padre associates, inc.
ENGINEERS, GEOLOGISTS & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS

January 9, 2013

Project No. 0601-3284

A&R Project Engineer and Manager
Chevron Environmental Management Company
276 Tank Farm Road
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Attention: Mr. Rick Williams

RE: ***Biological Resource Survey Letter-Report for the Off-Site Flower Mound Impact Area, Chevron San Luis Obispo Tank Farm, San Luis Obispo County, California.***

Dear Mr. Williams:

Padre Associates, Inc. (Padre) is pleased to present this letter-report (Report) documenting the results of a biological resource survey conducted by Padre Biologists for the Chevron Environmental Management Company (CEMC) San Luis Obispo Tank Farm (SLO Tank Farm) Restoration and Redevelopment Project (Project), located adjacent to the City of San Luis Obispo (City), San Luis Obispo County (County), California (refer to Figure 1 – Project Location). This biological evaluation was completed at the request of San Luis Obispo Department of Planning and Building (County) and of San Luis Obispo Community Development Department (City) pursuant to the preparation of the SLO Tank Farm Restoration and Redevelopment Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The previously submitted biological resources survey did not completely analyze the biological resources and associated impacts from the Project beyond Chevron's northeastern property boundary in the area referred to as the "Flower Mound". This Report focuses on a Biological Survey Area (BSA) that includes portions of the Flower Mound that occur off-site (outside of the CEMC SLO Tank Farm property) on private properties that are expected to be impacted by proposed Project activities.

The private properties that comprise the BSA include:

- City of San Luis Obispo property located northeast of the SLO Tank Farm property;
- Garcia-Damon property located north of the SLO Tank Farm property; and,
- Caldwell property located east of the SLO Tank Farm property.

It is Padre's understanding that the information included in this Report will be incorporated into the Draft EIR prior to release for public review and comment.

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REGIONAL SETTING

The SLO Tank Farm was constructed in 1910 to serve as the accumulation point for the Producers petroleum pipeline from the San Joaquin Valley. This property was slowly withdrawn from operation during the later decades of the 20th century, and by the late 1990s, was formally decommissioned. The SLO Tank Farm exists as under-utilized land effectively surrounded by urban development within the City of San Luis Obispo and adjacent to the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport.

With the exception of a small office building complex and parking lot, which serves as the local headquarters for CEMC San Luis Obispo operations, the SLO Tank Farm consists primarily of open space, leased for cattle grazing for the purposes of fire and weed control. Adjacent land uses include the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport to the south, light commercial and industrial developments to the west, agricultural and pastoral land with scattered residences to the north, and a residential trailer park to the east. The Flower Mound feature is located in the northeastern portion of SLO Tank Farm and extends beyond the SLO Tank Farm property boundaries onto three private/commercial properties (e.g., Garcia Property, City of San Luis Obispo Property, and Caldwell Property) currently utilized for cattle grazing, open space, and private use.

REGULATORY SETTING

This section identifies and discusses the regulations and policies administered by resource agencies pertaining to those biological resources that are known to exist and/or have the potential to occur within the BSA.

Federal Regulations

Endangered Species Act of 1972. The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), provides protection to species listed as Threatened or Endangered, and critical habitat designated for the protection of such species. The FESA also provides protection to those species proposed to be listed under FESA or critical habitats proposed to be designated for such species. In addition to the listed species, the federal government also maintains lists of species that are neither formally listed nor proposed, but could potentially be listed in the future. These federal candidate species include taxa for which substantial information on biological vulnerability and potential threats exist, and are maintained in order to support the appropriateness of proposing to list the taxa as an Endangered or Threatened species. The USFWS also manages Birds of Conservation Concern, which include bird species of highest conservation priorities in effort to draw attention to species in need of conservation action.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. The USFWS also administers the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (16 USC 703-711). The MBTA establishes Federal responsibilities for the protection of nearly all species of birds, their eggs, and their nests. The MBTA of 1918 implemented the 1916 Convention between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of birds migrating between the United States and Canada; implemented the 1936 Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Animals between the United States and Mexico; and similar conventions between the United States and Japan (1972) and the

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (1976). Under the MBTA, it is unlawful to kill, collect, take, possess, buy, sell, purchase, or barter any migratory bird listed in 50 CFR 10, including feathers or other parts, nests, eggs or products, except as allowed by implementing regulations (50 CFR 21). Certain game bird species are allowed to be hunted for specific periods determined by federal and state governments.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. Bald and golden eagles are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) regardless of listing with the ESA. This law, originally passed in 1940, provides for the protection of the bald eagle and the golden eagle (as amended in 1962) by prohibiting the take, possession, sale, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, of any bald or golden eagle, alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg, unless allowed by permit

Clean Water Act of 1972. The Clean Water Act (CWA) is a comprehensive piece of legislation that generally includes reference to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, and its substantial supplementation by the CWA of 1977. Both Acts were subsequently amended in 1981, 1987, and 1993. Overall, the CWA seeks to protect the nation's water from pollution by setting water quality standards for surface water and by limiting the discharge of effluents into waters of the United States. These water quality standards are enforced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is responsible for the issuance of permits for the placement of dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States (WoUS) pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA (33 USC 1344). As defined by the ACOE in 33 CFR 328.3(a)(3), WoUS are those that are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; tributaries and impoundments to such waters; all interstate waters including interstate wetlands; and territorial seas. In addition, federal guidance has been developed that requires careful examination and documentation of the physical location(s) and hydrologic connections among waters/wetlands. To determine federal jurisdiction, particular focus is given to (1) surface hydrologic connections between a wetland and "navigable waters in fact," (2) "adjacency" of a wetland to traditionally navigable waters, and thus (3) a "significant nexus" to interstate commerce. WoUS/wetland features can also be determined to be under federal jurisdiction by the ACOE or EPA if a "significant nexus" can be shown between the wetland feature in question and its contribution to the maintenance or restoration of the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of downstream waters that are traditionally navigable.

In non-tidal waters, the lateral extent of ACOE jurisdiction is determined by the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), which is defined as the: "…*line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas*" (33 CFR 328[e]).

State Regulations

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1969. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (CA Water Code §§ 13000-13999.10) mandates that waters of the state shall be protected, such that activities that may affect waters of the state shall be regulated to attain the

highest quality. This Act establishes the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as the principal state agency for controlling water quality in California. The SWRCB provides regulations that mandate a "non-degradation policy" for state waters, especially those of high quality. The SWRCB is divided into local Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB).

Pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, the ACOE cannot issue a federal permit until the State of California first issues a water quality certification to ensure that a project will comply with state water quality standards. The authority to issue water quality certifications in the BSA is vested with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB).

California Fish and Game Code. The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) administers a number of laws and programs designed to protect fish and wildlife resources. Principal of these is the California Endangered Species Act of 1984 (CESA - Fish and Game Code Section 2050) that regulates the listing and take of State Endangered and Threatened species. CDFG also maintains lists of Candidate-Endangered species and Candidate-Threatened species. California candidate species are afforded the same level of protection as listed species. CDFG also designates Species of Special Concern (CSC) that are of limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. These species do not have the same legal protection as listed species, but may be added to official lists in the future.

The CDFG also manages a Watch List that includes "Taxa to Watch" (Shuford and Gardali, 2008), which includes: 1) species not on the current Special Concern list but were on previous lists and they have not been state listed under CESA; 2) species that were previously state or federally listed and are now delisted; or 3) species are on the list of "Fully Protected" species.

CDFG administers other State laws designed to protect wildlife and plants. Section 3511 of the California Fish and Game Code designates species that are afforded "Fully Protected" (FP) status. Fish and Game Code Sections 4700 and 5515 assign the same status to specified mammals and fish. These statutes generally provide that specifically identified birds, mammals, and fish "or parts thereof may not be taken or possessed at any time and no provision of [the Fish and Game] code or any other law shall be construed to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take any fully protected [bird, mammal, or fish] and no permits or licenses heretofore issued shall have any force or effect" for any such purpose. For fully protected fish and mammals, the only exception to the take prohibition is that the Fish and Game Commission may authorize the collecting of such species "for necessary scientific research" (Fish and Game Code, Sections 4700, 5515). With a proper permit, fully protected species may also be captured live and relocated "for the protection of livestock" (Section 3511). Section 3503.5 protects birds-of-prey (Falconiformes and Strigiformes), their eggs, and their nests.

CDFG manages the California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (Fish and Game Code Section 1900, *et seq*.), which was enacted to identify, designate and, protect rare plants. In accordance with CDFG guidelines, California Native Plant Society (CNPS) 1B list plants are considered "rare" under the Act, and are evaluated during California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review of a proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code, CDFG requires a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement between CDFG and any State or local governmental agency, public utility, or private party before the initiation of any construction project that will: 1) divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake; 2) use materials from a streambed; or 3) result in the disposal or deposition of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it can pass into any river, stream, or lake. Therefore, the CDFG claims jurisdiction over the bed, bank, and channel of the drainage that may be impacted by Project activities.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS). The mission of this private non-profit conservation program of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is *". . . to save native plant species and their habitats on public and private lands in California by advocating for the maximum protection of native plants and promoting science-based and ecologically-sound land management practices*." Despite being a non-governmental organization, CNPS works in cooperation with county, state, and federal agencies, elected officials, and other non-profit organizations to increase appreciation for and knowledge of California's native flora. Since 1968, the CNPS has developed an inventory of species that are rare, threatened, declining, or are in danger of extinction through the state

The CNPS classification status is important because the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), enacted in 1970, requires state and local agencies to identify significant environmental impacts of their actions, and to avoid and mitigate those impacts where feasible (California Public Resources Code §§21000-21177).

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA is declared in the California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 - 21178, and Title 14 CCR, Section 753, and Chapter 3, Sections 15000 – 15387. The purpose of CEQA is to "prevent or minimize damage to the environment through development of project alternatives, mitigation measures, and mitigation monitoring."

San Luis Obispo County Regulations

San Luis Obispo County incorporates the evaluation process of CEQA, which requires public agencies to conduct before taking action to approve a project. CEQA sets statewide policies that require both state and local agencies to consider the environmental consequences of decisions that involve changes to the environment.

San Luis Obispo County also incorporates all USFWS, CDFG, RWQCB, and ACOE permit conditions for the subject Project and further uses the following wetland definition that has been adopted by the USFWS and the CDFG. This definition reads:

"For purposes of this classification, wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes: a) At least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes, that is plants adapted to moist areas; b) The substrate is predominantly un-drained hydric soil; and/or c) The substrate is non soil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year."

METHODS

Literature/Database Review

Prior to conducting the field survey on October 25, 2012, a review of site records from other environmental documents and range maps from Shuford, et. al., (2008), Zeiner, et. al., (1998, 1990a, 1990b), and Sibley (2003), was conducted to determine what species have the potential to occur in the BSA. Vegetation/habitat classifications are based on the CNPS *A Manual of California Vegetation, Second Edition* (MCVII) (Sawyer, et.al, 2009), the CDFG *List of Vegetation Alliances and Associations* (CDFG List of Natural Communities) (CDFG, 2010), and *A Preliminary Description of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California* (Holland Types) (Holland, 1986). Scientific nomenclature for plant species is based on *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition* (Baldwin, et. al., 2012). In addition, previous reports and correspondence associated with the Chevron SLO Tank Farm Property were reviewed and are listed below.

- Padre Associates, Inc. (Padre) and WSP Environment & Energy (WSP). 2008. *Description and Analysis of the Botanical Resources, Including Vascular Plant Species of Conservation Concern, at the Chevron Tank Farm Facility, San Luis Obispo, California.* Consultant's report developed for CEMC, San Luis Obispo, California.
- Padre Associates, Inc. (Padre). 2007. *Project Execution Plan for the Chevron SLO Tank Farm.* Consultant's report prepared for CEMC, San Luis Obispo, California.
- Padre Associates, Inc. (Padre). 2008. *Protocol-Level California Red-legged Frog Survey Report for the Former San Luis Obispo Tank Farm Site (Tank Farm), San Luis Obispo County, California*. Consultant's report developed for CEMC, San Luis Obispo, California.
- Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2003-2004. *Unocal San Luis Obispo Tank Farm Phase I, II, III Biological Resources Studies.* Consultant's report prepared for Union Oil Company of California. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2005. *Unocal Corporation San Luis Obispo Tank Farm Comprehensive Fairy Shrimp Wet and Dry Season Survey Report.* Consultant's report prepared for Union Oil Company of California. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). San Luis Obispo Quadrangle. Computerized database. Accessed October 2012.

Additional CRLF protocol-level surveys have been initiated and non-breeding surveys have been completed in 2012 by Padre. No CRLF have been identified to-date, within the SLO Tank Farm property; however, 2013 breeding season surveys have not been completed and final results have not been determined.

Padre Biologists keep a continual record of all the fauna/flora observed during on-going site visits, surveys, and monitoring within the SLO Tank Farm property. These species have been combined with all wildlife that may occur within the BSA, and provided as a list in the attachments. This list of fauna was reviewed prior to field surveys.

Field Surveys

As discussed above, the BSA consists of the off-site portions of the Flower Mound located on private properties that will be impacted as a result of proposed Project activities. Access to these properties was granted by current land owners; therefore, the limits of the BSA were consistent with proposed impact boundaries for the Flower Mound area. A biological resources survey was conducted on October 25, 2012 by Padre Biologists Ms. Thea Benson, Ms. Christina Santala, Ms. Crystahl Taylor, and Ms. Sarah Powell. The survey focused on the identification of existing botanical and wildlife resources as well as special-status plant and wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the BSA. The survey also identified plant communities and potential sensitive habitat areas, including wetlands. Site photographs were taken of the BSA during the field survey (refer to attachments – Site Photographs).

During the survey, Padre Biologists documented wildlife species by walking paths of opportunity through the various habitat types and recording species identified by visual observation using 10X50 binoculars, indirect signs (e.g., tracks, scat, skeletal remains, and burrows), and/or auditory cues (i.e., calls and songs). Refer to Attachments – Wildlife Species List for a complete list of wildlife species observed within the BSA and other wildlife that have the potential to occur within the BSA based on the presence of suitable habitat. Additionally, recorded occurrences previously documented by sources identified in the literature review are included in this list. All identifiable plant species were recorded during field surveys, and potential for special-status plants to occur in the BSA was determined. Plant specimens that were not positively identified in the field were further examined using a dissecting microscope and appropriate botanical keys, including *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition* (Baldwin, et. al., 2012). Refer to Attachments – Vascular Plant Species List for a list of plant species observed within the BSA. It should be noted that surveys were conducted outside the blooming period for most species, and additional spring botanical surveys may be needed to fully document the flora of the BSA.

All special-status species and sensitive resources occurring within the BSA were mapped either by hand directly on aerial imagery, and/or using a GeoXH handheld Global Positioning System (GPS). All collected GPS data were downloaded and exported for use in developing graphics in ArcGIS. Figure 2 provides all sensitive biological resources documented during the field survey within the BSA, as well as indentified plant communities and other biological resources.

FINDINGS

The following discussion of biological resources is limited primarily to those resources that were observed within and/or in the immediate vicinity of the BSA, or resources that would be expected to occur and/or frequent a particular area based on the presence of suitable habitat and species observed within the vicinity.

Non-Navigable Streams and Wetlands

The BSA consists of land that has been significantly disturbed as a result of historical and current land use including quarry activities, and cattle grazing. The major topographical feature of the BSA is the former quarry site (i.e., Flower Mound) comprised of a large mound of disturbed serpentinite rock and soil. The landscape surrounding the Flower Mound ranges from level to sloping open areas, berms, and topographic depressions with the potential to become inundated during the wet season (refer to Figure 2). The nearest occurring creek is Acacia Creek, a southerly trending tributary to The East Fork of San Luis Obispo Creek, approximately 0.1-mile east of the BSA. Acacia Creek is a non-navigable stream; however, it does provide a significant nexus as a tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek that eventually drains to the Pacific Ocean. Therefore, Acacia Creek is within federal CWA jurisdiction. Based on the October 2012 survey, there is no apparent connectivity between the depressional features within the BSA and Acacia Creek.

The depressional features occurring within the BSA may be within ACOE jurisdiction and, if impacted, may require permits and specific restoration. As such, Padre will conduct a formal wetland delineation to determine the limits of jurisdiction and permitting requirements for the undefined wetland features within the BSA, specifically within the Garcia-Damon property.

Sensitive Habitats of Concern

The following sensitive habitats and plant communities are either listed under the FESA as Critical Habitat; afforded protection with the ACOE, USFWS, CDFG, or County; considered sensitive under the CESA; or considered rare by the County of San Luis Obispo, professional organizations, and/or the scientific community. As a result of the desktop review, the following habitats were documented within the vicinity of the BSA:

<u>USFWS Critical Habitat.</u> USFWS designated Critical Habitats for California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) (CRLF) and south/central southern coast steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irdeus*) occur within San Luis Obispo County and surrounding counties. Critical Habitat areas may include an area that is not currently occupied by the species but that is important for its recovery; therefore, presence/absence surveys may not be required to incorporate protection measures into project designs. Further, species with designated Critical Habitat are ultimately protected if occurring outside designated Critical Habitat areas. USFWS designated Critical Habitat for CRLF or steelhead does not occur within the BSA; however, discussions of the nearest recorded Critical Habitat is outlined below for review.

- *California Red-Legged Frog Critical Habitat.* CRLF is federally listed as Threatened under the FESA. Critical Habitat for this species includes upland and aquatic habitat features essential for the movement and breeding activities for the species and habitats in which CRLF have been documented. CRLF Critical Habitat (SLO-3) comprises approximately 186 square-miles of northern San Luis Obispo County, primarily throughout the Los Padres National Forest and associated drainages, and does not include the BSA.
- *South/Central Southern Coast Steelhead Critical Habitat.* Steelhead are federally listed as Threatened under the FESA. The South/Central Southern Coast Distinct Population Segment (DPS) is defined as naturally spawned anadromous populations below impassable barriers from Pajaro Creek south to, but not including, Santa Maria River.

The South/Central Southern DPS Critical Habitat occurring within the region of the BSA, includes San Luis Obispo Creek, located less than one mile to the west, and West Corral De Piedra Creek, approximately 4.3 miles to the east. There is no designated South/Central Southern Coast Steelhead Critical Habitat within the BSA and there are no streams providing suitable flow/habitat for steelhead within the BSA.

CNDDB Sensitive Habitat. Sensitive habitats recognized by the CNDDB that are known to occur within the vicinity of the BSA are limited to serpentine bunchgrass grassland. Serpentine bunchgrass grassland has been documented immediately southwest of the BSA on portions of the Flower Mound within the SLO Tank Farm property boundaries (Padre/WSP, 2008). Based on the October 2012 survey, no Serpentine bunchgrass grassland was observed within the BSA.

CDFG Natural Communities of Special Concern. Natural communities of special concern are those plant communities that are showing decline in California and, as such, have a designated imperilment status ranking of S1, S2 or S3 (i.e., critically imperiled, imperiled, or vulnerable, respectively) and documented in the CDFG List of Natural Communities (CDFG, 2010). Based on the literature review, two natural communities of special concern have been documented on the SLO Tank Farm property, in the vicinity of the BSA, and consist of the following:

- *Stipa pulchra* [*Nasella pulchra*] Alliance (Purple Needlegrass Grassland). CDFG List No. 45.150.00 Rank S3. During previous surveys, purple needlegrass was observed in the serpentine bunchgrass grassland habitat located southwest of the Flower Mound on SLO Tank Farm property (Padre/WSP, 2008). Based on the October 2012 survey, no purple needlegrass grassland was observed within the BSA.
- *Juglans californica* Alliance (California Walnut Groves). CDFG List No. 72.100.00, Rank S3. This alliance has been documented on the East Fork of San Luis Obispo Creek, approximately 0.3-miles south of the BSA (Padre/WSP, 2008). Based on the October 2012 survey, no California walnut grove habitat was observed within the BSA.

Flora

A list of plant species identified in the BSA during the October 25, 2012 field survey is provided under Attachments – Vascular Plant Species List. This section documents the botanical resources within the BSA, which includes classification of the existing vegetation and habitat types, and a discussion of sensitive plant species.

Existing Vegetation and Habitat Types

Generally, vegetation and habitat types are classified based on MCVII (Sawyer, et. al., 2009), CDFG List of Natural Communities (CDFG, 2010), and/or Holland Type habitats (Holland, 1986). However, it should be noted that a large portion of the BSA (Flower Mound) consists of highly disturbed rocky substrate as a result of historical and current land use practices. Specifically, this rocky habitat does not support enough vascular plant species to be defined as a plant community; therefore, Padre has characterized this area based on physical features and associated plant species composition. As such, one plant community and two

habitat types including Wild Oat Grassland, Serpentinite Rock Outcrop, and Ruderal lands were documented within the BSA. These resources are discussed below and illustrated in Figure 2.

Avena (*barbata, fatua*) Semi-Natural Herbaceous Stands (Wild Oat Grasslands). Wild oat grasslands are found in waste places, rangelands, and openings in woodlands, and is characterized by wild oat (*Avena barbata, fatua*) as the dominant species in the herbaceous layer, with emergent shrubs and trees present at low cover (Sawyer et al., 2009). Wild oat grassland occurs primarily on the lower slopes, level terrain, and depressional features within the BSA, and is dominated by slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*). Component species include red brome (*Bromus madritensis*), yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), California fuschia (*Epilobium canum*), mediterranean barley (*Hordeum marinum),* hayfield tarweed (*Hemizonia congesta*), and turkey mullein (*Croton setigerus*).

Serpentinite Rock Outcrop. Serpentinite rock outcrop habitat is comprised of a mixture of serpentinite rock outcrops and gravel and is found on the upper to mid slopes of the Flower Mound. Serpentine soil habitats often support high native plant species diversity and sensitive plant species, specifically in the San Luis Obispo area. Serpentine soils provide a stressful and highly selective habitat for plants primarily due to its unique chemistry (Kruckeberg, 1984). The serpentinite rock outcrops along the upper slopes of the Flower Mound within the BSA support sparse populations of species such as slender buckwheat (*Eriogonum elongatum* var. *elongatum*) and San Luis Obispo serpentine dudleya (*Dudleya abramsii* ssp. *bettinae*), and slightly denser populations of vegetation including coyote brush (*Baccharis piluaris*), bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), wild oat grass, California poppy (*Eschoscholzia californica*), English plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), and sweet fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) on the lower slopes of the Flower Mound within the BSA. This community is illustrated as Serpentinite rock outcrop in Figure 2.

Ruderal Lands. For the purposes of this report, ruderal is a term used to describe those areas that have been significantly disturbed by various land use practices and typically support weedy plant species. Only plants capable of withstanding frequent disturbances are able to grow in previously disturbed communities. Many of California's native plant species often fail to become established in these areas because of competition from aggressive non-native species and continual site disturbance. Most successful non-natives produce large quantities of seeds and readily invade disturbed sites. Based on the October 2012 survey, ruderal habitat occurs primarily on the Caldwell property within the BSA, and consists of telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), tobacco tree (*Nicotiana glauca*), storks bill (*Erodium botrys*), red brome, coyote brush, bur-clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), and Italian thistle (*Carduus pychnocephalus*).

Sensitive Plant Species of Concern

The plant species of concern discussed in this section are either listed as Endangered or Threatened under the FESA and/or CESA, considered rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act, or considered rare (but not listed) by resources agencies, professional organizations, and the scientific community. For the purposes of this biological evaluation, plant species of concern are defined in Table 1 – Definitions of Special-Status Plant Species

Table 1. Definitions of Special-Status Plant Species

Special-Status Plant Species
➢ Plants listed or proposed for listing as Threatened or Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 17.12 for listed plants and various notices in the Federal Register for proposed species). ➢ Plants that are candidates for possible future listing as Threatened or Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (Federal Register Vol. 67, No. 114, pp.40657-4067, June 13, 2002). ➢ Plants that meet the definitions of rare or Endangered species under the CEQA (*State CEQA Guidelines,* Section 15380). ➢ Plants considered by the CNPS to be "Rare, Threatened, or Endangered" in California (Ranks 1B and 2 in CNPS, 2008). ➢ Plants listed by CNPS as plants about which we need more information and plants of limited distribution (Ranks 3 and 4 in CNPS, 2008). ➢ Plants listed or proposed for listing by the State of California as Threatened or Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (14 CCR 670.5). ➢ Plants listed under the California Native Plant Protection Act (California Fish and Game Code 1900 et seq.). ➢ Plants considered sensitive by other Federal agencies (i.e., U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management), state and local agencies or jurisdictions. ➢ Plants considered sensitive or unique by the scientific community or occurring at the limits of their natural range (*State CEQA Guidelines*).

The desktop review conducted for this evaluation indicated that five special-status plant species have been documented within SLO Tank Farm property, which is directly adjacent to the off-site Flower Mound BSA. Table 2 – Special-Status Plant Species of the SLO Tank Farm lists these species, their current status, habitat description, documented location, and observation status within the BSA.

Table 2. Special-Status Plant Species of the SLO Tank Farm

Scientific name **Common name** *(Arranged alphabetically by scientific name)*	**Status**	**Habitat Description (Elevation Range)**	**Documented Location**	**Observed within the BSA**
Calystegia subacaulis ssp. *episcopalis* Cambria morning-glory	Rank 4.2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal prairie, valley and foothill grassland. Usually clay soils. (30 - 500m)	Within SLO Tank Farm property (Padre, 2008).	No
Castilleja densiflora ssp. *obispoensis* San Luis Obispo owl's clover	Rank 1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland. Sometimes serpentinite soils. (10 – 400 m)	Within SLO Tank Farm property (Padre, 2008).	No
Centromadia parryi ssp. *congdonii* Congdon's tarplant	Rank 1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland, Alkaline soils (0 – 230m).	Within SLO Tank Farm property (Padre, 2008).	No
Dudleya abramsii ssp. *bettinae* San Luis Obispo Serpentine dudleya	Rank 1B.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland. Serpentinite, rocky soils. (20 -180m)	Sparse population observed by Padre in the BSA (City of San Luis Obispo property) during the October 2012 survey. Location: City of San Luis Obispo parcel, on the NE slope of the Flower Mound within the BSA.	Yes
Eryngium aristulatum var. *hooveri* Hoover's button-celery	Rank 1B.1	Vernal pools. (3 – 45m)	Within SLO Tank Farm property (Padre, 2008).	No

Status Codes:
CNPS:

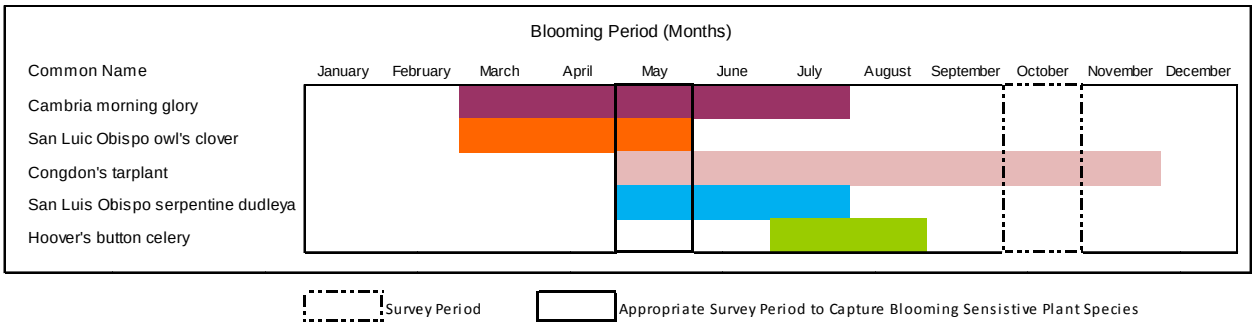
Rank 1B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
Rank 1B.1	Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
Rank 1B.2	Fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
Rank 4.2	Plants of limited distribution; Fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)

It should be noted that the presence/absence of plants associated with the habitats occurring in the BSA may vary from year to year based on environmental conditions, including a species' resistance to stresses such as, annual fluctuations in precipitation, fire, non-native and/or invasive species, human disturbance, agricultural operations, and/or seed banks that can stay dormant for several years. Therefore, for the purpose of this report, the sensitive plants identified in Table 3 were evaluated on the likelihood of occurrence within the BSA, considering all information provided in the literature review, field survey and other environmental conditions of the Project region.

It should also be noted that surveys were conducted late in the season and did not coincide with the blooming period of many of the special-status plant species potentially occurring on site. Blooming periods for the potentially occurring special-status plant species in conjunction with the October 2012 survey period and the appropriate survey period to capture

all blooming special-status plant species is illustrated in the Table 3 - Blooming Periods of Potentially Occurring Special-Status Plant Species.

Table 3. Blooming Periods for Potentially Occurring Special-Status Plant Species



The following species accounts summarize the ecological and range information for those special-status plant species observed or have the highest potential to occur in the BSA based on the presence of suitable habitat and nearest known occurrences to the BSA.

Cambria morning-glory (*Calystegia subacaulis* ssp*. episcopalis*). Cambria morning glory is a CNPS Rank 4.2 species. This species is a perennial rhizomatous herb in the Convolvulaceae (morning glory) Family that occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal prairie, and foothill and valley grassland habitats at elevations between 30 and 500 meters, and generally blooms from April through June. This species has been documented throughout the SLO Tank Farm property primarily in non-native and native grassland areas. The nearest known occurrence is in grassland habitat occurring approximately 0.10 miles west of the Flower Mound. No Cambria morning-glory was observed within the BSA during the October 2012 survey; however, the survey was completed in October when this species is not in its vegetative state or flowering. Due to the existing populations of Cambria morning glory located in the SLO Tank Farm Property, this species is considered to have a high likelihood of occurrence within the off-property portions of the Project area.

San Luis Obispo owl's clover (*Castilleja densiflora* ssp*. obispoensis*). San Luis Obispo owl's clover is a CNPS Rank 1B.2 species. This species is an annual herb in the Orobanchaceae (Broomrape) Family that occurs in meadows and seeps, and foothill and valley grassland, often associated with serpentinite habitats at elevations between 10 and 400 meters, and generally blooms from April through June. This species has been documented in various locations throughout the SLO Tank Farm property primarily in non-native grassland habitats. No San Luis Obispo owl's clover was observed within the BSA during the October 2012 survey; however, the survey was completed in October when this species is not in its vegetative state or flowering. Due to the existing populations of San Luis Obispo owl's clover located in the SLO Tank Farm Property, this species is considered to have a high likelihood of occurrence within the off-property portions of the Project area.

Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp*. congdonii*). Congdon's tarplant is a CNPS Rank 1B.2 species. This species is an annual herb in the Asteraceae (Sunflower) Family that occurs in valley grassland, associated with alkaline soils at elevations between 0 and 230

meters, and generally blooms from June through October. This species has been documented throughout the SLO Tank Farm property primarily in disturbed wetland habitats. The nearest documented occurrence is approximately 0.16-miles southwest of the BSA, southwest of the Flower Mound. No Congdon's tarplant was observed within the BSA during the October 2012 survey, when this species is typically in bloom. Due to the existing populations of Congdon's tarplant located in the SLO Tank Farm Property, this species is considered to have a high likelihood of occurrence within the off-property portions of the Project area.

San Luis Obispo serpentine dudleya (*Dudleya abramsii* ssp*. bettinae*). San Luis Obispo serpentine dudleya is a CNPS Rank 1B.2 species. This species is a perennial herb in the Crassulaceae (Stonecrop) Family that occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley grassland, associated with serpentinite habitats at elevations between 20 and 180 meters, and generally blooms from May through June. A very limited population of this species has been documented on the Flower Mound within the SLO Tank Farm property during previous survey completed by Padre. San Luis Obispo serpentine dudleya was also observed during the October 2012 survey in the eastern portion of the BSA within the Garcia-Damon property. The plants were not in bloom, but were easily identifiable in their vegetative state. Refer to Figure 2 for mapped locations and attachments for photo documentation of this species.

Hoover's button celery (*Eryngium aristulatum* ssp*. hooveri*). Hoover's button celery is a CNPS Rank 1B.1 species. This species is an annual or perennial herb in the Apiaciae (Carrot) Family that occurs in vernal pools at elevations between 3 and 45 meters, and generally blooms in July. This species has been documented in several vernal pool habitats within SLO Tank Farm property. No Hoover's button celery was observed within the BSA during the October 2012 survey; however, the survey was completed in October when this species is not flowering. Due to the existing populations of Hoover's button celery located in the SLO Tank Farm Property, this species is considered to have a high likelihood of occurrence within the off-property portions of the Project area.

Fauna

Vertebrate species observed within the BSA include those seen or detected by track, scat, skeletal remains, burrows and/or vocalization during the field surveys conducted within the BSA. Complications in the quantitative assessment of terrestrial vertebrate (and terrestrial invertebrate) populations may have influenced observations made during field surveys. These complications include:

- Many species may occur in the area only for short periods during migrations; therefore, observed species may or may not inhabit the area for breeding;
- Many species of amphibians and reptiles become inactive during one or more seasons and are known to occupy small mammal burrows that were not investigated; therefore, certain species may not have been observed during field surveys;
- Seasonal or annual fluctuations in climate or weather patterns may confound observations;
- No live-traps or track-plates were set-up within the BSA, which would provide an additional assessment tool to identify wildlife species in the area; and,

- No focused protocol-level wildlife surveys, mist-netting, trapping, tracking surveys, or aquatic surveys were completed.

Existing Wildlife

Due to the complications in quantitative assessment within the BSA, a list of wildlife species that have the potential to inhabit the BSA based on presence of suitable habitat and observations made from previous surveys within the SLO Tank Farm property, have been included with the list of observed species (refer to attachments – Wildlife Species List). Descriptions of wildlife observed during field surveys are discussed below.

Invertebrates. The field survey was completed in late October 2012 when many insects are dormant waiting for warmer temperatures and plants to bloom; therefore, minimal numbers of insects were observed. However, numerous garden snail (*Cornu aspersum*) shells were observed scattered throughout the BSA primarily within the serpentinite rock outcrop habitat. The presence of abandoned snail shells may be the result of recent foraging activities of seasonal vegetation that occurs in the spring/summer months. Depressional features were identified within the BSA at the base of the Flower Mound. These topographic depressions may become inundated and provide habitat for the federally Threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*) (VPFS). Protocol-level VPFS surveys have not been completed in the BSA; however, VPFS have been documented in many of the depressional features throughout the SLO Tank Farm property. Due to the potential habitat observed and the proximity to known occurrences of VPFS, there is a high likelihood of VPFS occurrence in seasonal aquatic features, specifically within the Garcia-Damon property.

Amphibians. Amphibians are typically concentrated near freshwater, saturated soils, and cool, dark, and damp areas. Most amphibians are dependent upon the availability of surface water for longer periods of time for breeding. Several species of amphibians will also utilize burrows in upland habitats to seek refuge during dry periods and/or hibernate through the winter. Sensitive amphibian species, such as CRLF, have not been documented within the SLO Tank Farm property; however on-going protocol-level surveys are currently underway. No amphibians were identified within the BSA during the October 2012 field survey.

Reptiles. Reptile species that have been identified within the SLO Tank Farm property during previous surveys include, but are not limited to, southwestern pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata* pallida), common kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*), and western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*). These species were not identified within the BSA during the field survey; however, based on presence within the SLO Tank Farm property, these species have a high likelihood of occurring in the BSA. For a complete list of potentially occurring replies, refer to attachments.

Avifauna. Wildlife observations were conducted within BSA during October 2012; therefore, spring migratory breeding birds that utilize the region for foraging and/or breeding were not likely recorded. Resident birds and winter migrants observed within the BSA include, but are not limited to, brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*). Other species documented during the field survey and previously observed within the SLO Tank Farm property are listed in the attachments.

Mammals. Mammals observed directly and/or detected through the presence of scat, tracks, burrowing activity, and/or skeletal remains during the field surveys were limited to, California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*) and Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*). In addition, because the SLO Tank Farm property is currently leased for cattle ranching activities, the BSA is regularly grazed by cattle (*Bos Taurus*). Other common mammal species expected to occur within the BSA based on the presence of suitable habitat, and/or access to nearby Acacia Creek, include raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and bobcat (*Lynx rufus*).

Fish. Although nearby Acacia Creek, located east of the BSA, drains into portions of the SLO Tank Farm property, there is no suitable stream habitat within the BSA. As such, fish species that may occur within Acacia Creek do not occur within the BSA.

Migratory Corridors

Wildlife migration corridors are generally defined as connections between habitat patches that allow for physical and genetic exchange between otherwise isolated animal populations. Migration corridors may be local, such as those between foraging and nesting/denning areas, or they may be regional in nature. Migration corridors are not unidirectional access routes; however, reference is usually made to source and receiver areas in discussions of wildlife movement networks. "Habitat linkages" are migration corridors that contain contiguous strips of native vegetation between source and receiver areas. These natural linkages provide cover and forage sufficient for temporary inhabitation by a variety of ground-dwelling animal species. Wildlife migration corridors are essential to the regional fitness of an area as they provide avenues of genetic exchange and allow animals to access alternative territories as fluctuating dispersal pressures dictate.

The BSA is not situated within a typical migratory route; however, Acacia Creek, east of the BSA, provides a riparian corridor that may be used by a variety of wildlife for movement through the region.

Regional Wildlife Species of Concern

Wildlife species of concern are defined in Table 4 – Definitions of Special-Status Wildlife Species based on the literature search including results of previous surveys conducted by Padre and query of the CNDDB. Table 5 – Special-Status Wildlife Species Documented lists these species. Because the wildlife species list presented in Table 5 is regional, an analysis of the range and habitat preferences of those species was conducted to identify special-status wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the BSA.

Table 4. Definitions of Special-Status Wildlife Species

Special-Status Wildlife Species
• Animals listed or proposed for listing as Threatened or Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 17.11 for listed animals and various notices in the Federal Register for proposed species). • Animals that are candidates for possible future listing as Threatened or Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (Federal Register Vol. 70, No. 90, pp. 24869-24934, May 11, 2005). • Animals that meet the definitions of rare or endangered species under the CEQA (*State CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15380) • Animal Species of Special Concern to the CDFG (Shuford and Gardali, 2008 for birds; Williams, 1986 for mammals; Moyle et al., 1989 for fish; and Jennings and Hayes, 1994 for amphibians and reptiles). • Animals listed or proposed for listing by the State of California as Threatened and Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (14 CCR 670.5). • Animal species of special concern to the CDFG (Shuford and Gardali, 2008 for birds; Williams, 1986 for mammals). • Animal species that are fully protected in California (California Fish and Game Code, Section 3511 [birds], 4700 [mammals], and 5050 [reptiles and amphibians]). • Birds of Conservation Concern. Migratory and nonmigratory bird species (beyond those already designated as federally Threatened or Endangered) that represent the USFWS highest conservation priorities in effort to draw attention to species in need of conservation action (USFWS, 2008). • Birds on the CDFG Watch List include "Taxa to Watch" (Shuford and Gardali, 2008) 1) not on the current Special Concern list but were on previous lists and they have not been state listed under CESA; 2) were previously state or federally listed and now are on neither list; or 3) are on the list of "Fully Protected" species. • The Western Bat Working Group is comprised of agencies, organizations and individuals interested in bat research, management and conservation from the 13 western states and provinces. Species designated as "High Priority" are imperiled or are at high risk of imperilment based on available information on distribution, status, ecology and known threats. • The CNDDB ranking element codes are part of the "Heritage Methodology" for special animals in which the CDFG is interested in tracking, regardless of their legal protection status. It is a shorthand formula that provides information about the status of a taxon, both throughout its entire range and within California.

Table 5. Special-Status Wildlife Species Documented within the San Luis Obispo Quadrangle

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Status	Habitat	Documented Location/Suitable Nearby Habitat	Suitable Habitat Within the BSA
Monarch butterfly *Danaus plexippus*	G5, S3	Eucalyptus and pine tree groves.	No trees occur in the BSA; however, monarchs have a high likelihood of occurring in the large eucalyptus at Acacia Creek, east of the BSA.	No
California linderiella *Linderiella occidentalis*	G3, S2S3	Seasonal pools in unplowed grasslands with old alluvial soils underlain by hardpan or in sandstone depressions.	Linderiella occurs in many of the aquatic features on the SLO Tank Farm Site. Nearest recorded occurrence is pool FS-38 at the top of Flower Mound immediately adjacent to the BSA.	Yes
Vernal pool fairy shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi*	FT	Endemic to the grasslands of the central valley, central coast mountains, and south coast mountains, in astatic rain-filled pools. Inhabit small, clear-water sandstone-depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt-flow depression pools.	VPFS occupied habitat comprises a total of 31.6 acres within SLO Tank Farm Site. Nearest documented occurrence is pool FS-11 approximately 900 feet southwest of the BSA, in a former tank ring on the SLOTF Site.	Yes
Atascadero June beetle *Polyphylla nubila*	G1, S1	Dune habitat within SLO County.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has not been documented within SLO Tank Farm. Nearest documented occurrence: unspecified location within SLO County (CNDDB, 2012)	No
San Luis Obispo pyrg *Pyrgulopsis taylori*	G1, S1	Freshwater habitats in San Luis Obispo County.	This species has not been documented within SLO Tank Farm. Nearest documented occurrence: Brizziolari Creek, approximately 4 miles north of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No
South/central southern coast steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss irdeus*	FT	Anadromous from Pajaro Creek south to, but not including, the Santa Maria River.	Steelhead have been observed by Padre within San Luis Obispo Creek on the south side of SLO Tank Farm, however, no suitable stream habitat occurs within the BSA.	No
California red-legged frog *Rana draytonii*	FT, CSC	Riparian vegetation associated with slow moving water.	No suitable wetland habitat occurs within the BSA. No CRLF have been observed within SLO Tank Farm to date; however, ongoing protocol-level surveys are being completed in 2012/2013. Nearest documented occurrence: an unnamed tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek, approximately 3.3 miles north of the BSA.	No

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Status	Habitat	Documented Location/Suitable Nearby Habitat	Suitable Habitat Within the BSA
Foothill yellow-legged frog *Rana boylii*	CSC	Partly shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats.	No suitable wetland habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has not been observed within the SLO Tank Farm to date. Nearest documented occurrence: approximately 3.3 miles northeast of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No
Coast Range Newt *Taricha torosa*	CSC	Drainages throughout the California Coast. Lives in terrestrial habitats, but migrates to freshwater for breeding.	This species may occur in adjacent creek habitats. Nearest documented occurrence: Brizziolari Creek, approximately 4.4 miles north of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No
Silvery legless lizard *Anniella pulchra pulchra*	CSC	Sandy soils, sparse vegetation.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has not been documented within SLO Tank Farm. Nearest documented occurrence: Camp San Luis, approximately 7 miles northeast of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No
Coast horned lizard *Phrynosoma blainvillii*	CSC	Common in lowlands along sandy soils with scattered low bushes.	No suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has not been documented within SLO Tank Farm. Nearest documented occurrence: El Chorro Regional Park, approximately 7 miles northeast of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No
Southwestern pond turtle *Actinemys marmorata pallida*	CSC	Inhabits permanent or nearly permanent bodies of water in many habitat types; below 6000 ft elevation. Requires basking sites such as partially submerged logs, vegetation mats, or open mud banks. Needs suitable nesting sites.	An outer shell of a pond turtle was documented on the Flower Mound area within the Chevron property limits by Padre Biologists during previous site visits; therefore, his species may utilize the Flower Mound area for foraging/breeding.	Yes
Western burrowing owl *Athene cunicularia*	CSC, M	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts and shrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals.	Suitable foraging and nesting habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within SLO Tank Farm during focused field surveys conducted by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Furruginous hawk *Buteo regalis*	WL, BCC, M	Open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills and fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats.	Suitable winter foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Western yellow-billed cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*	SE, M	Riparian areas comprised primarily of willows and cottonwoods.	No suitable riparian habitat occurs within the BSA. Suitable habitat may occur in the adjacent Acacia Creek corridor. The nearest documented occurrence is an unspecified location within SLO County (CNDDB, 2012).	No

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Status	Habitat	Documented Location/Suitable Nearby Habitat	Suitable Habitat Within the BSA
White-tailed kite *Elanus leucurus*	FP, M	Open grassland, meadows, or marshes close to isolated dense-topped trees for nesting.	Suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Golden eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*	FP, BCC, BGEPA, M	Mountainous, hilly terrain, and open fields.	Suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Northern harrier *Circus cyaneus*	CSC, M	Coastal salt and fresh-water marsh, nest & forage in grasslands, from salt grass in desert sinks to mountain cienagas. Nests on ground in shrubby vegetation, usually at marsh edge; nest built of a large mound of sticks in wet areas.	Suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
California horned lark *Eremophila alpestris actia*	WL, M	Grasslands and other open habitats with low, sparse vegetation.	This species was observed in BSA during the October 2012 field survey and also has been observed throughout the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists during previous site visits.	Yes
Loggerhead shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*	CSC, BCC, M	Open pastures and prairies with scattered bushes, hedgerows and trees.	Suitable foraging habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Tricolored blackbird *Agelaius tricolor*	CSC, BCC, M	Colonial nester; nests in wetland and riparian vegetation near water. Forages in agricultural fields and grassland habitat.	Suitable nesting habitat does not occur within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
American badger *Taxidea taxus*	CSC	Most abundant in drier open stages of shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils. Need sufficient food, open, uncultivated ground. Prey on burrowing rodents. Dig burrows.	Suitable habitat occurs within the BSA. This species has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm by Padre Biologists.	Yes
Pallid bat *Antozous pallidus*	CSC, WBWG – H	Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures, very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	Suitable rock crevices do not occur in the BSA and no bat guano was observed during field surveys. Nearest documented occurrence: San Luis Obispo Creek under city tunnel, approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	Yes
Townsend's big-eared bat *Corynorhinus townsendii*	CSC, WBWG – H	Wide variety of habitats, most common in mesic sites. Roosts in the open (do not tuck themselves into crevices), hang from walls and ceilings, extremely sensitive to human disturbance.	Suitable foraging habitat may occur in BSA. No signs of this species, including indirect signs such as guano were observed during the October 2012 field survey. Nearest documented occurrence; Camp Roberts 30 miles northwest of the BSA (CNDDB, 2012).	No

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Status	Habitat	Documented Location/Suitable Nearby Habitat	Suitable Habitat Within the BSA
Western mastiff bat	CSC, WBWG – H	Semi-arid to arid grasslands, or chaparral. Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels.	Suitable roosting habitat does not occur within the BSA. Nearest documented occurrence: unspecified location in SLO County (CNDDB, 2012).	No

Status Codes

FE	Federal Endangered (USFWS/NMFS)	SE	State Endangered (CDFG)
FT	Federal Threatened (USFWS/NMFS)	ST	State Threatened (CDFG)
FDL	Federal De-listed (USFWS/NMFS)	CSC	California Species of Special Concern (CDFG)
BGEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act		
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act (USFWS)	SA	Special Animal (CDFG)
FP	Fully Protected under CA. Fish and Game Code		
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern (USFWS)	WL	Watch List (CDFG)
WBWG	Western Bat Working Group; H – High Priority; MH – Medium-High Priority; LM – Low-Medium Priority		

CNDDB Conservation Status Element Ranks

G1/S1	Global/State Rank, less than 6 viable element occurrences (EOs) OR less than 1,000 individuals OR less than 2,000 acres. Critically Imperiled– At very high risk of extinction or elimination due to extreme rarity, very steep declines, or other factors.
G2/S2	Global/State Rank, 6-20 EOs OR 1,000-3,000 individuals OR 2,000-10,000 acres. Imperiled – At high risk of extinction or elimination due to very restricted range, very few populations or occurrences, steep declines, or other factors.
G3/S3	Global/State Rank, 21-80 EOs or 3,000-10,000 individuals OR 10,000-50,000. Vulnerable – At moderate risk of extinction or elimination due to a restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences, recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
G4/S4	Global/State Rank. Apparently secure - this rank is clearly lower than S3 but factors exist to cause some concern; i.e. there is some threat, or somewhat narrow habitat
S5/G5	Global/State Rank. Common, widespread, and abundant. Population or stand demonstrably secure to ineradicable due to being commonly found in the world
SH/GH	Global/State Rank. Possibly Extinct – Known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery.

Based on the literature review, known occurrences within the SLO Tank Farm property, and presence of suitable habitat, several of the special-status wildlife species listed in Table 5 above have the potential to occur within the BSA. The following discussion provides an overview of the general habitat requirements for these species and further detail on the potential for each of these species to occur within the BSA.

American badger (*Taxidea taxus*). American badger is a CSC, which typically inhabits grasslands, farmland, and forest edges within friable soils (CDFG, 1986; National Audubon Society, 1996). Badgers dig elliptical burrows with 8 to 12-inch openings, which they utilize for cover, sleeping, hunting, caching food, and breeding (CDFG, 1986). They breed in the months of July and August (National Audubon Society, 1996). Badgers do not hibernate; however, they will occupy their burrows during torpor during the coldest part of the winter, remaining in the burrow for several days per week (National Audubon Society, 1996). This species typically preys on small burrowing mammals, such as ground squirrels, rats, and mice, and will also feed on birds, snakes, and other reptiles. Badgers are nocturnal; however, they are well known to be active during the day as well. A badger's home range varies from 590 to 4,200 acres. Based on known occurrences within the SLO Tank Farm property and the presence of suitable habitat within the BSA, American badger has a moderate to high likelihood of occurrence within the BSA.

Sensitive Bats. Maternal colonies for most bats occur between April and August. Most bat species will migrate from maternal roosts to wintering sites and some bats will migrate out of the area to warmer climates during the winter months. The serpentine habitat within the BSA does not provide suitable roosting habitat for bats, such as crevices in the rock. No sensitive bats have been identified within the SLO Tank Farm property, either through direct observation or indirect signs such as guano; however, no bat surveys have been completed in the SLO Tank Farm property or the BSA. Based on lack of nearby occurrences and suitable habitat, sensitive bat species have a low likelihood of utilizing the BSA for roosting. Bat species however may use the area for foraging.

Southwestern pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata pallida*). The southwestern pond turtle is a CSC. It is an aquatic turtle inhabiting streams, marshes, ponds, and irrigation ditches within woodland, grassland, and open forest communities. This species requires upland sites, usually along stream or pond margins for nesting and over-wintering. Stream habitat must contain large, deep pool areas with moderate-to-good plant and debris cover, and rock and cobble substrates for escape retreats. Females dig upland nests between April and August and hatchlings emerge in early fall or overwinter (Stebbins, 2003 and Behler and King, 1992). An outer shell was identified on the Flower Mound within the SLO Tank Farm property during previous surveys. Therefore, based on known occurrences within the SLO Tank Farm property and the presence of suitable foraging/breeding habitat within the BSA, southwestern pond turtle has a moderate to high likelihood of occurrence within the BSA.

Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*). Western burrowing owls are considered a CSC and a USFWS BCC species. This species is a year-round resident in annual and perennial grasslands or other vegetation communities that support little to no tree or shrub cover. In California, the species is typically found in close association with California ground squirrels, which create burrows that are used by burrowing owls for year-round shelter and seasonal nesting habitat. They may also utilize badger, coyote and fox dens or holes (Ronan, 2002), as well as human-made structures such as culverts, corrugated metal pipes, debris piles, or openings beneath pavement as shelter and nesting habitat (CDFG, 1995). Typical burrowing owl breeding season in California is from March to August, but can begin as early as February and extend into December (Rosenberg and Haley, 2004). Focused burrowing owl surveys were completed within the SLO Tank Farm property during the wintering season and nesting season. During the wintering surveys, burrowing owls were observed utilizing burrows in the northern and southern extent of the SLO Tank Farm property. No burrowing owls or burrows that appear to be used by burrowing owls were observed in the BSA during the October survey, when these owls are known to occupy the area. There were vacant squirrel burrows observed in the BSA during the October survey that were within the typical size in which burrowing owls would use. Due to the presence of this species occurring in the SLO Tank Farm property and presence of suitable habitat within the BSA, there is a high likelihood that this species could occupy portions of the BSA.

Golden eagle *(Aquila chrysaetos).* Golden eagles are commonly observed throughout San Luis Obispo County foraging in the grassland habitats and within the SLO Tank Farm property. They are known to breed in mountain regions nesting on rock ledges of outcrops or cliffs, or in trees (10-100 feet up). Their breeding season begins in early February. Suitable nesting habitat does not occur within the BSA; however, golden eagle are likely to utilize the area for foraging.

Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*). Loggerhead shrike is a USFWS BCC and a CSC. This species generally occurs in a variety of open grassland, oak savannah, shrubland, and other similar habitats where it feeds on arthropods, reptiles, amphibians, small rodents, and birds (Craig, 1978). Loggerhead shrikes nest from March to June with young becoming independent during July or August. Nests are generally well-concealed in dense foliage, on stable branches of a shrub or tree. Loggerhead shrike are commonly observed within SLO Tank Farm and have utilized the SLO Tank Farm property for nesting; therefore, has a moderate to high likelihood of occurring in the BSA.

Northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) The northern harrier is a CSC. This species is typically associated with grasslands, marshes, wet meadows, sagebrush flats and some croplands (MacWhirter and Bildstein, 1996). Suitable prey base includes rodents, snakes, frogs, and carrion. Unlike many raptors, this species nests on the ground, mostly within patches of dense, often tall, vegetation in undisturbed, treeless areas (MacWirter and Bildstein, 1996) within their breeding season, which extends from March through August (Loughman and McLandress, 1994). Northern harrier are commonly observed within SLO Tank Farm; therefore, has a moderate to high likelihood of occurring in the BSA.

Tri-colored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*). The tricolored blackbird is considered a CSC. The tri-colored blackbird is a colonial nesting species breeding from mid-March through early August (Beedy and Hamilton, 1999). They nest at colony sites near freshwater marshes (Neff, 1937) in canopies of willows (*Salix* spp.) and other riparian trees, requiring open areas accessible to water, a protected nesting substrate within flooded areas or thorny or spiny vegetation, and a suitable foraging space providing adequate insect prey near the colony (Beedy and Hamilton, 1999). Wintering tricolored blackbirds congregate in flocks with mixed-species of blackbirds that forage in grasslands and agricultural fields with low-growing vegetation and at dairies and feedlots (Shuford and Gardali, 2008). Preferred foraging habits include agriculture fields (e.g., rice, alfalfa, oats, and wheat). The BSA does not contain suitable nesting habitat; however, the grassland areas and the adjacent Damon-Garcia sports fields and nearby Acacia Creek may provide suitable nesting habitat. Tri-colored blackbird may utilize the BSA for temporary foraging; therefore, there is a moderate likelihood for this species to occur within the BSA.

White-tailed kite *(Elanus leucurus).* The white-tailed kite is a Fully Protected species listed with the CDFG. It typically occurs in coastal and valley lowlands, usually associated with agricultural lands and open fields. Nests are constructed in treetops with dense foliage. This raptor is commonly observed within the SLO Tank Farm property by Padre Biologists. Suitable nesting habitat for white-tailed kite occurs within the southwestern portion of the SLO Tank Farm property along the riparian creek corridors. White-tailed kite are commonly observed within the SLO Tank Farm property; therefore, has a moderate to high likelihood of occurring in the BSA.

California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*) California horned lark is a CDFG "Watch List" species, which is CDFG's listing prior to it being designated as a CSC. California horned lark commonly occur in grasslands and other open habitats with low, sparse vegetation, often flocking together in small groups. Horned lark's breeding season begins in late February and they will build nests on the ground in small areas at the base of small shrubs or in crevices in rock clusters. California horned lark has been observed within the SLO Tank Farm property

by Padre Biologists during previous surveys and within the BSA during the October 2012 survey. Therefore, this species is known to occur in the BSA.

Ferruginous hawk *(Buteo regalis).* Ferruginous hawk is listed as a BCC by the USFWS and is on the CDFG Watch List. In California, the wintering foraging habitat for this species is vital to its success. This species is a rare visitor to San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties, foraging in the open grassland areas. This species is known to nest 5 to 55 feet up in trees or along low hillside bushes, a ledge of a rock outcrop or cliff, or among rocks on a hillside. It feeds mostly on rabbits and squirrels. Their breeding season begins in mid-April and ends by mid-July and they nest in the western states, excluding California. Wintering range however does occur in California, as well as western Nevada south to southern Texas. Ferruginous hawk have been documented within the SLO Tank Farm property during the winter months; therefore, has a moderate to high likelihood of occurring in the BSA.

Other Protected Birds. The majority of birds, their eggs, feathers, and their nests are protected under federal and state law, as discussed above. These birds include most all birds, including raptors, songbirds, and waterfowl. Very few species of birds are not afforded this protection with the MBTA, and these are limited to non-native human-introduced birds (i.e., European starling and English “house” sparrow) that belong to families covered by the conventions implemented by the MBTA, and species that belong to families not covered by any of the conventions implemented by the MBTA (native or non-native) (i.e., blue grouse, California quail, and chukar); however, these species can be hunted only for limited hunting periods for persons with the proper permit. The birds afforded protection with the MBTA that may occur within the BSA are listed in the attachments – Wildlife Species List.

Vernal pool fairy shrimp (VPFS) (*Branchinecta lynchi*). VPFS are federally listed as Threatened by the USFWS under the FESA (USFWS, 1994). VPFS are an aquatic invertebrate species in the family Branchinectidae and are uniquely adapted to the ephemeral conditions of vernal pools. Vernal pools are seasonal depressional wetlands that contain water for variable periods and dry completely during the summer and fall. VPFS do not occur in riverine, marine, or other permanent bodies of water. When these ephemeral pools dry down in the summer, VPFS persist as resting eggs (also known as cysts) in the soil and remain in a state of suspended development (diapause), until rainfall and environmental stimuli hatch them during the wet season (USFWS, 1994). The time to maturity and reproduction is temperature-dependent, varying between 18 and 147 days (Helm, 1998). The VPFS die when water temperatures rise and/or the pools dry down. Vernal pool habitat that supports VPFS are protected by the USFWS both when the pool is inundated with water and after the pool has dried during the summer months. Due to potential suitable habitat and presence of VPFS in the adjacent the SLO Tank Farm property, there is a high likelihood of occurrence of VPFS in the BSA, specifically within the depressional features observed on the Garcia-Damon property.

IMPACT DISCUSSION

Overall Impacts

Heavy equipment operation and associated noise and dust generated by grading, excavation, and/or blasting activities may disrupt foraging and denning activities of some wildlife within the proposed Project area and surrounding areas, specifically when incorporating the use of explosives. The BSA is situated near Acacia Creek where there is a healthy riparian corridor that provides suitable nesting habitat to many bird species protected under the MBTA. Activities within the BSA may disturb these birds foraging and nesting behaviors due to increased noise levels. During proposed activities within the BSA, local wildlife populations (including potentially occurring special-status species) may be adversely affected by the loss of food, cover, and nesting/denning habitat. Local wildlife would be temporarily displaced into adjacent habitat and likely experience greater competition for food and nest sites. Disruptions from increased intensity of disturbance may include nest abandonment, stress-related reduced fecundity, reduced foraging efficiency, and increased flight response resulting in difficulty in providing food to young and increased energy expenditure, possibly leading to loss of young. Such activity may also disrupt migratory patterns, foraging activities, home-range size, and breeding activities to all wildlife, including special-status species. The following impact discussions provide information specific to special-status plants, wildlife, and wetland habitat as a result of proposed activities within the BSA.

Wetlands

Several depressional features were observed within the BSA at the base of the Flower Mound during the October 2012 field survey. Because surveys were conducted during the dry season, no water was present in any of the features; however, the topography of the features and presence of surface soil cracks indicate that the features have the potential to become inundated. Three potential wetland areas were recorded using a Trimble Geo-XH GPS unit in the field. The limits of aquatic features were estimated based primarily on topography during the dry season, and the limits of the features may be adjusted during the wet season when the opportunity exists to see the extent of inundated areas. Three small features were recorded within the Garcia-Damon property within the BSA occurring at the base of the Flower Mound, and a larger swale feature was observed north of the BSA limits. This swale was not surveyed or mapped because it was believed to be beyond the limits of the BSA identified in the access agreements; however, a small portion of the larger swale may occur within the BSA, and the portion that is will be mapped during winter surveys. Each of the features are isolated and not connected to any larger water body or flowing drainage/stream.

The October 2012 field survey did not include a preliminary wetland delineation to map and assess the limits of jurisdiction under the CWA. A preliminary wetland delineation includes the collection of data using the three parameter approach (i.e. wetland hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytic vegetation) to determine if a feature is or is not a federal wetland. Additionally, this would identify areas that are state or County wetlands. Wetlands are defined as areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater long enough to support vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Each of the features mapped is a potential wetland; however, a preliminary wetland delineation will need to be conducted during winter and

spring months to refine the limits of the features and determine whether or not these features are jurisdictional.

Special-Status Plants

The BSA is composed primarily of highly eroded serpentinite rock outcrops on steeply sloped terrain. Plants which have adapted to serpentine soils are often endemic to such conditions, as is the case with SLO serpentine dudleya, which was observed within the City of San Luis Obispo property within BSA during the during the October 2102 survey, and has been documented on the Flower Mound within the SLO Tank Farm property (Padre/WSP, 2008). There are several other sensitive plant species that occur within the SLO Tank Farm property (e.g., San Luis Obispo owl's clover, Cambria morning-glory, etc.) and have the potential to occur within the BSA. Additionally, wetland features within the BSA provide potential habitat for sensitive vernal pool plant species that are known to occur within the SLO Tank Farm property (e.g. Hoover's button celery and Congdon's tarplant). Spring surveys shall be completed to further determine presence/absence of sensitive plants.

Due to the nature of the proposed activities within the BSA, any sensitive plant species occurring within the BSA will be impacted. As such, appropriate mitigation measures shall be implemented to minimize impacts to sensitive plant species. These Appropriate mitigation measures are discussed in the Recommended Avoidance and Minimization Measures section and shall minimize impacts to sensitive plant species.

Special-Status Wildlife

Sensitive species that have been identified within the SLO Tank Farm property, and have a moderate to high likelihood of occurrence within the BSA, include: VPFS, American badger, burrowing owl, golden eagle, loggerhead shrike, northern harrier, tri-colored blackbird, white-tailed kite, ferruginous hawk, and southwestern pond turtle. Each of these species utilizes open grassland and/or may utilize the rocky outcrop habitats for foraging and/or nesting activities.

Although highly mobile wildlife species (e.g., birds) would be expected to avoid the BSA during activities within the BSA, these activities may result in mortality of less mobile species. These include fossorial (ground-dwelling) species, such as western burrowing owl and/or American badger, which may have burrows/dens within the proposed impact areas that could be destroyed during site preparation and activities within the BSA. Also, increased traffic by project personnel has the potential to increase mortality rates for these species due to vehicle-wildlife collisions.

The BSA does not provide suitable breeding/nesting habitat for the majority of sensitive bird species which occur within the SLO Tank Farm property; however they may utilize the BSA for foraging. This includes many of the raptor species. Proposed activities within the BSA may therefore limit foraging area and success for these bird species, however, overall impacts to foraging raptors are expected to be minimal due to the comparatively small areas of disturbance relative to the raptors range.

Although VPFS have not been documented within the BSA, potential vernal pool habitat was observed within the Garcia-Damon property. Protocol-level surveys are scheduled during the 2012/2013 wet season and subsequent 2013 dry season to determine presence/absence of

the VPFS in the BSA. VPFS are federally protected; therefore, disturbance to occupied VPFS habitat would require federal permitting.

RECOMMENDED AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES

Past and current land use practices have impacted the extent and diversity of the biological resources existing within the BSA. However, the BSA contains suitable habitat to support wildlife and botanical resources including special-status species. Therefore, it is recommended that the following measures be implemented prior to and/or during proposed activities within the BSA to reduce potential impacts to sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level.

Wetland Delineation

Padre will conduct a preliminary wetland delineation survey during the 2012/2013 rainy season to determine the presence and extent of jurisdictional wetlands within Garcia-Damon property. Prior to initiation of activities within the BSA, all applicable agency permits with jurisdiction over wetlands and water courses within the BSA shall be obtained, as necessary. All additional mitigation measures required by these agencies would be implemented throughout the project duration.

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp Surveys

Protocol-level VPFS surveys will be conducted by a permitted biologist during the 2012/2013 wet season and subsequent 2013 dry season within the Garcia-Damon property, prior to commencement of activities within the northern portion of the BSA to determine if vernal pool habitat occurs in the BSA and if so, whether they are occupied by VPFS. If the pools are determined to be occupied, impact to VPFS habitat will be included in the permitting for the SLO Tank Farm Remediation and Restoration Project and the impact will be mitigated within the SLO Tank Farm Site Restoration Plan.

Spring Botanical Survey

A qualified Biologist shall conduct botanical surveys in the spring months, specifically in May 2013, during the blooming period for potentially occurring special-status plants (refer to Table 3, above). This survey will include general botanical surveys to supplement the surveys conducted in October 2012 and update the plant communities discussion and plant list, with a focus on determining presence/absence of special-status plant species with a potential to occur within the BSA.

San Luis Obispo Serpentine Dudleya Salvage

In areas where impacts to SLO serpentine dudleya plants cannot be avoided, the plants shall be salvaged and out-planted immediately if appropriate habitat is available in areas that will not be impacted by the project, or placed in pots with succulent potting mix, shaded, irrigated and maintained, as needed. If potted for later planting, the dudleyas shall then be outp-lanted into a location within the SLO Tank Farm property that provides suitable growing conditions (i.e., serpentine soils), or donated to a native plant nursery or botanical garden.

Pre-Activity Surveys

A qualified Biologist shall conduct pre-activity surveys of the proposed disturbance areas within the BSA and appropriate buffers, immediately prior to the initiation of activities within the BSA. In the event that any sensitive resources are identified within the BSA, the appropriate agencies shall be notified and mitigation shall be implemented to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the species. Pre-activity surveys shall also be completed immediately prior to grading and excavation activities within the BSA to inspect the work area for wildlife that may be in the path of heavy equipment. To the extent feasible, wildlife shall be locally relocated out of the impact areas within the BSA to a safe and protected area if in the direct path of heavy equipment. As necessary, appropriate regulatory agency permits and/or approvals shall be obtained to allow relocation of special-status species.

A burrow survey within the BSA shall be completed prior to initiation of activities within the BSA to ensure that wildlife potentially using burrows within the impact areas for wintering and/or nesting are protected. The burrow survey shall assist in determining which burrows are considered active (i.e., currently occupied for denning or breeding purposes) or inactive (i.e., abandoned and empty). Burrow surveys shall include careful investigation of each burrow by utilizing a variety of techniques, including sensor camera stations and tracking dust (e.g., diatomaceous earth), and/or optical scoping. All active burrows occupied by a sensitive species must be reported to the CDFG and/or USFWS to determine appropriate mitigation measures.

Environmental Sensitivity Training

Prior to mobilization of any equipment within the BSA and installation of exclusion fencing/flagging, a qualified Biologist shall conduct an environmental sensitivity training for all project personnel during the Project kick-off meeting. The purpose of the training is to educate the personnel on identification of special-status wildlife species that may occur within the BSA and to provide an overview of the avoidance and minimization measures to be implemented during activities within the BSA. Specifically, the training will emphasize all special-status wildlife species that would be expected to occur within the BSA, applicable regulatory policies and provisions regarding their protection, and a review of measures being implemented to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the species and their associated habitat. Furthermore, crew members will be briefed on the reporting process in the event that an inadvertent injury should occur to a special-status species during construction.

Nesting Bird Surveys

If feasible, activities within the BSA shall take place between mid-August and mid-March, outside of the nesting season. If activities occur within nesting season, a qualified Biologist shall perform pre-activity nesting bird surveys to determine if nesting birds are present within the BSA. If an active bird nest is identified, then CDFG and/or USWFS shall be consulted to determine appropriate buffers during remediation activities.

On-site Monitoring

An on-site monitor will be present, as needed, during project activities to ensure the mitigation measures and monitoring requirements are being completed in accordance with the specifications and will provide compliance reports to the on-site project manager and federal,

state, and/or county representatives. Monitors will consist of biologists that specialize in sensitive species that may occur in the BSA.

Mobilization, Operation, and Demobilization of Equipment

The use of heavy equipment and vehicles should utilize existing roadways and defined staging areas/access points to the greatest extent feasible, to limit impacts to sensitive resources that may occur in the surrounding areas, located outside of the BSA.

Implementation of the above-mentioned measures shall reduce impacts to special-status species potentially occurring throughout the BSA and to existing habitats.

If you should have any questions regarding the above information and/or require additional information for review purposes, please contact Ms. Thea Benson at 805-786-2650, ext. 27 or Ms. Sarah Powell at 916-857-1601, ext.21.

Sincerely,

Padre Associates, Inc.

Thea Benson
Project Biologist

Sarah Powell
Senior Biologist

Attachments: Figure 1 – Site Location
Figure 2 – Off-Site Survey Results
Site Photographs
Wildlife Species List
Vascular Plant Species List

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