

Appendix D. Biological Resources Background Information

Table D-1. Special-status Plant Species Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS Status & Threat Code	General Habitat Description	Blooming Period	Potential for Occurrence
Hoover's bent grass	<i>Agrostis hooveri</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Stoloniferous herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland; usually sandy soils (6 – 610 meters).	April - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Arroyo de la Cruz manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos cruzensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Shrub. Occurs in broad-leafed upland forest, coastal bluff scrub, closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats; usually on sandy soil (30 – 310 meters).	December - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Santa Lucia manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos luciana</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Shrub. Occurs in chaparral and cismontane woodland; usually on shale soils (35 – 850 meters).	February - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Morro manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos morroensis</i>	FT / -- / 1B.1	Shrub. Occurs in maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal dunes (pre-Flandrian), and coastal scrub; usually on sandy loam soils (5 – 205 meters).	December - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Pecho manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos pechoensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Shrub. Occurs in closed coniferous forest, chaparral, and coastal scrub; usually on siliceous shale (125 – 850 meters).	November - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Santa Margarita manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos pilosula</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Shrub. Occurs in closed coniferous forest, chaparral, and cismontane woodland; usually on shale soils (170 – 1100 meters).	December - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
sand mesa manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos rudis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Shrub. Occurs in chaparral and coastal scrub in Lompoc and Nipomo area; usually on sandy soils. (25 - 230 meters).	November - February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Well's manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos wellsii</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Shrub. Occurs in closed cone coniferous forests and chaparral; usually on sandstone (30 – 400 meters).	December - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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marsh sandwort	<i>Arenaria paludicola</i>	FE / SE / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in freshwater marshes; usually with saturated acidic bog soils (3 – 170 meters).	May - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Potential habitat (freshwater marsh) occurs in the project corridor; however, this habitat is considered marginal at best, as no acidic bog occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Miles' milk vetch	<i>Astragalus didymocarpus</i> var. <i>milesianus</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in coastal scrub habitat (20 - 90 meters).	March - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Luis mariposa lily	<i>Calochortus obispoensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and grassland communities on serpentine soils (75 – 730 meters).	May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine soils) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
La Panza mariposa lily	<i>Calochortus simulans</i>	--/--/1.B.3	Bulbiferous herb. Occurs in cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, valley and foothill grassland/sandy; usually on granitic sometimes serpentinite (395 – 1100 meters).	April - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine soils) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Cambria morning-glory	<i>Calystegia subacaulis</i> ssp. <i>episcopalis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal prairie (60 – 500 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Luis Obispo sedge	<i>Carex obispoensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, coastal prairie, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats; usually with serpentine seeps (10 - 790 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine seeps) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Luis Obispo owl's clover	<i>Castilleja densiflora</i> ssp. <i>obispoensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in valley and foothill grasslands (10 – 400 meters).	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Congdon's tarplant	<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>congdonii</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in valley and foothill grasslands; usually on alkaline soils (1 – 230 meters).	May - October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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dwarf soaproot	<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i> var. <i>minus</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Bulbiferous herb. Occurs in chaparral habitat; usually on serpentine soil (45 - 800 meters).	May - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine soils) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Brewer's spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe breweri</i>	-- / -- / 1B.3	Annual herb. Occurs in closed coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub; usually on gravelly or rocky serpentinite soils (45 – 800 meters).	April - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine soils) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
straight awned spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe rectispina</i>	-- / -- / 1B.3	Annual herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub habitats (85 - 1,035 meters)	May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Luis Obispo fountain thistle	<i>Cirsium fontinale</i> var. <i>obispoense</i>	FE / SE / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, in association with serpentine seeps (35 – 380 meters).	February - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine seeps) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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La Graciosa thistle	<i>Cirsium loncholepis</i>	FE / ST / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in coastal wetlands with dunes (4 – 220 meters).	May - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal wetlands with dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
surf thistle	<i>Cirsium rhotophilum</i>	-- / ST / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub and coastal dune habitats (3 – 60 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal bluff/dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
California saw-grass	<i>Cladium californicum</i>	-- / -- / 2.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in meadows and seeps, and marshes and swamps; usually alkaline or freshwater (60 - 600 meters).	June - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Marginal habitat (Freshwater marsh/wetland) occurs within the project corridor area; however, project corridor is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Pismo clarkia	<i>Clarkia speciosa</i> ssp. <i>immaculata</i>	FE / SR / 1B.1	Annual herb. Occurs in cismontane woodland, valley foothill grasslands, and in openings along the margins of chaparral habitats (25 – 185 meters).	May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
branching beach aster	<i>Corethrogyne leucophylla</i>	-- / -- / 3.2	Perennial herb. Closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal dunes (3 - 60 meters).	May - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (closed coned coniferous forest/dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
leafy tarplant	<i>Deinandra increscens</i> ssp. <i>foliosa</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in valley and foothill grasslands (300 - 500 meters).	June - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
dune larkspur	<i>Delphinium parryi</i> ssp. <i>blochmaniae</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral and coastal dune habitats (maritime) (0 – 200 meters).	April - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes/maritime chaparral) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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umbrella larkspur	<i>Delphinium umbracolorum</i>	-- / -- / 1B.3	Perennial herb. Occurs in cismontane woodland. (400 – 1600 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (cismontane woodland) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
beach spectaclepod	<i>Dithyrea maritima</i>	-- / ST / 1B.1	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in coastal dune and coastal scrub habitats with sandy substrate (3 – 50 meters).	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dune/scrub) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Betty's dudleya	<i>Dudleya abramsii</i> ssp. <i>bettinae</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland in serpentinite, rocky soils (20 – 180 meters).	May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentinite) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
mouse grey dudleya	<i>Dudleya abramsii</i> ssp. <i>murina</i>	-- / -- / 1B.3	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland valley, and foothill grassland (serpentinite) (90 – 440 meters).	May - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentinite) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Blochman's dudleya	<i>Dudleya blochmaniae</i> ssp. <i>blochmaniae</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub, chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland on rocky soils, often serpentine (5 – 450 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine/rocky) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
yellow-flowered eriastrum	<i>Eriastrum luteum</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in broadleafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland (290 – 1000 meters).	May - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Blochman's leafy daisy	<i>Erigeron blochmaniae</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Occurs in coastal dune habitats with sandy substrate (3 – 45 meters).	July - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Indian Knob mountainbalm	<i>Eriodictyon altissimum</i>	FE / SE / 1B.1	Evergreen shrub. Occurs in maritime chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, on sandstone (80 – 270 meters).	March - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (sandstone) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Hoover's button-celery	<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>hooveri</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Annual/perennial herb. Occurs in vernal pools (3 – 45 meters).	July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (vernal pools) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Ojai fritillary	<i>Fritillaria ojaiensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Bulbiferous herb. Occurs in broadleafed upland forest (mesic), chaparral and lower montane coniferous forest (rocky) (300 - 998 meters).	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (vernal pools) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Benito fritillary	<i>Fritillaria viridea</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Bulbiferous herb. Occurs in chaparral on serpentine soil (200 - 1,525 meters).	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal bluff/dunes) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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San Francisco gumplant	<i>Grindelia hirsutula</i> var. <i>maritima</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland; usually sandy or serpentinite soils (15 - 400 meters).	June - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal bluff scrub) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
mesa horkelia	<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>puberula</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub/sandy, or gravelly (70 - 810 meters).	February - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal scrub/sandy gravelly) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Kellogg's horkelia	<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>sericea</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral (maritime), and coastal scrub with sandy or gravelly openings (10 - 200 meters).	April - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Jones's layia	<i>Layia jonesii</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in chaparral and valley and foothill grassland on clay or serpentinite soils (5 – 500 meters).	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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San Luis Obispo County lupine	<i>Lupinus ludovicianus</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral and cismontane woodland on sandstone or sandy soils (50 – 525 meters).	April - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (sandstone/sandy soil) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Nipomo Mesa lupine	<i>Lupinus nipomensis</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Annual herb. Occurs in coastal dunes (10 - 50 meters).	December – May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Camel Valley bush-mallow	<i>Malacothamnus palmeri</i> var. <i>involutus</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Deciduous herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub (30 – 1100 meters).	May - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes/maritime chaparral) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Santa Lucia bush-mallow	<i>Malacothamnus palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Deciduous shrub. Chaparral; usually in rocky soils (60 – 360 meters).	May - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (chaparral) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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crisp monardella	<i>Monardella crisper</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in coastal dunes and coastal scrub with sandy soils (10 - 120 meters).	April - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes and coastal scrub) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
San Luis Obispo monardella	<i>Monardella frutescens</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in coastal dunes and coastal scrub with sandy soils (10 - 200 meters).	May - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal dunes and coastal scrub) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
Palmers monardella	<i>Monardella palmeri</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in chaparral and cismontane woodland habitats on serpentine soil (200 - 800 meters).	June - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the project corridor, which is outside the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Gambel's watercress	<i>Nasturtium gambellii</i>	FE / ST / 1B.1	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in freshwater and brackish marshes, swamps and the borders of lakes (5 - 451 meters).	April - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Potential suitable habitat (brackish waters) occurs within the project corridor; however, this species was not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys; rather, the common water cress (<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>) was observed to be prevalent in the channel. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
short-lobed broomrape	<i>Orobanche parishii</i> ssp. <i>brachyloba</i>	-- / -- / 4.2	Perennial herb parasitic. Occurs in coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub (sandy) (3 – 305 meters).	April - October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
white rabbit-tobacco	<i>Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum</i>	-- / -- / 2.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub, riparian woodland, usually in sandy or gravelly soils (0 - 2100 meters).	August - November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Marginal suitable habitat (riparian woodland) occurs within the project corridor; however, species was not observed during field surveys. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS Status & Threat Code	General Habitat Description	Blooming Period	Potential for Occurrence
adobe sanicle	<i>Sanicula maritima</i>	-- / SR / 1B.1	Perennial herb. Occurs in chaparral, coastal prairie, meadows and seeps, and valley and foothill grassland habitats on clay and serpentine soil (30 - 240 meters).	February - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
black-flowered figwort	<i>Scrophularia atrata</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in closed cone conifer forest, chaparral, coastal dune, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub habitats. Diatomaceous shales (10 - 500 meters).	March - July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Potential habitat occurs within the project corridor; however, species was not observed during field surveys. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
chaparral ragwort	<i>Senecio aphanactis</i>	-- / -- / 2.2	Annual herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub habitats on alkaline soil (15 - 1800 meters).	January - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (alkaline) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

Table D-1. Special-status Plant Species Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS Status & Threat Code	General Habitat Description	Blooming Period	Potential for Occurrence
Cuesta Pass checkerbloom	<i>Sidalcea hickmanii</i> ssp. <i>anomala</i>	-- / SR / 1B.2	Perennial herb. Occurs in closed-cone coniferous forest on serpentine soil (600 - 800 meters).	May - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the BS, which is outside of the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
most beautiful jewel flower	<i>Streptanthus albidus</i> ssp. <i>peramoenus</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and valley and foothill grassland habitats on serpentinite soil (94 - 1,000 meters).	April - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (serpentine) occurs within the BS, which is outside of the known elevation range. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

Table D-1. Special-status Plant Species Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS Status & Threat Code	General Habitat Description	Blooming Period	Potential for Occurrence
San Bernardino aster	<i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Rhizomatous herb. Occurs in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and foothill grassland near ditches and springs (2 - 2,040 meters).	July - November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • Suitable habitat occurs within the project corridor; however, species was not observed during field surveys. • A similar species (<i>Aster chilensis</i>) was identified throughout the project corridor. Specimens were collected and Dr. David Keil of Cal Poly verified the species as <i>Aster chilensis</i>. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
saline clover	<i>Trifolium depauperatum</i> var. <i>hydrophilum</i>	-- / -- / 1B.2	Annual herb. Occurs in marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grassland (mesic, alkaline), and vernal pools (0 - 300 meters).	April - June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (alkaline/vernal pools) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.
caper fruited tripodocarpum	<i>Tropidocarpum capparideum</i>	-- / -- / 1B.1	Annual herb. Occurs in valley and foothill grassland habitats on alkaline hills (1 - 455 meters).	March - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not observed during appropriately timed floristic surveys. • No suitable habitat (alkaline) occurs within the project corridor. • Not expected to occur within the project corridor. • No further studies recommended.

Table D-1. Special-status Plant Species Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/ State/CNPS Status & Threat Code	General Habitat Description	Blooming Period	Potential for Occurrence
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Status Codes:

Federal:

FE = Federally Endangered

FT = Federally Threatened

State:

SE = State Endangered

ST=State Threatened

SR = State Rare

California Native Plant Society (CNPS):

List 1B = rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.

List 2 = rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.

List 4 = A watch list. Species are of limited distribution or infrequent.

Threat Code:

.1 = Seriously endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)

.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened)

.3 = Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened or no current threats known)

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
Invertebrates			
vernal pool fairy shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	Occur in vernal pool habitats including depressions in sandstone, to small swale, earth slump, or basalt-flow depressions with a grassy or, occasionally, muddy bottom in grassland (Eriksen and Belk, 1999).	FT/-- /--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Vernal pool habitat has not been documented within the project corridor.
California linderiella <i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>	Seasonal ponds in grasslands, sandstone depressions, and alluvial flats with hardpan beneath.	--/SA/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Seasonal pond habitat has not been documented within the project corridor.
mimic tryonia <i>Tryonia imitator</i>	Coastal lagoons, estuaries, and salt marshes; found only in permanently submerged areas.	--/SA/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations for this species occur west of the project corridor. Species last documented at the mouth of the Oceano lagoon in 1970 (CNDDDB 2009).
Fish			
tidewater goby <i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	Occurs in brackish shallow lagoons and lower stream reaches where water is fairly still, but not stagnant.	FE/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Occurrence Known: Suitable aquatic habitat is present within the project site. Species is known to occur within Arroyo Grande Creek.
south-central California coast steelhead ESU <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>	Clear, cool water with abundant in-stream cover, well-vegetated stream margins, relatively stable water flow, and a 1:1 pool-to-riffle ratio.	FT, CH /-- /SSC	Habitat Present / Occurrence Known: Suitable aquatic habitat is present within the project corridor. Arroyo Grande Creek occurs within Critical Habitat Estero Bay Hydrologic Unit 3310, Oceano Hydrologic Sub- area 331031.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
Amphibians			
California red-legged frog <i>Rana draytonii</i>	Aquatic habitats with little or no flow and surface water depths to at least 2.3 feet. Presence of fairly sturdy underwater supports such as cattails.	FT/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Occurrence Known: Suitable aquatic habitat is present within the project corridor. Species observed within the project corridor during surveys and known to occur throughout Arroyo Grande Creek.
California tiger salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	Vernal pools within grassland or oak woodlands; require seasonal water, ground squirrel burrows, or other underground refuges.	FT/ST/SSC	Habitat Absent/ Occurrence Unlikely: Species is not expected to occur within the project corridor due to the lack of uncultivated grasslands with temporary rain pools. Species has not been documented within the lower reaches of Arroyo Grande Creek.
western spadefoot <i>Spea hammondi</i>	Inhabits vernal pools primarily in grassland, but also in valley and foothill hardwood woodlands. Requires seasonal pools for breeding and egg-laying.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: No vernal pools for breeding have been identified within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
Coast Range newt <i>Taricha torosa torosa</i>	Coastal drainages from Mendocino County to San Diego County. Resides in terrestrial habitats and migrates up to 1 km to breed in slow moving streams, ponds, and reservoirs. Frequents terrestrial habitats such as oak woodlands.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: Species is known to occur in Arroyo Grande Creek in the vicinity of Lopez Lake. Habitat within the project corridor is marginal. Species not observed during surveys.
Reptiles			
southwestern pond turtle <i>Actinemys marmorata pallida</i>	Quiet waters of ponds, lakes, streams, and marshes. Typically in the deepest parts with an abundance of basking sites.	-- /--/SSC	Habitat Present / Occurrence Known: Suitable aquatic habitat was observed with the project corridor. This species was observed during surveys.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
silvery legless lizard <i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>	Sandy or loose loamy soils with high moisture content under sparse vegetation.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Sandy loam occurs within the project corridor but Arroyo Grande Creek is likely too moist and well-vegetated to support the species. Species not observed during surveys.
coast horned lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum frontale</i>	Coastal sage, chaparral, annual grasslands, oak woodland, riparian woodland, and coniferous forest. Typically in loose, fine soils, with a high sand fraction.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: Riparian habitat and sandy soils were observed within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
two-striped garter snake <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	Inhabits perennial and intermittent streams with rocky beds bordered by dense vegetation. May also utilize stock ponds and other artificially-created aquatic habitats	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Moderate Potential for Occurrence: Suitable riparian and aquatic habitat is present within the project corridor. Nearest occurrence Guadalupe/Nipomo dunes area (CNDDDB 2009). Species not observed during surveys.
Birds			
Cooper's hawk <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Deciduous riparian woodland habitat throughout California. Nests in deciduous trees and conifers.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Present / Occurrence Likely: The project corridor contains suitable nesting and foraging habitat for Cooper's hawk. This species was observed during surveys by SWCA biologists.
sharp-shinned hawk <i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Occurs in ponderosa pine, black oak, deciduous riparian areas, mixed conifer, and Jeffrey pine habitats. North facing slopes with plucking perches and close proximity to water (within 275 feet).	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: Species has been observed at the Woodlands Development 5.5 miles southeast of Oceano (CNDDDB 2009). Although riparian habitat within project corridor may provide suitable habitat for this species, the likelihood of occurrence is considered low.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
tricolored blackbird <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	(Nesting colony); requires open water, protected nesting substrate (<i>Juncus</i> and <i>Scirpus</i>), and foraging area with insect prey.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations (e.g., open water and nesting substrate) occur within the project corridor, but are considered marginal due to relative amount of nesting substrate. Species not observed during field surveys.
burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Open, dry grasslands, deserts, and scrublands. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals.	MBTA/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations are not present within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
ferruginous hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i>	(Wintering) open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills, and fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats; eats lagomorphs, ground squirrels, and mice; population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: project corridor does not contain habitat suitable for wintering ferruginous hawks. Species not observed during surveys of the project corridor.
western snowy plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Occurs on sandy beaches, salt pond levees, and shores of large alkali lakes. Needs sandy, gravelly, or friable soils for nesting.	MBTA, FT/ --/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations are not present within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
western yellow-billed cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Nest in riparian forests along broad, lower flood zones of larger river systems. Often found in willow thickets mixed with cottonwoods, sycamores, and presence of a thick under story including blackberry and other subshrubs.	FC, MBTA/SE/ --	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: The project corridor contains riparian habitat for western yellow-billed cuckoo. The most recent nearby CNDDDB occurrence record for the species is a 1932 egg set collection by Santa Barbara Natural History Museum from an unspecified location in San Luis Obispo County (CNDDDB 2009). The likelihood of this species occurring within the project corridor is very low.
yellow warbler <i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>	Riparian associations, prefers willows, cottonwoods, aspens, sycamores, and alders for nesting and foraging.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Present / Occurrence Likely: Suitable nesting and foraging habitat was observed within the project corridor. .

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
white-tailed kite <i>Elanus leucurus</i>	Open grasslands, meadows, or marshlands for foraging close to isolated trees for nesting and perching.	MBTA/--/FP	Habitat Present / Occurrence Likely: Suitable foraging and nesting habitat occurs throughout the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys; however, pre-construction nesting bird surveys are recommended. .
California horned lark <i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	Occurs in short grass prairies, coastal plains, fallow grain fields and alkali flats. Found in coastal regions from Sonoma to San Diego county, and west to the San Joaquin Valley. .	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations are not present within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	Coastal areas, tidal estuaries, open woodlands, savannahs, edges of grasslands and deserts and agricultural areas. Requires clumps of trees or windbreaks for roosting in open country.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations for this species are not present within the project corridor. Nearest documented occurrence Santa Margarita Ranch (CNDDDB 2009). Species not observed during surveys.
prairie falcon <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	Occurs in dry, open terrain that is level or hilly and breeds on cliffs.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: project corridor does not contain dry open habitat for foraging or suitable cliff habitat for nesting. Species not observed during surveys.
California condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	Occurs in open savannahs, grasslands, and foothill chaparral, in mountain ranges with moderate altitudes. Nest in deep canyons on rock walls with clefts.	FE/SE/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations for this species are not present within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
California black rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail are shore birds known to frequent tidal salt marshes. These birds utilize densely vegetated mud flats and the high tide line in salt water marsh systems.	--/ST/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Suitable salt marsh habitat was not observed within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
purple martin <i>Progne subis</i>	Occupies valley foothill and montane hardwood forests, conifer forests, and riparian habitats. May nest in old woodpecker cavities or in human-made structures such as bridges and culverts. Feeds on insects.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Occurrence Likely: project corridor contains suitable riparian and nesting habitat for this species. Species not observed during surveys.
California least tern <i>Sternula antillarum browni</i>	Largely a coastal species that feed on fish and nest on sandy dunes or beaches. Once a common species in California; currently nesting colonies are isolated to Southern California and scattered Bay Area beaches.	FE/SE/--	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations are not present within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
least Bell's vireo <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Summer resident of southern California. This species occurs in low riparian areas or in dry river bottoms (below 2000 feet). Nests along the margins of willows, <i>Baccharis</i> sp. or mesquite.	MBTA,FE/SE/--	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: Riparian habitat is present within the project corridor but is considered marginal for least Bell's vireo as the area lacks dense foliage due to maintenance activities and historical disturbances. The nearest known occurrence of this species is a recent observation in Los Osos, CA (San Luis Obispo County Birding Digest 2873).
southwestern willow flycatcher	Breeds in relatively dense riparian tree and shrub communities associated with rivers, swamps, and other wetlands, including lakes (e.g., reservoirs); mostly forested wetlands or scrub-shrub wetlands. Wintering habitat includes include brushy savanna edges, second growth, shrubby clearings and pastures, and woodlands near water.	MBTA,FE/SE/--	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely: Riparian habitat is present within the project corridor but is considered marginal for southwestern willow flycatcher due to the disturbed nature of the habitat and general lack of dense understory. There are no documented occurrences of this species breeding within San Luis Obispo County (Edell 2001).
Other migratory bird species (nesting) Class Aves	Annual grasslands, riparian areas, coastal scrub, chaparral, and oak woodlands may provide nesting habitat.	MBTA/--/--	Habitat Present / Occurrence Likely: Nesting habitat occurs throughout the project corridor. No active nests observed during surveys.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
Mammals			
American badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i>	Occurs in open stages of shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats; needs uncultivated ground with friable soils.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: Known habitat associations for this species were not observed within the project corridor. Species not observed during surveys.
pallid bat <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Prefers rocky outcrops, cliffs, and crevices with access to open habitats for foraging. Day roosts are in caves, crevices, mines, and occasionally in hollow trees and buildings. Night roosts may be in more open sites, such as porches and buildings.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely. Potential habitat occurs under bridges within the project corridor, but roosting would be unlikely. Species not observed during surveys.
Townsend's big-eared bat <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Occurs in a wide variety of habitats; most common in mesic (wet) sites. May use trees for day and night roosts; however, requires caves, mines, rock faces, bridges or buildings for maternity roosts. Maternity roosts are in relatively warm sites.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely. Potential habitat occurs under bridges within the project corridor, but roosting would be unlikely. Species not observed during surveys.
western mastiff bat <i>Eumops perotis</i>	Found in many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.; roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels.	--/--/SSC	Habitat Absent / Occurrence Unlikely: project corridor is in a coastal setting and located outside of semi-arid to arid habitats. Species not observed during surveys.
Other roosting bats Class Chiroptera	Potential for roosting in several natural and artificial habitats.	--/CEQA/--	Habitat Present / Potential for Occurrence but Unlikely. Potential habitat occurs under bridges within the project corridor, but roosting would be unlikely. No active bat roosts observed during surveys.

Table D-2. Special-status Wildlife Evaluated for Potential for Occurrence within the Project Corridor

Species Name	Habitat and Distribution	Legal Status Federal/State/CDFG	Rationale for Expecting Presence or Absence
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Status Codes

-- = No status

Federal:

FE = Federal Endangered

FT = Federal Threatened

FC = Federal Candidate

CH = Federal Critical Habitat

PCH = Proposed Federal Critical Habitat

MBTA = Protected by Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act

State:

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened

CEQA = considered sensitive under CEQA

California Department of Fish and Game:

SSC = Special of Special Concern

FP = Fully Protected Species

SA = Not formally listed but included in CDFG "Special Animal" List.