

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Preferred Pump & Equipment Project Clair Avenue and Dry Creek Road, City of Sacramento, California

APNs: 215-250-015-0000 (+/- 8 acres)

Existing Zoning: M-1S

Prepared for:



September 5, 2024

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Argonaut Ecological, Inc. conducted a biological evaluation of an approximately 8-acre site near the intersection of Clair Avenue at Dry Creek Road in the City of Sacramento, California.

The assessment included evaluating the types of habitats present and sensitive species associated with those habitats. The biological evaluation focused on mapping existing habitat types based on a site walk and a review of public and commercial databases, aerial photographs (current and historical), and other published information and available data.

The Study Area is located in an area historically supporting small farms, rural residential areas, and agriculture, but urban development (predominantly residential homes) is along Clair Avenue to the south. There is an industrial land use immediately north of the site. Immediately east, there is a small livestock farm. There are no sensitive habitats within the Study Area, including waters/wetlands or critical habitats for species of concern, and the likelihood of species of concern being present is very low.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed project is located at the northeast corner of Clair Avenue and Dry Creek Road, further identified as APN number 215-0250-015-0000. The Project Proponent, Preferred Pump, proposes a site plan and design review to develop a warehouse and distribution center in the City of Sacramento. The proposed project would include a roughly 40,500-square-foot building with roughly 36,750 square feet allocated for the warehouse and 9,500 square feet for an office. The office is planned as a two-story portion of the structure with a height of 30 feet. The project includes 65 parking stalls, an on-site ponding basin, and landscaping. The Study Area includes roughly 8 acres (approximately 348,500 square feet). The warehouse and office would require roughly 1 acre of the 8 acre Study Area. The parking, onsite ponding basin, and landscaping would represent the remainder of the Study Area. The exact square footage for each planned facility may be slightly revised during the design review process.

The proposed Project is intended to function as a distribution center for manufactured goods from various vendors and manufacturers. There will be no manufacturing from raw materials or foundry work at the Project site. Project operations will primarily involve the assembly of pumps using ready-to-use components and may require some milling (engine lathes and end fills) and forklifts.

1.2 STUDY OBJECTIVES

This report describes the biological resources present within and adjacent to the Study Area, describes the area's biological characteristics, and evaluates the Study Area's likelihood to support sensitive biological resources (such as wetlands, creeks/drainages, and special status species). This evaluation relied on available literature, aerial photography, historic topographic and aerial maps, and a site visit. For this study, wetland habitat includes those areas possibly considered "Waters of

the U.S." by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) or Waters of the State of California. Section 1.2.1 describes wetlands as a subset of "Waters of the U.S." under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

This report assesses the project's potential effects on biological resources and evaluates whether any associated regulatory approvals or permits are required. This report also evaluates the potential impacts that site development may have on protected habitat, species protected by the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or those protected under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA).



Figure 1

REGIONAL LOCATION AND VICINITY PREFERRED PUMP & EQUIPMENT

Sacramento County, CA

1.3 REGULATORY JURISDICTION AND BACKGROUND

Several agencies share regulatory jurisdiction over biological resources. The following is a brief description of the primary jurisdiction of each agency.

Wetland Protection

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Wetlands are a type of water in the U.S. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the placement of fill into the Waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act. For this purpose, "Waters of the U.S." is legally defined under Section 404 of the Federal CWA and includes interstate streams, creeks, and adjacent wetlands. The Army Corps defines wetlands as *"those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions"* (Environmental Laboratory 1987). In California, seasonally inundated areas that meet the criteria of all three wetland parameters (soils, hydrology, and vegetation), as defined in the recently issued Wetland Delineation Manual for the Arid West (USACE 2006), are also considered jurisdictional wetlands.

Since 2001, several U.S. Supreme Court rulings regarding the regulation of isolated, intrastate Waters by the Army Corps have limited the scope of federal jurisdiction under the CWA and excluded many California wetlands from federal regulation.

In December 2019, the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Army published the final rule to repeal the 2015 Clean Water Rule. The "Clean Water Rule" clarified what constitutes Waters of the U.S., presumably more precisely defined, and made permitting more predictable, thus less costly, and more straightforward.

After several challenges to the "Clean Water Rule," the U.S. EPA and the Department of the Army proposed the pre-2015 (pre-Obama-era rules) definition "of Waters of the United States," updated to reflect consideration of Supreme Court decisions. The new rule went into effect on May 23, 2023; however, on May 25, 2023, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision in the case of *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency* that rolled back the definition of Waters of the U.S. to better align with the original definition as included in the *Rapanos* decision. The new definition limits "Waters" as "limited geographic[al] features that are described in ordinary parlance as 'streams, oceans, rivers, and lakes'" and to "adjacent wetlands that are 'indistinguishable' from those bodies of water due to a continuous surface connection." The Court set aside the prior use of a "significant nexus."

Waters typically do not include prior converted cropland (those areas converted before December 23, 1985). Notwithstanding the classification of a wetland as a prior converted cropland by any federal agency for the CWA, the final authority to determine jurisdiction remains with the U.S. EPA.

California State Water Resources Control Board

Since 1993, California has had a Wetlands Conservation Policy (a.k.a. Executive Order W-51 59-93). It is commonly called the *No Net Loss policy* for wetlands, establishing a state mandate for developing and adopting a policy framework and strategy to protect the State's wetland ecosystems. The policy was to be implemented voluntarily and was expressly not to be implemented on a "project-by-project" basis (See EO W-59-93, Section III).

In 2020, California adopted the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State. The State definition of wetland differs from the Federal definition in that the state definition may include areas with no vegetation, assuming the other criteria are present. Wetlands of the State include 1) natural wetlands, 2) wetlands created by modification of Waters of the State (at any point in history), and 3) artificial wetlands that meet specific criteria. The State definition only exempts a few types of Waters. Water features excluded from the State's definition include industrial or municipal wastewater, certain stormwater treatment facilities, agricultural crop irrigation, industrial processing or cooling, and fields flooded for rice growing.

Listed Protected Species and Habitat Protection

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) implements the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC Section 703-711), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 United States Code [USC] Section 668), and Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA; 16 USC § 153 *et seq.*).

The **Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)** was first enacted in 1918 to protect migratory birds between the United States and Great Britain (acting on behalf of Canada). The MBTA makes it illegal for anyone to take, possess, import, transport, purchase, barter, offer for sale, or purchase any migratory birds, nests, or eggs unless a federal agency has issued a permit. The USFWS has statutory authority and responsibility for enforcing the MBTA. This act was revised in 2004 to include all species native to the U.S. or its territories due to natural biological or ecological processes (70 FR 12710, March 15, 2005). The MBTA does not include nonnative species whose occurrences in the U.S. result solely from intentional or unintentional human introduction. The USFWS maintains a list of bird species not protected under the MBTA.

In January 2021, the USFWS published a new rule in the Federal Register. Under the rule change, the unintentional killing of migratory birds does not violate the MBTA. Only the intentional "pursuing, hunting, taking, capturing, killing, or attempting to do the same ... directed at migratory birds, their nests, or their eggs" would be illegal under the changes.

The **Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA)** prohibits "take" "of any federally listed wildlife species (the destruction of federally listed plants on private property is not prohibited and does not require a permit). "Take" under the federal definition means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct. "Incidental take" is harm or death that may occur during the implementation of an otherwise lawful activity. "Candidate Species" have the full protection of FESA. However, the USFWS advises project applicants that it is prudent to address these species since they could be elevated to "listed status"

before the completion of projects with long planning or development schedules.

The Projects that would result in "take" "of any federally-listed threatened or endangered species can obtain authorization from the USFWS through either Section 7 (interagency consultation) or Section 10(a) (incidental take permit) of FESA. The authorization process determines if a project would jeopardize a 'listed species' continued existence and what mitigation measures would be required to avoid jeopardizing the species.

An Incidental Take Permit (ITP) or Take Permit is required when an activity would either kill, harm, harass or interrupt a listed species' breeding or nesting. The FESA definition of "harm" is somewhat less definitive since it includes ubiquitous activities. In 1999, the USFWS clarified the term "harm" as it applies to the ESA in the Federal Register. As stated, the final rule defined the term "harm" "to include any act that causes actual harm (kills or injures fish or wildlife) and emphasizes that such actions may have significant habitat modification or degradation that significantly impairs essential behavioral patterns of fish or wildlife.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is a Trustee Agency responsible under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for reviewing and evaluating project impacts on plant and wildlife resources. Under the Fish and Game Code Section 1802, the CDFW has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitats necessary for biologically sustainable populations. The California Fish and Game Code also provides authority for the CDFW to regulate projects that could result in the "take" of any species listed by the State as threatened or endangered (Section 2081). CDFW also has authority over all state streams, as described below.

Perennial and intermittent streams also fall under the jurisdiction of CDFW according to Sections 1601-1603 of the Fish and Game Code (Streambed Alteration Agreements). CDFW's jurisdictional extent includes work within the stream zone, including the diversion or obstruction of the natural flow or changes in the channel, bed, or bank of any river, stream, or lake. Before issuing a 1601 or 1603 Streambed Alteration Agreement, the CDFW must demonstrate compliance with CEQA. In most cases, CDFW relies on the CEQA review performed by the local lead agency. However, in cases where no CEQA review was required for the project, CDFW would act as the lead agency under CEQA.

The CDFW also has the authority to protect state-listed species issues under Section 2081 Incidental Take Permit if a project has the potential to negatively affect state-protected plant or animal species or their habitats, either directly or indirectly. Protected species include those "listed" by the State as endangered or threatened. Besides listed species, other species protection categories include "fully protected" and California Species of Special Concern (CSC). Adverse impacts to species that are "fully protected" are prohibited.

Under the California Fish & Game Code (FGC Section 3503), "it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird...." Birds of prey (falcons, hawks, owls, and eagles) get extra protection under the law (FGC Section 3503.5).

As with USFWS, CDFW does not have the authority to require a landowner to apply for an ITP authorizing take. Instead, the landowner is legally obligated to avoid taking state-listed species if it

does not seek an ITP. CDFW (and USFWS) can initiate an enforcement action if they believe that an illegal take has occurred or will occur.

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) protects candidate plants and animal species and those listed under CESA as rare, threatened, or endangered. CESA prohibits the taking of any such species unless authorized. Section 2081 authorizes the State to issue ITPs. The state definition of taking applies only to acts that result in death or adverse impacts on protected species. The CESA mirrors the federal regulation as it relates to "take"; however, there is no State equivalent definition of "harm" or "harass." Incidental take is also not defined by the CESA statute or regulation. Unlike FESA, CESA does qualify that incidental take "is not prohibited if it is the result of an act that occurs on a farm or ranch during an otherwise lawful routine and ongoing agricultural activity." Where disagreement occurs (and in some cases, this has been the subject of court cases) is in the common understanding of "routine and ongoing agricultural activity."

California Environmental Quality Act

The CEQA Guidelines require a review of projects to determine their environmental effects and identify mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. The Guidelines state that an effect may be significant if it affects rare and endangered species. Section 15380 of the Guidelines defines *rare* to include listed species and allows agencies to consider rare species other than those designated as State or Federal threatened or endangered but that meet the standards for rare under the Federal or State endangered species acts. On this basis, plants designated as rare by non-regulatory organizations (e.g., California Native Plant Society), species of special concern defined by CDFW, candidate species defined by USFWS, and other designations must be considered in CEQA analyses.

Land Use Entitlements

City of Sacramento

The Project site is located in the City of Sacramento. The City is responsible for all local land-use decisions within its jurisdiction under CEQA and would serve as the lead agency. As the lead agency, the City will determine the level of the CEQA review and can consider other responsible agencies' recommendations during the CEQA review.

2.0 RESOURCES CONSULTED AND METHODS

The following section describes the methods used to assess the Study Area and includes data review and evaluation, field studies, and aerial photograph interpretations.

2.1 DATA AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Documents and sources of information used to prepare this evaluation include the following:

- Aerial photography (Google Earth®, Bing®, and historic aerials).
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB/RareFind - Recent version with updates)
- EcoAtlas 2024.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil Survey of Fresno County (Soils mapper).
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetland Inventory Map.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Information Planning and Consultation (IPac), September 2024.
- U.S. Geological Survey, Historical Topographic Map, Rio Linda Quadrangle, 1891, 1911-1993, University of Texas, Austin, Perry-Castañeda Map Collection

Before conducting a site review, the California Natural Diversity Database/RareFind (CNDDDB) and the USFWS IPaC were consulted to determine the species in the Study Area based on location. This review assesses the likelihood of special status species being present based on the site's distance from documented species occurrences and the presence or absence of habitat types such species use. The CNDDDB includes records of reported observations for special status plant and animal species and is queried based on a search radius of United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps. Argonaut reviewed high-resolution aerial photographs before conducting the fieldwork to determine if any areas on the site supported the presence of Waters of the U.S.

2.2 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND WETLAND MAPPING

Aerial photographs of the Study Area from the 1980s were reviewed to identify site features and determine land-use changes over time. Wetland mapping and aerial photographs were also reviewed to determine if the Study Area recently supported wetlands.

2.3 FIELD INVESTIGATION

The Study Area (See Figure 2) was walked on August 23, 2024, and all habitat features were mapped. The surveyor was Kathy Kinsland, a Senior Biologist with over 35 years of field experience. Soils, vegetation, and drainage patterns within the Study Area were inspected to determine the habitat present and suitability for species of concern.



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0 50 100
Feet



 Study Area (± 7 acres)

ARGONAUT
ECOLOGICAL
CONSULTING INC. 

Aerial Source: Google Earth (06/2022)

Figure 2
STUDY AREA/AERIAL
PREFERRED PUMP & EQUIPMENT
Sacramento County, CA

3.0 PHYSICAL RESOURCES, RESULTS, AND CONCLUSIONS

Section 3.1, below, describes the physical features (i.e., land use, soils, vegetation, hydrology, etc.) and the study area's biological features. The physical components and land use strongly influence the types of plants and animals present. This section also describes the habitats present and the specific biological resources observed during the site review.

Section 3.2 presents conclusions, and Section 3.3 contains recommended avoidance and minimization measures to avoid potential impacts.

The following is not an exhaustive inventory of plants and animals present. Instead, the discussion provides sufficient information to characterize the habitat and habitat components present on site. This field survey identified the biological resources present. The biological evaluation discusses the habitat present and the potential for that habitat to support any species considered unique, sensitive, or protected by current law. The conclusion section (3.2) summarizes the results of the data review, fieldwork, and evaluation of biological resources and potential impacts. The conclusion sections also include recommendations for measures to minimize any potential impacts.

3.1 PHYSICAL RESOURCES

Climate

The Study Area climate is typical of the Sacramento Valley, with long, hot, dry summers and cool, mild winters. The rainfall falls mainly between November and April (Western Regional Climate Center). During the last ten years, rainfall has averaged 20.4 inches.

Topography, Drainage, and Soils

The Study Area lies within the Sacramento Valley and is roughly 50 feet (above mean sea level). The elevation has remained roughly the same since the early 1900s. The Study Area slopes toward the southwest. The drainage appears to be to the south-southwest toward Magpie Creek.

There are three soil types within the Study Area: Madera loam (0-2 % slopes), San Joaquin fine sandy loam (0-3% slopes), and San Joaquin-Urban land complex (0-3% slopes). Madera loam makes up 71% of the Study Area.

Land Use and Habitat

Land Use. The Study Area was historically a rural agricultural area of Sacramento, but for several decades, homes and mixed uses (commercial/light industrial) were built around the Study Area. Immediately north of the Study Area is a trucking-related business (with tractor-trailers stored) and shipping pallets. To the east is a small farm with livestock, and to the south and west are single-family homes.

Habitat There are several California habitat classification systems. Most classification systems describe natural communities without established developed or agricultural habitat classifications. CALVEG is a USDA Forest Service product providing a comprehensive spatial dataset of existing vegetation covering California. The data were created using a combination of automated systematic procedures, remote sensing classification, photo editing, and field-based observations. Analyses are based “on a crosswalk (combination) of the CALVEG classifications to the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR).” Calveg lists about half of the site as an “Agricultural/Non-native/Ruderal” and the western half as an “Urban” habitat. Attachment “A” provides photographs of the Study Area.

The habitat onsite was disturbed by disking/mowing and motorbikes. Most habitat comprises non-native weedy species dominated by wild oats (*Avena fatua*), mustard (*Brassica nigra*), sow thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus* L), and doveweed (*Croton setiger*). A few old orchard trees are within the northern portion of the Study Area (plum, olive). The soils within the Study Area are highly compacted.

There are no drainage features within or near the Study Area.

Bird species observed include mourning doves, starlings, and pigeons. A few jackrabbits were encountered. No raptors were observed in flight or perched. Large mature trees are immediately north of the Study Area within a tractor-trailer storage yard. No raptor activity within or near the trees was observed. Although the survey was performed near the end of the nesting season, no nests (occupied or unoccupied) were located within these trees.

Waters/Wetland

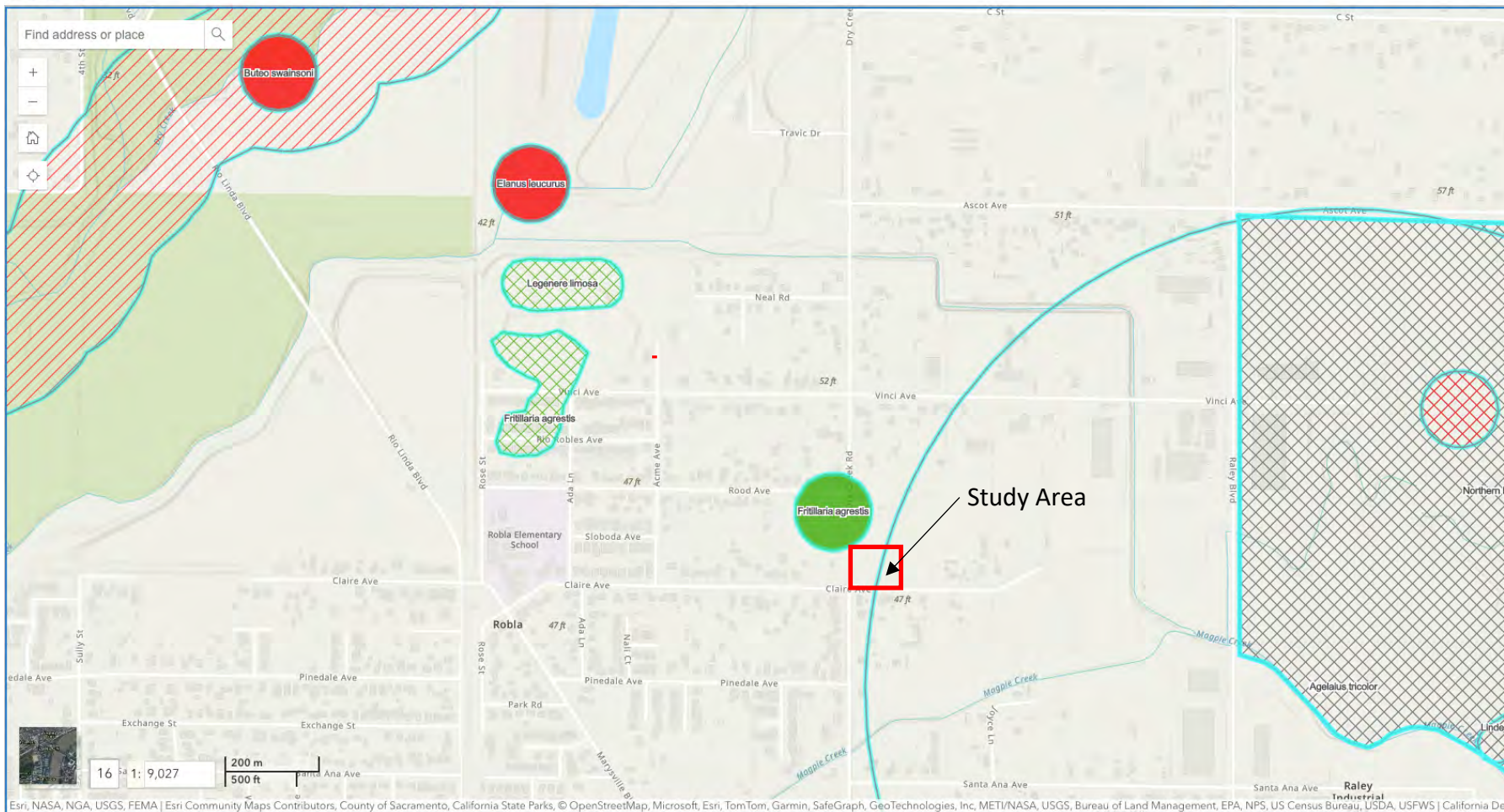
According to the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Map, no mapped waters/wetlands exist within or near the Study Area. There are also no historic drainages through the Study Area, based on a 1922 topographic map. The entire Study Area was walked to look for any evidence of potential wetlands/waters or any other aquatic habitat (either perennial or seasonal), and none were present.

Special Status Species

A query of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and the USFWS IPaC was performed to determine which special status species could be present within the Study Area. No critical habitat for any species within or near the Study Area. The CNDDDB Bios mapping is shown in Figure 3. This map shows the location of known records of special status species near the Study Area, and Table 1 includes a summary of the CNDDDB query results.

Birds

The CNDDDB and the IPaC include bird species potentially present within or near the Study Area, including migratory birds. Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is a large raptor, a State-threatened species that nests in mature trees and forages within agricultural areas. Burrowing owl (*Atheneo cunicularia*) is a small ground-nesting owl (California species of special concern) that depends on ground-burrowing mammals for burrows for nesting but is also known to nest or overwinter in surplus pipes, cisterns, or other farm structures. No suitable nesting substrate is present within the Study Area,



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA | Esri Community Maps Contributors, County of Sacramento, California State Parks, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS | California Department of Fish and Wildlife

LEGEND

-  Special Status Bird Record
-  Hard Pan Vernal Pool Habitat
-  Fritillaria agrestis (stinkbells – plant)
-  Special Status Plant Record
-  Tri-Colored Blackbird

Figure 3

CNDDDB BIOS Mapping

and there is no ground squirrel population within the Study Area.

Amphibians, Reptiles, and Invertebrates

Numerous invertebrate species, primarily vernal pool fairy shrimp and *California linderiella*) are included in the CNDDDB. These invertebrates occur in seasonal wetlands. No suitable habitat exists for the identified species within or near the Study Area.

Plants

The CNDDDB includes four special status species listed within the region. No suitable habitat for any species exists one special-status plant species within or near the Study Area. One species, stinkbells (*Fritillaria agrestis*), was found in 1991 at the corner of Rood Road and Dry Creek Road, immediately west of the Study Area. The record associated the species with a large population of non-native species, Bromus. The last sighting of this species on the site was in 1997. The Study Area is only dominated by wild oats and other ruderal species. The likelihood of presence of any special status plant species is very low because of the recurring disturbance.

Table 1
Summary of Special Status Species, Potential Occurrence, and Impact

<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Scientific Name</i>	<i>Status¹</i>	<i>Effects²</i>	<i>Occurrence in the Study Area³</i>
Habitats				
Northern hardpan vernal pool	--	--/--	NE	Absent. This habitat type occurs in grassland habitat that have not been graded and altered. This habitat occurs roughly ½ mile east of the Study Area but is not present within the Study Area.
Birds				
Western yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	FT/CE	NE	Absent. Associated with riparian corridors near streams and other water bodies. No suitable habitat is present within the Study Area.
Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	--/CT	NE	Absent. Nests in large tule stands or other emergent habitat. No suitable habitat present within the Study Area.
Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. Nests and forages in emergent marshes and other aquatic habitat. No suitable habitat present within the Study Area.
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea Herodias</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. Nests and forages in emergent marshes and other aquatic habitat. No suitable habitat present within the Study Area.
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	--/-- SSC	NE	Absent. Associated with a ground burrowing population (such as ground squirrels) that provide burrows. Found in open grassland with suitable prey base. No ground squirrel population is present, and the soils are compacted.
Song Sparrow ("Modesto Population")	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	--/SSC	NE	Absent. No old nests were found in the orchard trees and suitable nesting habitat is not found for this population/species.
Purple martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. Historically, Purple Martins nest in natural cavities like old woodpecker holes or in the rotting branches of trees. No suitable nesting habitat is present within the Study Area.
White-tailed kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. No suitable nesting habitat on site. May forage in the area.
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	--/CT	ME	Potentially Present. Nests in mature trees. There are mature trees north of the Study Area, but no nests were observed.

Amphibians, Reptiles, and Invertebrates				
Northwestern pond turtle	<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>	PT/--	NE	Absent. Occurs in aquatic habitats, such as streams, ponds, and lakes. No suitable habitat present within the Study Area.
Giant gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	FT/CT	NE	Absent. Occurs within and near aquatic habitats (streams and sloughs). No suitable habitat present within or near the Study Area.
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	FT/--	NE	Absent. No suitable habitat onsite since there are no seasonal wetlands or ponds within the Study Area.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp	<i>Lepidurus packardii</i>	FE/--	NE	Absent. Occurs in seasonal wetland habitat. No suitable habitat within or near the Study Area.
Western ridged mussel	<i>Gonidea angulate</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. Occurs in aquatic habitat. No suitable habitat present within the Study Area.
California linderiella	<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. No suitable habitat onsite since there are no seasonal wetlands or ponds within the Study Area.
American bumble bee	<i>Bombus pensylvanicus</i>	--/--	NE	Likely absent. Hard compacted soils with Study Area and lacks associated plant community.
Plants				
Dwarf downingia	<i>Downingia pusilla</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. This species is associated with wetland or seasonal wetland habitat. No suitable habitat is present within the Study Area.
Stinkbells	<i>Fritillaria agrestis</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. The nearest record for this species is located immediately west of the Study Area at the corner of Dry Creek Road and Rood Road. This record was from 1997, but according to the CNDDDB, the site has since been plowed/disked, and the population is likely removed. The population was within an area dominated by Bromus within non-native grasses. The Study Area is dominated by wild oats (<i>Avena</i>), and no indication of any Bromus or other non-native grasses.
Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop	<i>Gratiola heterosepala</i>	--/CE	NE	Absent. Associated with seasonal wetlands, marshes, and vernal pools. No suitable habitat is within the Study Area.
Legenere	<i>Legenere limosa</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. This plant is found in vernal pools or seasonal wetlands. No suitable habitat is present within the Study Area.
Sanford's arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i>	--/--	NE	Absent. Inhabitants slow-moving streams and sloughs. No suitable habitat is present within the Study Area.

1 Status= Listing of special status species, unless otherwise indicated

CE: California listed as Endangered

CT: California listed as Threatened

CC: California candidate species

SSC: California Species of Special Concern

FE: Federally listed as Endangered FT: Federally listed as Threatened

2 Effects = Effect determination

NE: No Effect

ME: May Effect, not likely to adversely affect

Source: CNDDB = California Natural Diversity Database provided by CDFG and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed online August 2024.

Definition of Occurrence Indicators: **Present/Potentially:** Species recorded in the area and some habitat elements in the Study Area similar to known occurrences. **Absent/Likely Absent:** Species not recorded in the Study Area and suitable or critical habitat components are absent.

3.2 CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS

- The Study Area is within a historically agricultural and mixed-use portion of the City of Sacramento.
- The habitat value of the Study Area is limited because of its small size, location within a mixed-use area, and the site, and it is not connected to any other natural habitat. The only wildlife observed were a few birds and jackrabbits.
- The Study Area has a low potential to support species of special concern because wild oats and weedy species dominate the vegetation. There is no suitable raptor nesting habitat within the Study Area and no migratory bird nests within the handful of orchard trees on site.
- No wetlands (Federal or State waters) exist within or near the Study Area.

References

- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Online. Subscription with updates. Available at: URL <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB>
- California Wetlands Monitoring Workgroup (CWMW). EcoAtlas. Accessed [date retrieved]. <https://www.ecoatlas.org>.
- National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Web Soils Survey.
Available at: URL
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC).
Available at URL: <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetland Inventory Maps. Available at
URL: <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html>
- U.S. Geologic Survey, Historic topographic Map, Rio Linda, University of Texas, Austin, Perry-Castañeda Map Collection. Available at:
<https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>

Attachment A: Photographs

Project: Preferred Pump & Equipment, Sacramento, CA



Photographic Documentation

Date: August 23, 2024

Project: Preferred Pump, Claire/Dry Creek, Sacramento



Photograph 1: View looking west along Claire Avenue at south end of Study Area.



Photograph 2: View looking north along eastern edge of Study Area. Trees on the right are on the adjacent property.



Photographic Documentation

Project: Preferred Pump, Claire/Dry Creek, Sacramento

Date: August 23, 2024



Photograph 3: View looking west toward Dry Creek Road across centerline of Study Area.



Photograph 4: View looking northeast at the property immediately east of the Study Area. Small livestock farm.



Photographic Documentation

Project: Preferred Pump, Claire/Dry Creek, Sacramento

Date: August 23, 2024



Photograph 5: View looking west toward Dry Creek Road showing mount of stockpiled dirt in southwest corner of the Study Area.



Photograph 6: View looking east along the northern edge of the Study Area. Trees on the left side are on the property to the north.



Photographic Documentation

Project: Preferred Pump, Claire/Dry Creek, Sacramento

Date: August 23, 2024



Photograph 7: View looking northwest showing remains of old orchard within the Study Area.



Photograph 8: View looking north at tractor trailer yard on adjacent property immediately north.