rice Canyon Water Tank to the southwest portion of the RMWD. Design and construction of this line was included on the RMWD Capital Improvement Program (CIP) list in the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update. While the facilities and service to Meadowood would be provided by RMWD, the proposed project is located within both RMWD and Valley Center Municipal Water District. Ultimately, a Local Agency Formation Commission reorganization is proposed so that the entire project would be within RMWD.

Installation of the water pipeline will involve a maximum 30-foot limit of disturbance through the RMWD easement. Minimal grading will be completed to achieve a flat work area for installation of pipeline within this disturbance limit. All work would be contained within the existing RMWD easement. Staging, pipe laydown, and storage would occur within the previously disturbed area associated with the Meadowood grading operation, at disturbed areas at the Rice Canyon Water Tank, and along the pipeline alignment.

The pipeline would be pressurized and consist of 4,500 linear feet of 18-inch pipe. Pipeline materials to be used would include polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe and ductile iron pipe (DIP). The DIP would be used at the Meadowood end of the project, if needed, due to the internal pressure of the pipe.

2.0 Survey Methods

2.1 Biological Resources Survey

RECON Environmental, Inc. (RECON) biologist Kevin Israel conducted a general biological survey on March 25, 2020, within the survey area. Vegetation communities were mapped on an aerial photograph viewed through the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Collector application. All dominant plant species observed on-site were noted. Limitations to the compilation of a comprehensive floral checklist were imposed by seasonal factors, such as drought and blooming period. Animal species observed directly or detected from calls, tracks, scat, nests, or other sign were noted.

Floral nomenclature for common plants follows the Jepson Online Herbarium (University of California 2020), for ornamental plants Brenzel (2001), and for sensitive plants California Native Plant Society (CNPS; 2020). Vegetation community classifications follow Oberbauer et al (2008), which is based on Holland's 1986 Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California. Zoological nomenclature for birds is in accordance with the American Ornithological Society Checklist (Chesser et al. 2018) and Unitt (2004); for mammals with Baker et al. (2003); and for reptiles with Crother (2008). Determination of the potential occurrence for listed, sensitive, or noteworthy species is based upon known ranges and habitat preferences for the species (Jennings and Hayes 1994; Unitt 2004; CNPS 2020; Reiser 2001), and species occurrence records from the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB; State of California 2020a).

3.0 Existing Conditions

Elevations in the project site range from 538 feet above mean sea level to 1,172 feet above mean sea level. Table 1 lists the two soil types that are mapped in survey area (USDA 1973).

Soil Type/Soil Description	Acres
Las Posas stony fine sandy loam, 30 to 65 percent slopes	10.90
Wyman loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes	0.98

3.1 Survey Results

3.1.1 Botany

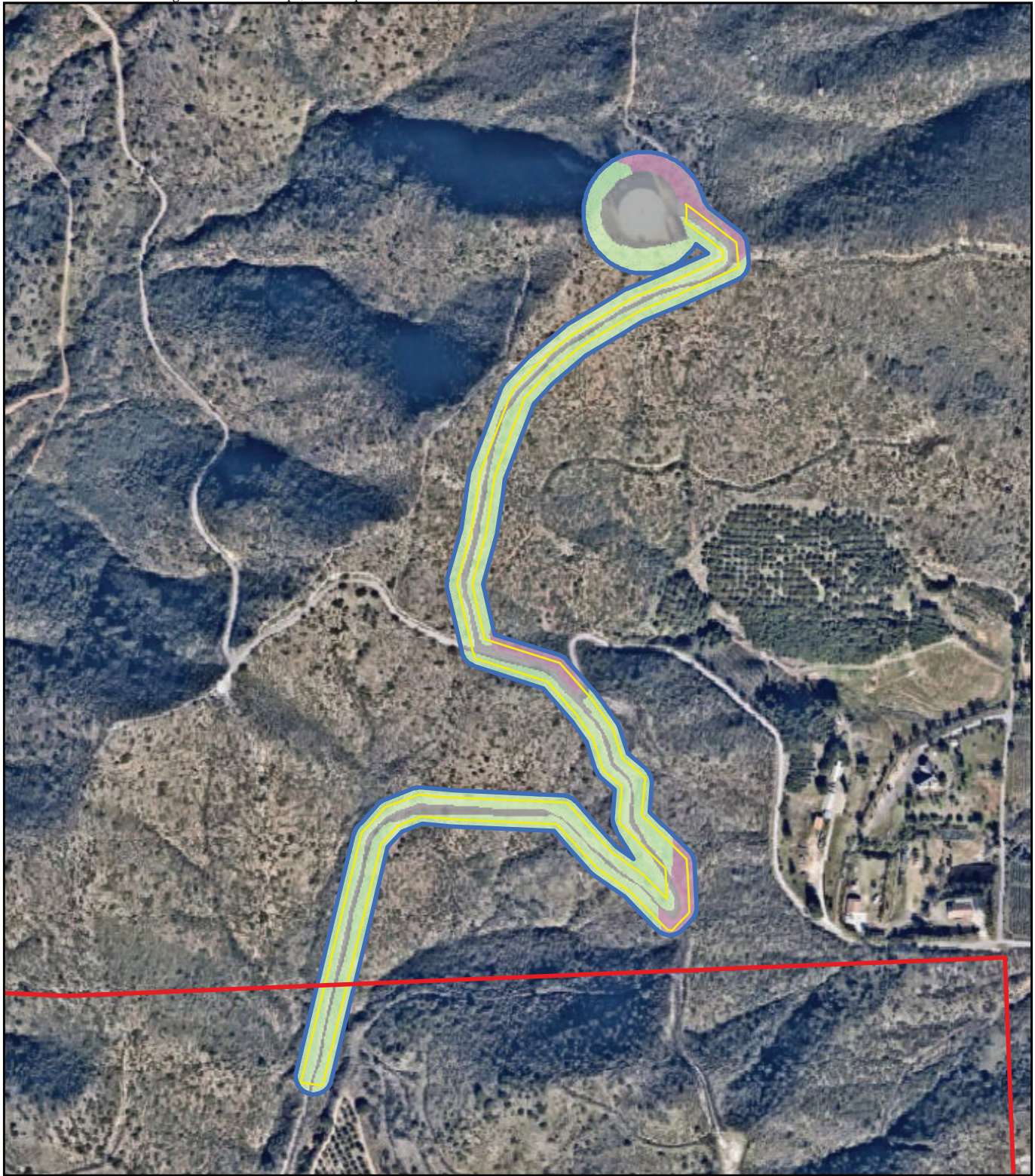
A total of three vegetation communities/land cover types occur within the survey area: coastal sage scrub, southern mixed chaparral, and developed land. The locations of these vegetation communities are shown on Figure 5. The dominant plant species per vegetation community are listed below. A complete list of plant species detected during the survey is detailed in Attachment 1. Table 2 lists the acreage for each vegetation community and land cover type.

Vegetation Communities/ Land Cover Types	Survey Area
Coastal sage scrub	8.42
Southern mixed chaparral	1.07
Developed	2.39
TOTAL	11.88

3.1.1.1 Coastal Sage Scrub

Coastal sage scrub, the southern form of coastal sage scrub, is a plant community consisting of low-growing, aromatic, drought-deciduous soft-woody shrubs that have an average height of approximately 3 to 4 feet. The plant community is typically dominated by facultatively drought deciduous species such as California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). The community typically is found on low moisture-availability sites with steep, xeric slopes or clay rich soils that are slow to release stored water. These sites often include drier south- and west-facing slopes and occasionally north-facing slopes, where the community can act as a successional phase of chaparral development. Coastal sage scrub intergrades at higher elevations with several types of chaparrals, or in drier more inland areas with Riversidean sage scrub. Coastal sage scrub is found in coastal areas from Los Angeles County south into Baja California, Mexico (Oberbauer et al. 2008).

Coastal sage scrub within the survey area is dominated by California sagebrush, California buckwheat, laurel sumac, saw-toothed goldenbush (*Hazardia squarrosa*), and deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*). Non-native grass species, such as red brome (*Bromus madritensis rubens*) occurs within the understory.









- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Meadowood Project Boundary | Vegetation Communities |
|  RMWD Easement |  Southern Mixed Chaparral |
|  Survey Area |  Coastal Sage Scrub |
| |  Developed Land |

FIGURE 5

Existing Biological Resources

3.1.1.2 Southern Mixed Chaparral

Southern mixed chaparral is a plant community typically dominated by broad-leaved sclerophyllous shrubs or small trees which characteristically occupies protected north-facing and canyon slopes or ravines where more mesic conditions are present. Dominant shrubs in this community are typically 5 to 10 feet tall and may include manzanita (*Arcostaphylos* spp.), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), ceanothus (*Ceanothus* spp.), mission manzanita (*Xylococcus bicolor*), and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus minutiflorus*). The vegetation is usually dense, with little or no understory cover, but may include patches of bare soil. This community typically is found in sites that are moister than those supporting chamise chaparral. Many species in this vegetation community are adapted to repeated fires by their ability to stump sprout. Southern mixed chaparral typically is found in coastal foothills of San Diego County and northern Baja California, usually at elevations below 3,000 feet (Oberbauer et al. 2008).

Southern mixed chaparral within the survey area is dominated by California sagebrush, mission manzanita, chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), California buckwheat, and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*). The shrub canopy is not continuous; herbs and grasses, including golden tarplant (*Deinandra fasciculata*) and red brome, grow in the interspaces between shrubs.

3.1.1.3 Developed Land

Areas mapped as developed land represent locations where existing developments occur and unvegetated areas like paved and dirt roads. The developed land areas within the survey area occur at and near the Rice Canyon Water Tank and on paved and dirt roads. There are several non-native pine (*Pinus* sp.) trees that occur near the Rice Canyon Water Tank that are mapped within the developed land.

3.1.2 Zoology

A total of 10 wildlife species were observed in the survey area. Sensitive species observed or potentially occurring on-site are discussed in Section 4.0, Sensitive Biological Resources. A complete list of wildlife species detected during the survey is detailed in Attachment 2.

3.1.2.1 Amphibians

Most amphibians require moisture for at least a portion of their lifecycle, with many requiring a permanent water source for habitat and reproduction. Terrestrial amphibians have adapted to more arid conditions and are not completely dependent on a perennial or standing source of water. These species avoid desiccation by burrowing beneath the soil or leaf litter during the day and during the dry season. No amphibians were detected during the field survey.

3.1.2.2 Reptiles

The diversity and abundance of reptile species vary with habitat type. Many reptiles are restricted to certain plant communities and soil types, although some of these species will also forage in adjacent communities. Other species are more ubiquitous, using a variety of vegetation types for foraging and shelter. Reptiles may use survey area for basking and foraging. One reptile species was detected during the field survey: red diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*).

3.1.2.3 Birds

The diversity of bird species varies with respect to the character and quality of vegetation communities within the survey area. The mature pine trees near the Rice Canyon Water Tank provide perching, nesting, and shelter opportunities for bird species, particularly raptors. The coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral provide foraging opportunities for a wide variety of bird species.

The most commonly observed species within the survey area include mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura marginella*), wrenit (*Chamaea fasciata henshawii*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), and lesser goldfinch (*Spinus [=Carduelis] psaltria hesperophilus*).

3.1.2.4 Mammals

Most mammal species are nocturnal; therefore, their presence is detected during daytime surveys by observing their sign, such as tracks, scat, and burrows. No mammals were detected during the field survey.

4.0 Sensitive Biological Resources

4.1 Sensitivity Criteria/Regulatory Setting

For purposes of this report, species will be considered sensitive if they are (1) covered species under the draft North County MSCP Subarea Plan; (2) listed by state or federal agencies as threatened or endangered or are proposed for listing (State of California 2020b, 2020c, 2020d); (3) on California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1B (considered endangered throughout its range), CRPR 2 (considered endangered in California but more common elsewhere) of the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California, CRPR 3 (more information about the plant's distribution and rarity needed), and CRPR 4 (plants of limited distribution) of the CNPS Inventory (2001); or (4) designated by the North County MSCP as a narrow endemic species (County of San Diego 2009). Sensitive vegetation communities are those identified by the County of San Diego (2009). The project is expected to comply with all the following state, federal, and local regulations.

State Regulations: Under Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code, it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits take, possession, or destruction of any birds in the orders Falconiformes (raptors) or Strigiformes (owls), or of their nests and eggs (State of California 1991).

The Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act of 1991 is designed to conserve natural communities at the ecosystem scale while accommodating compatible land use. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is the primary state agency that implements the NCCP. The NCCP plan provides for the comprehensive management and conservation of multiple wildlife species. It identifies and provides for regional protection of natural wildlife diversity while allowing for compatible and appropriate development and growth.

Federal Regulations: The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) was established to provide protection to the breeding activities of migratory birds throughout the United States. The MBTA protects migratory birds and their breeding activities from take and harassment. Pursuant to U.S. Department of the Interior Memorandum M-37050, the federal MBTA is no longer interpreted to cover incidental take of migratory birds (U.S. Department of the Interior 2017). Therefore, impacts that are incidental to implementation of an otherwise lawful project would not be considered significant.

Local Regulations: The project site is located within the draft North County MSCP (County of San Diego 2009). The draft North County MSCP is a comprehensive program that would, when adopted, implement the guidelines of the existing San Diego County MSCP Subarea Plan. The draft North County MSCP was developed in cooperation with federal and state wildlife agencies in order to preserve the diversity of habitat and protect sensitive biological resources within the North County while allowing for additional development. The draft North County MSCP would accomplish the preservation and protection goals through the implementation of development constraints within defined Preserve Areas. It also identifies a series of open space areas within which some lands will be dedicated for preservation of native habitats. These areas contain both “hardline” Take-Authorized/Preserve Areas, which include both development and open space, and “softline” areas, referred to as the PAMA, which connect Preserve Areas. The proposed project occurs within County PAMA, Preserve Area, and Special Districts as designated in the draft North County MSCP (see Figure 4).

The County is currently in the process of creating a MSCP Plan for the unincorporated areas of northern San Diego County. This plan, if adopted, will be regulated by the Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO), which outlines the specific criteria (i.e., project design, impact allowances, mitigation requirements) for projects within an MSCP boundary. The BMO would only be applicable if the draft North County MSCP is adopted.

A hardline is a designation that has been agreed upon between landowners, the wildlife agencies, and the County. In such areas, preservation and development area decisions are

made during MSCP development with respect to the location of open space and development.

The Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) limits impacts to several sensitive natural resources found throughout San Diego County. These sensitive resources include wetlands, wetland buffers, floodplains, steep slopes, sensitive habitat lands, and prehistoric and historic sites. Under the RPO, impacts to wetlands are restricted and a wetland buffer is required where development is adjacent to wetland areas. In addition, encroachment into RPO steep slopes lands (25 percent or greater grade for 50 or more feet) must be minimized. RPO also limits impacts to sensitive habitat lands, which include unique vegetation communities and/or the habitat that is either necessary to support a viable population of sensitive species, is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem, or which serves as a functioning wildlife corridor.

The County regulates coastal sage scrub habitat loss through the Habitat Loss Permit (HLP) Ordinance. An HLP is a process that enables the County to issue "take" permits for the federally listed coastal California gnatcatcher, as allowed through the federal Endangered Species Act. An HLP application must be filed with the County, and approval requires concurrence from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and CDFW. Approval is based on Findings made pursuant to the County's HLP Ordinance (County of San Diego 1995) as required by the NCCP Process Guidelines. Until the draft North County MSCP is approved, the HLP is required for all coastal sage scrub impacts, whether or not the coastal California gnatcatcher occupies the habitat. An HLP also requires a mitigation plan for impacts to coastal sage scrub and disturbed coastal sage scrub.

4.2 Sensitive Vegetation Communities

Two sensitive vegetation communities were identified within the survey area. These include coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral.

4.3 Sensitive Plants

No sensitive plant species were observed at the time of the survey and none have the potential to occur within the survey area. Sensitive plant species known to occur in the vicinity of the survey area (within one mile of the survey area) that are federally listed threatened or endangered are addressed in Attachment 3.

4.4 Sensitive Wildlife Species

One sensitive wildlife species, red diamond rattlesnake, was detected at the time of the survey. Four sensitive wildlife species have moderate potential to occur due the presence of suitable coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral habitat: coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), Coronado skink (*Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis*), Belding's orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra beldingi*), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*). One sensitive wildlife species, Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), has

moderate potential to nest in the non-native pine trees adjacent to the Rice Canyon Water Tank. One sensitive wildlife species, coastal California gnatcatcher, has high potential to occur due to the presence of suitable coastal sage scrub. The survey area occurs within coastal California gnatcatcher Critical Habitat. Sensitive wildlife species known to occur in the vicinity of the survey area (within one mile of the survey area) that are federally listed threatened or endangered or that have potential to occur based on species range are addressed in Attachment 4.

4.5 Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S./State

No jurisdictional waters of the U.S./State were observed within or adjacent to the survey area.

4.6 Wildlife Movement Corridor

Wildlife movement corridors are defined as areas that connect suitable wildlife habitat areas in a region otherwise fragmented by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbance. Natural features such as canyon drainages, ridgelines, or areas with vegetation cover provide corridors for wildlife travel. Wildlife movement corridors are important because they provide access to mates, food, and water; allow the dispersal of individuals away from high population density areas; and facilitate the exchange of genetic traits between populations (Beier and Loe 1992). Wildlife movement corridors are considered sensitive by resource and conservation agencies.

Although it is reasonable to assume that wildlife movement may occur locally through the survey area, the work will occur in phases and any obstructions to wildlife movement will be temporary and allow wildlife to move around the current work.

5.0 Project Impacts

Impacts to biological resources due to the proposed project are discussed below. Mitigation would be required for impacts that are considered significant. All impacts to sensitive biological resources should be avoided to the maximum extent feasible and minimized when possible.

This section of the report discusses the direct and indirect impacts to biological resources from the proposed project. Direct impacts are those incurred during the construction of the project that would result in the loss of biological resources (e.g., vegetation clearing, staging areas). Indirect impacts are those incurred both during construction (i.e., noise) and post-construction (i.e., edge effects due to noise, lighting, drainage, etc.).

5.1 Vegetation Communities

Guidelines for the determination of significance are applied to the proposed impacts anticipated by the project to determine significance under the California Environmental Quality Act and County guidelines (County of San Diego 2010). The impacts to vegetation communities/land cover types from the proposed project are shown on Figure 6 and listed in Table 3.

Direct impacts to coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral would be considered significant and would require mitigation (County of San Diego 2010). Impacts to developed land do not require mitigation.

Vegetation Communities/ Land Cover Types	Survey Area	Impacts
Coastal sage scrub	8.42	1.55
Southern mixed chaparral	1.07	0.08
Developed	2.39	1.41
TOTAL	11.88	3.04

5.2 Sensitive Plants Species

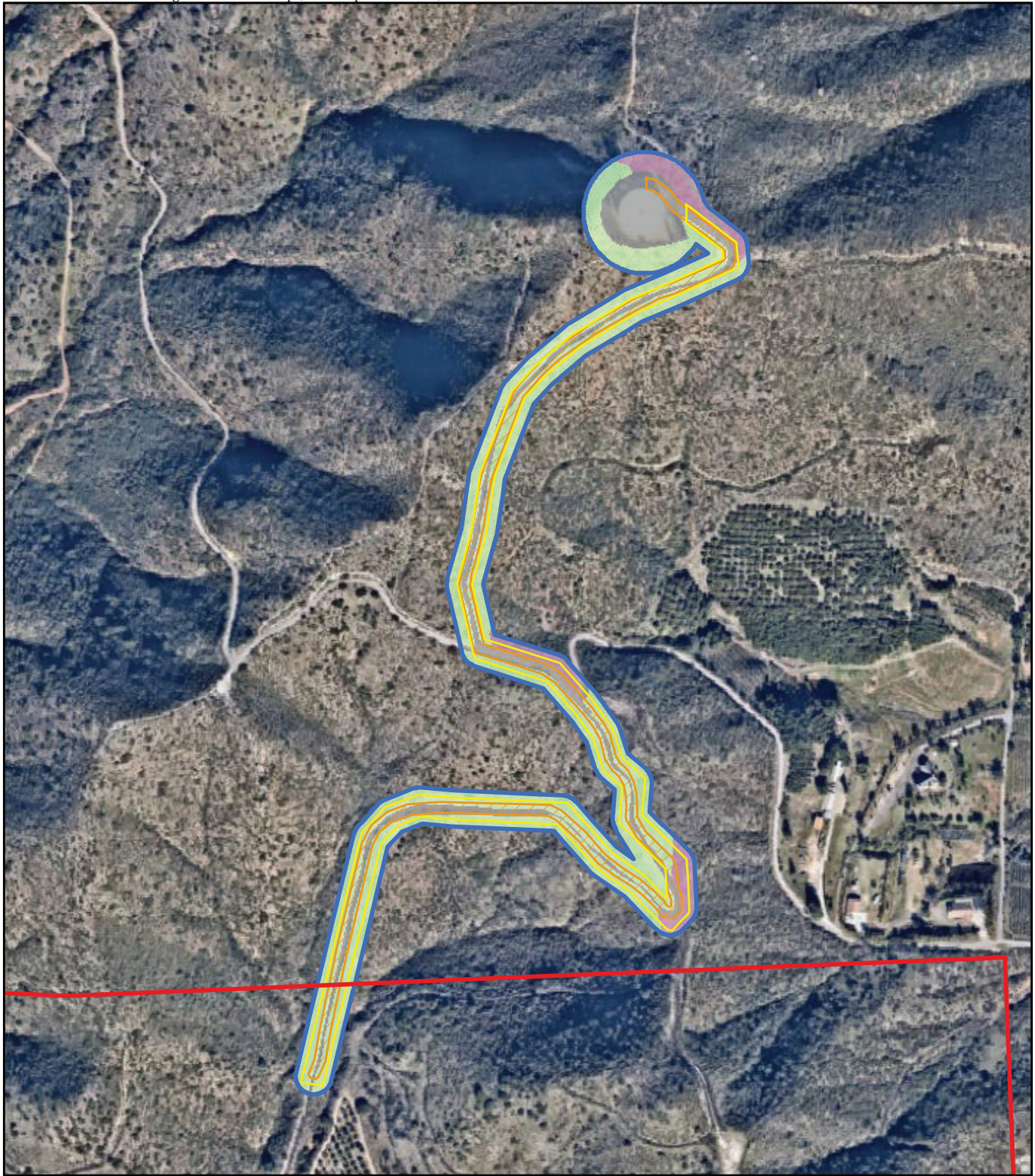
No state listed or federally listed species occur within the survey area. Therefore, no direct impacts to sensitive plant species are anticipated to result from project implementation.

5.3 General and Sensitive Wildlife Species

General wildlife. There are no potential biological constraints related to common wildlife species within the survey area. Small mammals, amphibians, and reptiles with low mobility could be inadvertently killed during the trenching operation. Most birds would be able to move out of the way during grading. Impacts to general wildlife would be considered less than significant, and mitigation would not be required.

Nesting birds. There are potential impacts related to nesting birds, as there is potential for raptors and migratory birds to nest in the trees and low-lying vegetation within the survey area. There is potential for direct impacts to migratory or nesting birds should vegetation clearing activities occur during the raptor breeding season (February 1– July 15) or typical bird breeding season (February 15–September 15). Direct impacts to nesting birds would be considered significant and require mitigation.

Sensitive wildlife. Potential indirect impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher may occur from noise generated from construction activities or excess lighting, if present. These potential impacts would have a substantial adverse effect on these sensitive wildlife species and would be considered significant without mitigation.










- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | Meadowood Project Boundary | Vegetation Communities | |
|  | RMWD Easement |  | Southern Mixed Chaparral |
|  | Survey Area |  | Coastal Sage Scrub |
|  | Project Impacts |  | Developed Land |

FIGURE 6

Rice Canyon Transmission Pipeline
Project Impacts to Biological Resources

Avoidance measures would be required to prevent direct impacts to active coastal California gnatcatcher and Copper's hawk nests. Direct impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher and Copper's hawk would be considered significant and would require mitigation

Direct impacts may occur to the coast horned lizard, Coronado skink, Belding's orange-throated whiptail, and coastal whiptail, if present, during project activities. Any potential impacts to these species are not expected to reduce these species' overall populations below self-sustaining levels; thus, project impacts would be considered less than significant.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Critical Habitat. Direct impacts to coastal sage scrub within the coastal California gnatcatcher Critical Habitat would be considered significant and would be mitigated through on-site preservation through the Meadowood project's biological open space.

5.4 Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S./State

No jurisdictional waters of the U.S./State occur within or adjacent to the survey area.

5.5 Wildlife Movement Corridor

The proposed work will occur in phases. Therefore, the project will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

5.6 Conformance with the Draft County of San Diego Subarea Plan

The project will not 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, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

6.0 Mitigation

Mitigation measures to be applied to reduce significant impacts to special status species to below a level of significance are presented in this section of the report.

Mitigation for impacts to coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral would be accomplished through on-site preservation through the Meadowood project's biological open space. The Meadowood project has dedicated 74.5 acres of coastal sage scrub and 17.5 acres of southern mixed chaparral into a biological open space, although only 29 acres of coastal sage scrub and 1.1 acres of southern mixed chaparral were required (Natural Resource Consultants 2009). The excess 45.5 acres of coastal sage scrub and 16.4 acres of southern

mixed chaparral allow for the impacts to be mitigated through the preservation of sensitive habitats within the biological open space. Table 4 shows the mitigation requirements for the project.

Vegetation Community	Impact	Mitigation Ratio	Mitigation Requirement	On-site Preservation
Coastal sage scrub	1.55	1:1*	1.55	1.55
Southern mixed chaparral	0.08	0.5:1	0.04	0.04
TOTAL	1.63		1.59	1.59

*Per the County of San Diego guidelines, 1:1 is acceptable mitigation ratio

To avoid direct impacts to sensitive bird species, including birds covered by the federal MBTA and/or California Fish and Game Code 3503.5, vegetation removal should not occur during the general bird breeding season (February 15 to September 15). If vegetation removal must take place during the breeding season, a biologist shall be present during the vegetation clearing activities and conduct a nest search so nests can be flagged and avoided.

The following mitigation measures from the Meadowood EIR are recommended to avoid or mitigate potential impacts to nesting birds:

M-BR-3b: Direct impacts on the California gnatcatcher shall be mitigated by the following measures:

- To avoid impacts to nesting gnatcatchers, vegetation clearing and grubbing within 500 feet of coastal sage scrub shall not occur in potential nesting habitat during the breeding season from February 15 through August 31. If project construction (other than clearing and grubbing of sensitive habitats) is necessary adjacent to preserved on- and off-site habitat during the gnatcatcher breeding season (or sooner if a Wildlife Agency-approved biologist demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Wildlife Agencies that all nesting is complete), a Wildlife Agency-approved biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys in the adjacent habitat to determine the location of any active gnatcatcher nests in the area. The survey shall begin not more than three days prior to the beginning of construction activities. The Agencies shall be notified if any nesting gnatcatchers are found. During construction, no activity shall occur within 500 feet (152.4 meters) of active gnatcatcher nesting territories, unless measures are implemented to minimize the noise and disturbance to those adjacent birds. Exceptions to this measure includes cases where surveys confirm that adjacent habitat is not occupied or where noise studies confirm that construction noise levels are below 60 A-weighted decibels hourly noise level [dB(A) L_{eq}] along the edge of adjacent habitat. If construction activities are not completed prior to the breeding season and noise levels exceed this threshold, noise barriers shall be erected to reduce noise impacts to occupied habitat to below 60 dBA hourly L_{eq} and/or the culpable activities will be suspended.

M-BR-11: Impacts to nesting birds shall be mitigated through the following measures:

- Native and naturalized vegetation clearing shall not occur during the breeding season from February 15 to September 15; However, Project construction activities may occur within this period with written concurrence from the RMWD, the USFWS, and the CDFW that nesting birds would be avoided. If vegetation removal is to take place during the nesting season, a biologist shall be present during vegetation clearing operations to search for and flag active nests so that they can be avoided.
- To avoid impacts to nesting raptors, any vegetation clearing or grubbing within 500 feet of trees suitable for raptor nesting shall not occur from February 1 to July 15. However, Project construction activities may occur within this period with written concurrence from the RMWD, the USFWS, and the CDFW that nesting birds would be avoided. A RMWD-approved biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys in the adjacent habitat to determine the location of any active raptor nests in the area. The survey shall begin not more than ten days prior to the beginning of construction activities. During construction, no activity shall occur within 500 feet (152.4 meter) of active raptor nests, unless measures are implemented to minimize the noise and disturbance to those adjacent birds. The project proponent may seek approval from the RMWD if nesting activities cease prior to July 15.

The following notes are recommended to be placed on construction plans in order to implement the mitigation measures identified above:

- In order to avoid impacts to nesting coastal California gnatcatcher, no grading shall occur during the breeding season (between February 15 and August 31) until three focused surveys have taken place for coastal California gnatcatcher, on separate days to determine the presence of nesting birds. Surveys will begin a maximum of 7 days prior to initiating the vegetation clearing and grubbing and one shall be conducted the day immediately prior to initiation of work. If no nests are found, then clearing and grubbing within coastal sage scrub can proceed during the breeding season. If a nest is found then a 300 foot buffer will be established around the nest until the young have fledged, wherein no project activities will occur. A pre-construction nest survey shall be conducted for all avian species pursuant to Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code. No project activities shall occur within 300 feet of an active nest during the breeding season until it has been determined by the monitoring biologist that the young have fledged.
- In order to avoid impacts to nesting raptors, a pre-construction survey will be required and if present, a Resource Avoidance Area (RAA) shall be implemented on all plans. There shall be no brushing, clearing and/or grading allowed within 300 feet of documented raptor nests during the breeding season. The breeding season is defined as occurring between February 1 and July 15. The RMWD may waive this condition, through written concurrence from the USFWS and the CDFW, provided that no gnatcatchers or raptors are present in the vicinity of the brushing, clearing or grading based on a survey done within 10 days of the habitat clearing. No project activities shall occur in the RAA during the specified dates, unless a concurrence from the RMWD is received.

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ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT 1
Plant Species Observed

**Attachment 1
Plant Species Observed**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	Origin
GYMNOSPERMS			
PINACEAE	PINE FAMILY		
<i>Pinus</i> sp.	pine	DEV	I
ANGIOSPERMS: MONOCOTS			
AGAVACEAE	AGAVE FAMILY		
<i>Hesperoyucca</i> [= <i>Yucca</i>] <i>whipplei</i> (Torr.) Trel.	chaparral candle	CSS	N
POACEAE (GRAMINEAE)	GRASS FAMILY		
<i>Avena</i> sp.	oats	CSS, SMC	I
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> L. ssp. <i>rubens</i> (L.) Husn.	red brome	CSS, SMC	I
<i>Stipa</i> [= <i>Achnatherum</i>] <i>coronata</i> Thurb.	crested needle grass	CSS	N
ANGIOSPERMS: DICOTS			
ANACARDIACEAE	SUMAC OR CASHEW FAMILY		
<i>Malosma laurina</i> Nutt. ex Abrams	laurel sumac	CSS	N
ASTERACEAE	SUNFLOWER FAMILY		
<i>Artemisia californica</i> Less.	California sagebrush	CSS, SMC	N
<i>Deinandra</i> [= <i>Hemizonia</i>] <i>fasciculata</i> (DC.) Greene	fascicled tarweed	SMC	N
<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i> (DC.) A. Gray var. <i>confertiflorum</i>	long-stem golden-yarrow	CSS	N
<i>Hazardia squarrosa</i> (Hook. & Arn.) Greene	saw-toothed goldenbush	CSS	N
<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill ssp. <i>asper</i>	prickly sow thistle	CSS	I
BORAGINACEAE	BORAGE FAMILY		
<i>Cryptantha</i> sp.	cryptantha	CSS	N
BRASSICACEAE (CRUCIFERAE)	MUSTARD FAMILY		
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> (L.) Lagr.-Fossat	short-pod mustard	CSS, SMC, DEV	I
CISTACEAE	ROCK-ROSE FAMILY		
<i>Crocantemum</i> [= <i>Helianthemum</i>] <i>scoparium</i> Nutt. Millsp.	peak rush-rose	CSS	N
CONVOLVULACEAE	MORNING-GLORY FAMILY		
<i>Cuscuta</i> sp.	dodder	CSS	N
ERICACEAE	HEATH FAMILY		
<i>Xylococcus bicolor</i> Nutt.	mission manzanita	SMC	N

**Attachment 1
Plant Species Observed**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	Origin
FABACEAE (LEGUMINOSAE)	LEGUME FAMILY		
<i>Acmispon glaber</i> (Vogel) Brouillet [= <i>Lotus scoparius</i>]	deerweed, California broom	CSS	N
LAMIACEAE	MINT FAMILY		
<i>Salvia mellifera</i> Greene	black sage	CSS, SMC	N
MYRTACEAE	MYRTLE FAMILY		
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	gum tree	DEV	I
POLYGONACEAE	BUCKWHEAT FAMILY		
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> Benth.	California buckwheat	CSS, SMC	N
ROSACEAE	ROSE FAMILY		
<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i> Hook. & Arn.	chamise, greasewood	CSS	N
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> (Lindl.) M. Roem.	toyon, Christmas berry	CSS	N
<p><i>Notes:</i> Scientific and common names were primarily derived from the Jepson Online Interchange (University of California 2020). In instances where common names were not provided in this resource, common names were obtained from Rebman and Simpson (2014). Additional common names were obtained from the USDA maintained database (USDA 2013) or the <i>Sunset Western Garden Book</i> (Brenzel 2001) for ornamental/horticultural plants.</p>			
HABITATS		ORIGIN	
CSS = Coastal sage scrub		N = Native to locality	
DEV = Developed land		I = Introduced species from outside locality	
SMC = Southern Mixed Chaparral			

ATTACHMENT 2
Wildlife Species Observed

**Attachment 2
Wildlife Species Observed**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Occupied Habitat	On-Site Abundance/Seasonality (Birds Only)	Evidence of Occurrence
INVERTEBRATES (Nomenclature for fairy shrimp from Eriksen and Belk 1999; for spiders and insects from Evans 2008; for butterflies from San Diego Natural History Museum 2002)				
RIODINIDAE	METALMARKS			
<i>Apodemia mormo virgulti</i>	Behr's metalmark	SMC		O
REPTILES (Nomenclature from Crother 2008)				
CROTALIDAE	RATTLESNAKES			
<i>Crotalus ruber</i>	red diamond rattlesnake	DEV		C
BIRDS (Nomenclature from Chesser et al. 2019 and Unitt 2004)				
COLUMBIDAE	PIGEONS & DOVES			
<i>Zenaida macroura marginella</i>	mourning dove	DEV	C / Y	O, V
TYRANNIDAE	TYRANT FLYCATCHERS			
<i>Sayornis nigricans semiatra</i>	black phoebe	DEV	C / Y	O, V
TROGLODYTIDAE	WRENS			
<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's wren	CSS, SMC	C / Y	O, V
TIMALIIDAE	BABLERS			
<i>Chamaea fasciata henshawi</i>	wrentit	SMC	C / Y	V
MIMIDAE	MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS			
<i>Mimus polyglottos polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird	CSS	C / Y	O, V
EMBERIZIDAE	EMBERIZIDS			
<i>Melospiza [=Pipilo] crissalis</i>	California towhee	CSS	C / Y	O, V
<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	spotted towhee	CSS	C / Y	O, V
FRINGILLIDAE	FINCHES			
<i>Spinus [=Carduelis] psaltria hesperophilus</i>	lesser goldfinch	SWRW, CSS	C / Y	O, V
HABITATS		ABUNDANCE (birds only; based on Garrett and Dunn 1981)		
CSS = Coastal sage scrub		C = Common to abundant; almost always encountered in proper habitat, usually in moderate to large numbers		
DEV = Developed land				
SMC = Southern mixed chaparral				
EVIDENCE OF OCCURRENCE		SEASONALITY (birds only)		
C = Carcass		Y = Year-round resident; probable breeder on-site or in vicinity		
O = Observed				
V = Vocalization				

ATTACHMENT 3

Sensitive Plant Species Observed or with the Potential to Occur

Attachment 3
Sensitive Plant Species Observed or with the Potential to Occur

Scientific Name Common Name	Sensitivity Code & Status			Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Verified On-Site Yes/No (direct/indirect evidence)	Potential to Occur On-Site (Observed or L/M/H/U)	Factual Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
	State/ Federal Status	CNPS Rank	County of San Diego				
ERICACEAE HEATH FAMILY							
<i>Comarostaphylis diversifolia</i> ssp. <i>diversifolia</i> summer holly	--	1B.2	List A	Perennial evergreen shrub; chaparral; blooms April–June; elevation 100–2,600 feet.	No	U	This perennial shrub would have been apparent, if present.
FAGACEAE OAK FAMILY							
<i>Quercus engelmannii</i> Engelmann oak	--	4.2	List D	Perennial deciduous tree; cismontane and riparian woodland, valley and foothill grasslands, chaparral; blooms March–May; elevation 150–4,300 feet.	No	U	This perennial tree species would have been apparent, if present.
PICRODENDRACEAE BITTER-TREE FAMILY							
<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i> Parry’s tetracoccus	--	1B.2	MSCP List A	Perennial deciduous shrub; chaparral, coastal sage scrub; blooms April–May; elevation 500– 3,500 feet.	No	U	This perennial shrub would have been apparent, if present.
ANGIOSPERMS: MONOCOTS							
RUSACEAE BUTCHER’S-BROOM FAMILY							
<i>Nolina cismontana</i> chaparral nolina	--	1B.2	List A	Perennial evergreen shrub; coastal sage scrub and open chaparral; sandstone or gabbro soils; blooms May–July; elevation 460–4,200 feet. California endemic. Known from San Diego, Riverside, Orange, and Ventura Counties.	No	U	This perennial shrub would have been apparent, if present.

Attachment 3
Sensitive Plant Species Observed or with the Potential for Occurrence

FEDERAL CANDIDATES AND LISTED PLANTS

- FE = Federally listed endangered
- FT = Federally listed threatened
- FC = Federal candidate for listing as endangered or threatened

STATE LISTED PLANTS

- CE = State listed endangered
- CR = State listed rare
- CT = State listed threatened

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS): CALIFORNIA RARE PLANT RANKS (CRPR)

- 1A = Species presumed extinct.
- 1B = Species rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. These species are eligible for state listing.
- 2A = Plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere.
- 2B = Species rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere. These species are eligible for state listing.
- 3 = Species for which more information is needed. Distribution, endangerment, and/or taxonomic information is needed.
- 4 = A watch list of species of limited distribution. These species need to be monitored for changes in the status of their populations.
- .1 = Species seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened; high degree and immediacy of threat).
- .2 = Species fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened; moderate degree and immediacy of threat).
- .3 = Species not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened; low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known).
- CBR = Considered but rejected

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

- NE = Narrow endemic
- MSCP = Multiple Species Conservation Program covered species
- List A = Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California and elsewhere
- List B = Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
- List C = Plants which may be rare, but need more information to determine their true rarity status
- List D = Plants of limited distribution and are uncommon, but not presently rare or endangered

POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON-SITE

- L = Low
- M = Medium
- H = High
- U = Unexpected

ATTACHMENT 4

Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
AMPHIBIANS (Nomenclature from Crother et al. 2008)					
PELOBATIDAE SPADEFOOT TOADS					
Western spadefoot <i>Spea hammondi</i>	CSC	Vernal pools, floodplains, and alkali flats within areas of open vegetation.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable vernal pool habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
BUFONIDAE TRUE TOADS					
Arroyo toad <i>Anaxyrus californicus</i>	FE, CSC, MSCP	Open streamside sand/gravel flats. Quiet, shallow pools along stream edges are breeding habitat. Nocturnal except during breeding season (March–July).	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable mesic habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
REPTILES (Nomenclature from Crother et al. 2008)					
IGUANIDAE IGUANID LIZARDS					
Coast horned lizard <i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> [= <i>P. coronatum</i> coastal population]	CSC, MSCP, *	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with fine, loose soil. Partially dependent on harvester ants for forage.	No	Moderate	This species was not observed; however, there is a moderate potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
SCINCIDAE SKINKS					
Coronado skink <i>Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis</i>	CSC	Grasslands, open woodlands and forest, broken chaparral. Rocky habitats near streams.	No	Moderate	This species was not observed; however, there is a moderate potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
TEIIDAE WHIPTAIL LIZARDS					
Belding's orange-throated whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra beldingi</i>	CSC, MSCP	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub with coarse sandy soils and scattered brush.	No	Moderate	This species was not observed; however, there is a moderate potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
Coastal whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>	CSC	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, woodlands, and streamsid es where plants are sparsely distributed.	No	Moderate	This species was not observed; however, there is a moderate potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
ANNIELLIDAE LEGLESS LIZARDS					
California legless lizard <i>Anniella pulchra</i>	CSC	Herbaceous layers with loose soil in coastal scrub, chaparral, and open riparian. Prefers dunes and sandy washes near moist soil.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable sandy soils. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
CROTALIDAE RATTLESNAKES					
Red diamond rattlesnake <i>Crotalus ruber</i>	CSC	Desert scrub and riparian, coastal sage scrub, open chaparral, grassland, and agricultural fields.	Yes	Occurs	This species was observed along the road in developed land.
BIRDS (Nomenclature from American Ornithological Society Checklist (Chesser et al. 2018) and Unitt 2004)					
ARDEIDAE HERONS & BITTERNS					
Western least bittern <i>Ixobrychus exilis hesperis</i>	CSC	Brackish and freshwater marshes in the coastal lowland. Rare summer resident, rare in winter.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable marsh habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
THRESKIORNITHIDAE IBISES					
White-faced ibis (rookery site) <i>Plegadis chihi</i>	WL, MSCP	Freshwater ponds, irrigated fields, brackish lagoons. Migrant and winter visitor, rare in summer. Very localized breeding.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable lagoon habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
ACCIPITRIDAE HAWKS, KITES, & EAGLES					
Cooper's hawk (nesting) <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	WL, MSCP	Mature forest, open woodlands, wood edges, river groves. Parks and residential areas.	No	Moderate	This species was not observed; however, there is a moderate potential for this species to occur within the ornamental pine trees near the water tank within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
Golden eagle (nesting and wintering) <i>Aquila chrysaetos canadensis</i>	WL, CFP, BEPA, MSCP	Require vast foraging areas in grassland, broken chaparral, or sage scrub. Nest in cliffs and boulders. Uncommon resident.	No	Low	This species was not observed and although chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats are available within the Survey area, there is low potential for foraging as the survey area does not offer large foraging spaces and does not contain cliffs for nesting. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
Swainson's hawk (nesting) <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	CT, MSCP	Plains, range, open hills, sparse trees. Uncommon spring migrant. Local breeding population now extirpated.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of plains, range, or open hill habitats. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
TYRANNIDAE TYRANT FLYCATCHERS					
Southwestern willow flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	FE, CE, MSCP	Nesting restricted to willow thickets. Also occupies other woodlands. Rare spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident. Extremely localized breeding.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable willow or woodland habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
VIREONIDAE VIREOS					
Least Bell's vireo (nesting) <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	FE, CE, MSCP	Willow riparian woodlands. Summer resident.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable willow or woodland habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
TROGLODYTIDAE WRENS					
Coastal cactus wren <i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>	CSC, MSCP, *	Maritime succulent scrub, coastal sage scrub with <i>Opuntia</i> thickets. Rare localized resident.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of cactus. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
SYLVIIDAE GNATCATCHERS					
Coastal California gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	FT, CSC, MSCP	Coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub. Resident.	No	High	This species was not observed; however, there is a high potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
PARULIDAE WOOD WARBLERS					
Yellow warbler (nesting) <i>Setophaga [=Dendroica] petechia</i>	CSC	Breeding restricted to riparian woodland. Spring and fall migrant, localized summer resident, rare winter visitor.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable riparian habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
Yellow-breasted chat (nesting) <i>Icteria virens auricollis</i>	CSC	Dense riparian woodland. Localized summer resident.	No	None	This species was not observed and not expected to occur due to the absence of suitable riparian habitat. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).
EMBERIZIDAE EMBERIZIDS					
Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	WL, MSCP	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland. Resident.	No	High	This species was not observed; however, there is a high potential for this species to occur within the coastal sage scrub within the Survey area. This species has been known to occur within a one-mile buffer of the survey area (State of California 2020a).

Attachment 4
Sensitive Wildlife Species Occurring or with the Potential to Occur

Species' Common Name/ Scientific Name	Listing Status	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Detected within the Survey Area?	Potential to Occur within the Survey Area?	Basis for Determination of Occurrence Potential
<p>(I) = Introduced species</p> <p>STATUS CODES</p> <p><u>Listed/Proposed</u></p> <p>FE = Listed as endangered by the federal government CE = Listed as endangered by the state of California CT = Listed as threatened by the state of California</p> <p><u>Other</u></p> <p>BEPA = Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act CFP = California fully protected species CSC = California Department of Fish and Wildlife species of special concern WL = California Department of Fish and Wildlife watch list species MSCP = City and County of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program covered species * = Taxa listed with an asterisk fall into one or more of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxa considered endangered or rare under Section 15380(d) of CEQA guidelines • Taxa that are biologically rare, very restricted in distribution, or declining throughout their range • Population(s) in California that may be peripheral to the major portion of a taxon's range but which are threatened with extirpation within California • Taxa closely associated with a habitat that is declining in California at an alarming rate (e.g., wetlands, riparian, old growth forests, desert aquatic systems, native grasslands) 					