

**Biological Resources Assessment  
for the Meadow Edge Park Project in Plumas County, CA**



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Greg Matuzak, a biologist on the Nevada County Planning Department's Biological Resources Consultants List and a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Qualified Biologist, conducted a reconnaissance-level biological resources survey and required background research related to potential sensitive biological resources as part of the proposed improvement plans for the Meadow Edge Park Project (Project) in order to develop this Biological Resources Assessment. Additionally, Greg Matuzak has previously developed several biological resources assessments, CEQA documents, and state and federal permitting applications and consultations for projects within Plumas County.

See the attached Project Vicinity and Project Location maps in Appendix A and the proposed Project Site Plan (dated November 2024) attached in Appendix B. In addition, potential CDFW, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jurisdiction within the Project area was assessed. See Appendices for the results of state and federal databases searched as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment report for the Project. Below is an outline of the proposed Project and its location:

- **Physical Address:** 92400 Highway 70, Vinton CA, 96135
- **Mailing Address:** P.O. Box #245 Loyalton CA, 96118
- **Jurisdiction:** Plumas County
- **APN:** 010-200-002 & 010-200-003
- **Total Land Area:** 63.72 acres
- **Total Land Currently Utilized:** Approximately 10 acres
- **Zoning:** Current zoning is Suburban (S-1) & Convenience Commercial (C-3). Applicable zoning is subject to the 1979 zoning standards at the time of the original SUP for the park expansion
- **Maximum Density:** 8 sites per gross acre (per 1979 standards)
- **Single Family Residential Site Count:** 53 existing, 103 proposed
- **Average Space Size:** Approximately 5,000 to 10,000 square feet
- **Amenities:** Multiple acres of open space that would host trails and common areas for gathering and light recreation for residents and guests.
- **Construction type:** Clayton Manufactured Homes and other selected Manufacturers
- **Roofing type:** 60-pound snow load as required by Plumas County
- **Set Type:** Concrete foundations or conventional footings with required skirting for frost/freeze protection.
- **Parking:** Individual 1 - 2-car driveways for off-street resident parking and on-street

visitor spaces.

- **Lighting:** Signage, Common Area, Street lighting, motion activated on homes.
- **Fencing:** 3' split cedar (perimeter or front yard of each space), 6' plank privacy fencing when in locations backed to adjacent housing.
- **HCD Required Setbacks:** For mobilehome parks constructed on or after September 15, 1961, “*minimum distances from a manufactured home/mobilehome to: 1. A permanent building shall be 10 (ten) feet, measured from the eaves: 2. Another manufactured home/mobilehome, installed, including eaves, a. Side to side 10 (ten feet) b. Side to rear or side to front 8 (eight) feet c. Rear to front or rear to rear 6 (six feet.)*”
- **Current Unit Mix:** 53 total mobilehome sites (38 Manufactured Homes & 15 RV Spaces), 1 stick-built House, 1 stick-built Duplex
- **Power Supply:** Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC)
- **Water Supply:** Private, with four wells in operation (all functional) - Plumas Environmental PTO water system with regular testing by Fruit Growers Laboratory, Inc.
- **Wastewater:** Private with newer holding tanks/mound systems (2012) with multiple pumps and two lift stations attached to two large mounds; this controls the load for 19 spaces, including the house & duplex. There are (13) older inground systems; each tank handles loads from two to three homes, two handle (5) RV sites each and one is dedicated to the Laundry/Bathhouse.

No previous biological resources assessments or reports specifically covering the Project area is known to exist, so this Biological Resources Assessment has been developed based on background research, including database searches for sensitive biological resources and a review of previous biological resources assessment reports developed within the greater Project area, and the results of a reconnaissance-level biological resources survey of the Project area to identify any sensitive biological resources within the Project area. This includes an assessment of special-status plants or wildlife species and any sensitive habitats such as wetlands, riparian habitat, stream zones, and protected oak resources within the Project area.

The Project area is located within Vinton, an unincorporated area of Plumas County. The Project area is located to the east and southeast of the State Route (SR) 70 and 49 intersection with SR 70 and Ede Street forming the northern frontage of the Project area. The approved Project would allow for the development of two existing parcels of approximately 63.72 acres (APN 010-200-002 is 62.85 acres and 010-200-003 is 0.87 acres). The proposed Project would include the development of up to 50 new spaces for a total of 103 spaces when the existing development is included. The existing development includes 53 spaces as shown within the Site Plan for the proposed Project (see attached to

Appendix B).

See Appendix C for a list of plant and wildlife species observed within the Project area during the site surveys conducted as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment and see Appendix D for a map showing the results of a search of the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and the National Hydrography Database (NHD) covering the Project area. The NWI and NHD data does not identify a single aquatic feature within the Project area. Appendix E includes the mapped soil units by USDA covering the Project area and it includes five (5) mapped soil units, none of which are identified as a hydric soil by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on their list of hydric soils for Plumas County. Appendix F includes a Photo Log covering the Project area and Appendix G includes a map of previously recorded special-status species within 3 miles of the Project area.

The purpose of this Biological Resources Assessment is to identify the location and extent of sensitive biological resources within the Project area, including special-status plant and wildlife species, and the presence of drainage and wetland features that could potentially meet the Corps' criteria as a "waters of the United States," pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and streams that could be under the jurisdiction of the California Fish and Wildlife Code Section 1600 *et. seq.* This Biological Resources Assessment also satisfies the Plumas County General Plan and Land Use and Development Code requirements for any parcel(s) subject to land use changes.

## 2.0 REGULATORY OVERVIEW AND DEFINITIONS

### **Federal Regulations**

#### **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Waters of the United States include wetlands and lakes, rivers, streams, and their tributaries. Wetlands are defined for regulatory purposes as areas inundated or saturated by surface or ground water 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 solid conditions (33 CFR 328.3, 40 CFR 230.3). Project proponents must obtain a permit from the Corps for all discharges of fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, before proceeding with a proposed action. The proposed Project does not include the placement of fill or dredge within any “waters of the U.S.” including wetlands. Therefore, the development of the proposed Project would not be subject to additional reporting and permitting as required for compliance with the CWA.

#### **Section 401 of the Clean Water Act**

CWA Section 401 compliance is required for any project requiring a federal action (i.e. Corps permit or federal funding) with construction that could have an impact to surface water quality. Project proponents must obtain a permit from the local Regional Water Quality Control Board for all discharges of fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, before proceeding with a proposed action. The proposed Project does not include the placement of fill or dredge within any “waters of the U.S.” including wetlands. Therefore, the development of the proposed Project would not be subject to additional reporting and permitting as required for compliance with the CWA.

#### **Endangered Species Act of 1973**

For the Project area, consultation with the USFWS would be necessary if a proposed action may affect suitable habitat for a federally listed species. This consultation would proceed under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) if a federal action is part of the proposed action or through Section 10 of the ESA if no such nexus were available (USFWS, 1973). There are mapped locations of a single federally protected species listed under the ESA previously identified within 3 miles of the Project area, Webber's ivesia (*Ivesia webberi*), which is listed as Threatened under the ESA (CDFW 2023). There is Designated Critical Habitat (DCH) mapped within 3 miles to the south of the Project area for this federally listed species (CDFW 2023, USFWS 2023). However, there is no suitable habitat or DCH within the Project area for any federally listed species.

## **Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act**

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC Section 703-711) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BAGEPA) (16 USC Section 668) protect certain species of birds from direct "take" (i.e. harm or harassment as described above). The MBTA protects migrant bird species from take through setting hunting limits and seasons and protecting occupied nests and eggs (USFWS, 1918). BAGEPA prohibits the take or commerce of any part of the bald or golden eagles (USFWS, 1940). The USFWS administers both Acts and reviews actions that may affect species protected under each Act.

## **State Regulations**

### **California Endangered Species Act**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has jurisdiction over plant and wildlife species listed as threatened or endangered under section 2080 of the CDFW Code. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) prohibits take of state- listed threatened and endangered species. The state Act differs from the federal Act in that it does not include habitat destruction in its definition of take. The CDFW defines take as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." The CDFW may authorize take under the CESA through Sections 2081 agreements. If the results of a biological survey indicate that a state-listed species would be affected by the project, the CDFW would issue an Agreement under Section 2081 of the CDFW Code and would establish a Memorandum of Understanding for the protection of state-listed species.

CDFW maintains lists for Candidate-Endangered Species and Candidate- Threatened Species. There is a single CESA listed species previously identified within 3 miles to the Project area, Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*); however, this species was identified nesting outside the Project area (CDFW 2023) and the Project area does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat for this species. No other candidate species or CESA protected species have been documented within 3 miles of the Project area (CDFW 2023).

### **Streambed Alteration Agreements: CDFG Code Section 1600 et seq.**

CDFW has jurisdictional authority over wetland resources associated with rivers, streams, and lakes under Sections 1600–1616. CDFW has the authority to regulate all work under the jurisdiction of the State of California that would substantially divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake; substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; or use material from a streambed.

In practice, CDFW marks its jurisdictional limit at the top of the stream or lake bank, or the outer edge of the riparian vegetation (where present) and extends its jurisdiction to the edge of the 100-year floodplain. The Project area does contain any aquatic resources that would be protected by CDFW within the Project area.

## **Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act & Section 1601 – Section 1607 of CDFG Code**

These acts and codes pertain to projects with potential impacts to water quality or waterways. The Project area contains potential waters of the State as defined by the State Water Resources Board (State Board 2014). The Project area does contain any aquatic resources that would be defined as potential waters of the State and protected by the State Water Resources Board within the Project area.

## **California Department of Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800: Nesting Migratory Bird and Raptors**

Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800 of the CDFG Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests or eggs. Implementation of the take provisions requires that project-related disturbance within active nesting territories be reduced or eliminated during critical phases of the nesting cycle (approximately March 1 – August 31). Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort (e.g. killing or abandonment of eggs or young), or the loss of habitat upon which birds are dependent, is considered "taking", and is potentially punishable by fines and/or imprisonment (LCC 2013). Such *taking* would also violate federal law protecting migratory birds (e.g. MBTA above).

## **California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15380**

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15380(b) provides that a species not listed on the federal or state list of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specific criteria. This section was included in the guidelines to deal primarily with situations in which a public agency is reviewing a project that may have a significant effect on, for example a "candidate species" that has not yet been listed by the USFWS or CDFW. CEQA, therefore, enables an agency to protect a species from significant project impacts until the respective government agencies have had an opportunity to list the species as protected, if warranted (CNRA 2012).

Plants appearing on the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) are considered to meet CEQA's Section 15380 criteria. Ranks include: 1A) plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere, 1B) plant rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, 2A) plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere, and 2B) plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere. Impacts to these species would therefore be considered "significant" requiring mitigation.

## **State Oak Woodland Regulations**

State laws that regulate protection of oak woodlands include Professional Forester's Law (PFL) and CEQA according to Public Resources Code Section 21083.4. Oak woodlands are defined as areas having 10% oak canopy cover or greater. "Oaks" are defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.4 as a native tree species in the genus *Quercus*, that is 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) or greater. The Oak Woodlands Conservation Act (SB 1334) provides funding for the conservation and protection of oak woodlands in California. Oak woodland habitats are protected under both the State and the Plumas County General Plan.

## **Local Regulations and Policies**

### **2035 Plumas County General Plan**

The Plumas County General Plan, as amended, presents goals and policies for managing private lands in the county and serves as a basis for all decisions regarding land use (Plumas County 2013). The plan elements most relevant to the UNFFR Project are land use, open space, seismic safety, scenic highways, noise, safety, and conservation. The Plumas County General Plan addresses hydroelectric power generation under its constraints policies, and one of Plumas County's goals is to encourage the use of water for hydroelectric generation to meet the energy needs of Plumas County. Policies in the Plumas County General Plan are implemented through the Plumas County zoning ordinance, which regulates land use through the establishment of land use zones, parcel sizes, and placement of structures within Plumas County. The Plumas County Code, originally adopted in 1973, also provides policies to protect the environment in Plumas County for the safety and welfare of the public. Compliance with the Plumas County General Plan and Plumas County Code is discussed in Chapter 6.2, Land Use and Mineral Resources.

The Project area land use changes and any subsequent development would be required to comply with those goals and policies outlined in the Plumas County General Plan for open space and conservation purposes. The proposed Project would be in compliance with the goals and policies as outlined within the 2035 Plumas County General Plan and specifically with the open space and conservation elements of the General Plan.

## 1.0 METHODS

In order to evaluate the Project area for the presence of sensitive biological resources, baseline information from databases and reporting for similar projects in Plumas County was collected and reviewed prior to conducting a reconnaissance-level biological resources survey within the Project area. The database searches, background research, and reconnaissance-level biological resources survey characterized the baseline conditions of the Project area. Based on the baseline conditions of the proposed Project area, an assessment was implemented to determine if any special-status plant or wildlife species have the potential to use the Project area at any time during their life cycle. The baseline conditions also identified the presence of sensitive habitat or communities, if they were identified within or adjacent to the proposed Project area. The general assessment was conducted for the entirety of the Project area.

### **Sensitive Biological Resources**

The following information was used to identify potential special-status plant and wildlife species within the region surrounding the Project area that could be found to use the Project area:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Natural Diversity Database records search of a 3-mile buffer around the Project area (CDFW, 2023);
- California Native Plant Society's online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California known to occur within the Project area and within Plumas County (CNPS, 2023);
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information, Planning, and Consultation System (IPaC) for endangered, threatened, and proposed listed species for the Project area (USFWS, 2023);
- National Wetland Inventory and National Hydrography Data (NWI and NHD, 2023);
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soils Mapper (USDA, 2023);
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Hydric Soils List for Plumas County (NRCS, 2023); and
- 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update (Plumas County, Adopted December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013).

## **Reconnaissance - Level Biological Resources Field Survey**

A reconnaissance-level biological resources survey was conducted on foot of the Project area and within each of the proposed parcels by Greg Matuzak, a CDFW and USFWS Qualified Biologist. Greg Matuzak has developed several assessments of biological resources within Plumas County in the past. The site visit and reconnaissance-level biological survey were conducted on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The purpose of the survey was to identify sensitive habitat and vegetation types within the proposed Project area.

Additionally, the site visit and survey were implemented to determine the potential for any special-status plant and wildlife species identified within the desktop analysis and background research to occur within the Project area. The site visit and survey were conducted during the early spring; therefore, the survey was not comprehensive in nature for all plants and vegetation given the lack of potentially late blooming plants species within the Project area. However, the survey was sufficient to establish a baseline for the potential sensitive biological resources to occur within the Project area given the habitat types identified within the Project area and knowing the potential special-status species and other sensitive habitats that are located within the greater Project area and that are associated with the habitats identified within the Project area.

An assessment of the existing trees and sensitive biological resources was also conducted during the site survey. A photo log of the Project area and a list of plant and wildlife species observed during the field surveys was compiled (see Appendix G and Appendix C respectively). Attached in Appendix D is an NWI and NHD figure and Appendix E includes a USDA Soils Map for the Project area. Attached in Appendix F is a CNDDB map with a 3 miles buffer around the Project area and Appendix H includes occurrence reports from both CDFW and USFWS for special-status species for the Project area.

## 4.0 RESULTS

### ***Environmental Setting***

Plumas County is located in the northern most portion of the Sierra Nevada mountain range and the southernmost portion of the Cascade Range. A majority of the County has mountainous terrain, interspersed with upper elevation valleys. The Project area is located within Vinton, an unincorporated area of Plumas County. The Project area is located to the east and southeast of the State Route (SR) 70 and 49 intersection with SR 70 and Ede Street forming the northern frontage of the Project area. A majority of the greater Project area includes grazing of cattle and hay and other grassland cultivars such as the Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass that dominates the Project area.

The NWI and NHD data do not identify a single aquatic feature within the Project area. There is a stream feature that runs along the southern side of the rail line along the southern border of the Project area and another stream/drainage feature is mapped north of SR 70. Other aquatic features mapped within 3 miles of the Project area include large areas of mapped freshwater emergent wetland to the north, northwest, and to the southeast of the Project area. No riparian or wetland associated vegetation was identified within the Project area during the site visit and reconnaissance-level biological resources survey conducted as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment.

Biological communities within the region are diverse. The most common biological community in the Project area is generally characterized as Annual Grassland within the 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update and includes an estimated 2% coverage of Plumas County (Plumas County, 2013). The Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass that dominates the Project area would fall into this habitat characterization.

As stated above there are no aquatic features within the Project area that would meet the criteria of the Corps as a jurisdictional “waters of the U.S.,” including wetlands, and therefore, the proposed Project is not subject to the Clean Water Act Section 404 or Section 401 permitting requirements for any fill or dredge material placed within such a regulated aquatic feature. Additionally, there are no features that would be under the jurisdiction of CDFW and therefore, any impacts associated with the proposed Project would not be regulated under the Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement program (CDFG Code 1600 *et seq.*).

### ***Plant Communities***

CDFW manages the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB), which is a database inventory of the previously identified locations of rare and endangered plants, wildlife, and natural communities in California. A list of plants and wildlife documented during the field survey is attached in Appendix C to this Biological Resources Assessment.

Given the field survey was conducted during the early spring when some plants and vegetation may not be in bloom or easily identifiable if they are late spring or summer blooming species. However, the plant and vegetation community assessment is based on the documentation and understanding of the dominant plants and vegetation types to occur within the greater Project area as well as specific to the Project area itself.

### **Annual Grassland**

The vast majority of the Project area is comprised of Basin Wildrye (*Leymus cinerius*), sometimes called Great Basin Wildrye and the species is an unusually large, robust bunchgrass averaging 2 to 5 feet tall. Great Basin Wildrye is part of a greater annual grassland habitat that dominates the large, open expanses within the greater Project area to the north, south, east, and west of the Project area. The annual grassland within the Project has been historically used as a pasture for grazing of mostly cattle. The annual grassland dominated by Great Basin Wildrye has been disturbed historically by grazing and some soil compaction has occurred. More recent low levels of grazing within the Project area were obvious within the larger, open part of the Project area. Historically, the Project area contained a mixture of Great Basin scrub habitat as can be seen immediately adjacent to the Project area where shrubs line the fence between the southern border and the rail line to the south of the Project area (see Photo Log with shrubs outside the southern Project border).

Other plants and grasses found within the annual grassland community within the Project area includes a variety of non-native weedy species, such as wild oats (*Avena fatua*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaeus*), filaree (*Erodium botrys*), bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*) and with some scattered annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*) mixed into the Project area.

The value of the grassland community is enhanced by the communities that surround it (e.g., communities that provide shelter for species that forage in the open grasslands). Perennial grasslands support several herbivores, including mule deer, California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), deer mice, and black-tailed jackrabbits. These species attract predators that breed in adjacent habitats, such as the bobcat, coyote, red-tailed hawk, and great-horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*). Reptile species expected to occur here include the western fence lizard, western skink, and gopher snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*). However, given the adjacent communities adjacent to the Project area containing few shrubs and other types of cover, the overall value of the grassland community to wildlife species is considered low within the Project area.

## SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

Special-status species were considered for this Biological Resources Assessment based on a current review of the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) and database information provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (see Appendix F and Appendix H for attachments). The database searches did reveal five (5) species, including Swainson's hawk, prairie falcon, Pulsifer's milk-vetch, Sierra Valley ivesia, and Webber's ivesia that are known to have occurred within 3 miles of the Project area. However, none of the species were observed during field surveys and the Project area does not contain suitable aquatic habitat or soil types required for any of these or other special-status species except for marginally potential foraging habitat for hawks and falcons such as the Swainson's hawk and prairie falcon.

Additionally, there is Designated Critical Habitat (DCH) mapped for Webber's ivesia approximately 2 miles to the south of the Project area (CNDDDB, 2023).

The "Potential for Occurrence" category in Table 1.0 below is defined as follows:

- Unlikely: The project site and/or immediate area do not support suitable habitat for a particular species. Project site is outside of the species known range.
- Low Potential: Project site and/or immediate area only provide limited habitat for a particular species. In addition, the known range for a particular species may be outside of the immediate project area.
- Medium Potential: The project site and/or immediate area provide suitable habitat for a particular species, and habitat for the species may be impacted.
- High Potential: The project site and/or immediate area provide ideal habitat conditions for a particular species and/or known populations occur in immediate area and within the potential area of impact.

**TABLE 1.0**  
**SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES WITH THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR WITHIN PROJECT AREA**

Species	Fed/State/CNPS Status	General Habitat	Potential to Occur
<b>Birds</b>			
<i>Buteo swainsonii</i> Swainson's hawk	--/ST/--	Forages in open and agricultural fields and nests in mature trees usually in riparian corridors.	<b>Low.</b> There are no CNDB recorded occurrences of this species within the Project area; however, the species was previously documented nesting nearby to Vinton in 1981. No suitable nesting habitat is present.
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> Prairie falcon	--/WL/--	Found in dry grasslands and prairies, locally alpine tundra; suitable breeding habitat usually requires cliffs for nest sites; in winter, also cultivated fields and lake shores.	<b>Low.</b> There are no CNDB recorded occurrences of this species within the Project area; however, the species was previously documented nesting in cliffs in 1976. No suitable nesting habitat is present.
<b>Plants</b>			
<i>Astragalus pulsiferae</i> var. <i>pulsiferae</i> Pulsifer's milk-vetch	--/--/1B.2	Perennial herb that occurs in usually granitic, sandy or rocky soils within Great Basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, and pinyon and juniper woodland habitats. Blooms May to August. Elevations: 1,300 – 1,800 m.	<b>Unlikely.</b> There are no CNDB recorded occurrences of this species within the Project area; however, the species was previously documented twice in 1989 and 1993 within 3 miles of the Project area. No suitable habitat is present within the Project area.
<i>Ivesia aperta</i> var. <i>aperta</i> Sierra Valley ivesia	--/--/1B.2	Perennial herb that occurs in vernally mesic, usually volcanic soils within Great Basin scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, pinyon and juniper woodland and vernal pool habitats. Blooms June to September. Elevations: 1,480 – 2,300 m.	<b>Unlikely.</b> There are no CNDB recorded occurrences of this species within the Project area; however, the species was previously documented once in 1992 within 3 miles of the Project area. No suitable habitat is present within the Project area.
<i>Ivesia webberi</i> Webber's ivesia	FT/--/1B.1	A perennial herb that occurs in sandy or gravelly soils within Great Basin scrub (volcanic ash), lower montane coniferous forest, pinyon and juniper woodland habitats. Blooms May to July. Elevations: 1,000 – 2,075 m.	<b>Unlikely.</b> There are no CNDB recorded occurrences of this species within the Project area; however, the species was previously documented within 3 miles of the Project area. No suitable habitat is present within the Project area.

**Nesting raptors and other migratory birds species - Protected under MBTA, Protected under CA State DFG Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800**

There is a low potential for nesting raptors and other nesting migratory bird species protected under the MBTA and by CDFW to occur within the Project area given the presence of sparse, small stature trees and an annual grassland dominant habitat within the Project area. The Project area represents marginal potential habitat for bird species protected under the MBTA and by CDFW, such as ground nesting species like the spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) and dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*). Active and inactive nests within and adjacent to the Project area were not identified during field surveys; however, given the presence of large trees within the Project area, there is a low potential for these species to nest within the Project area.

## 5.0 CONCLUSIONS

Biological communities within the region are diverse. The most common biological community in the Project area is generally characterized as Annual Grassland with a mix of native and non-native grass and plant species identified within the Project area. The value of the grassland community is enhanced by the communities that surround it (e.g., communities that provide shelter for species that forage in the open grasslands). However, given the adjacent communities to the Project area containing few shrubs and other types of cover, the overall value of the grassland community to wildlife species is considered low within the Project area.

As stated above there are no aquatic features within the Project area that would meet the criteria of the Corps as a jurisdictional “waters of the U.S.,” including wetlands, or be regulated as a stream by CDFW or other agencies with the State of California. The small area of ponding water documented within the Project area is the last remaining water within the Project site as significant snowmelt just ended within a week of conducting the site visit and survey of the proposed Project area. Therefore, the proposed Project would not be subject to Clean Water Act Section 404 or Section 401 permitting requirements for any fill or dredge material placed within a regulated aquatic feature. Additionally, there are no features that would be impacted that are under the jurisdiction of CDFW and therefore, the proposed Project would not be regulated under the Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement program (CDFG Code 1600 et seq.).

Based on site specific field surveys, the Project area does contain medium sized poplar trees within and adjacent to the existing development within the Project site that could provide nesting habitat for birds protected under MBTA and by CDFW, including raptor species. However, no special-status plant or wildlife species were documented during the site visit and biological resources survey conducted as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment. Therefore, the proposed Project would have little potential to impact special-status species except for the presence of nesting protected birds, if present during vegetation removal and other disturbance within the Project area. However, the none of the trees contain active or inactive nests and given their proximity to the existing development within the site, there is a very low potential for nesting tree species to occur within the Project area. Therefore, mitigation for potential impacts to nesting birds would not be required for the proposed Project given the few trees within the site contained no foliage during the site visit and survey and have no indicators of active or inactive nests.

### Impacts to Special-Status Plant Species

Special-status plant species were not identified during field surveys implemented as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment. Given that none of the

previously identified special-status plant species identified within 3 miles of the Project area (or any other special-status plant species) were identified within the Project area and the Project area does not contain suitable habitat for such species, the proposed Project would not impact special-status plant species. Given the site visit and reconnaissance-level biological resources survey was conducted as part of the development of this Biological Resources Assessment during the early spring blooming period, the survey would normally not be considered comprehensive in nature for habitat and vegetation types within the Project area. However, given the habitat types within the Project area (lack of woodland, shrub and aquatic habitats), lack of required soils for the special-status plant species known to occur in the region, and lack of mesic sites within the Project area, no mitigation is recommended for special-status plant species given special-status plant species are unlikely to occur within the Project area.

#### Impacts to Special-Status Wildlife Species

Given that the two (2) special-status wildlife species previously recorded within 3 miles of the Project area are tree and cliff nesting species, the potential for either of the Swainson's hawk or the prairie falcon to nest within the Project area is very low given the lack of cliffs and the few trees within the existing developed areas of the Project area do not contain any active or inactive nests. There is a very low potential for special-status wildlife species to occur within the Project area and therefore, the potential Project related impacts to such species is considered highly unlikely.

#### Impacts to Protected Nesting Bird Species

The trees and grasslands within the Project area contain suitable habitat for nesting raptors and MBTA and CDFW protected nesting bird species. The breeding season for most protected birds in the vicinity of the Project area is generally from March 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>. Vegetation clearing or tree removal outside of the breeding season for such bird species would not require the implementation of any avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures. However, construction or development activities during the breeding season could disturb or remove occupied nests of migratory birds or raptors, if they were to occur within the Project area. However, based on the assessment of nesting migratory birds and raptors within or immediately adjacent to the Project area, there is a very low likelihood such species would be disturbed nesting within or adjacent to the Project area. Therefore, the proposed Project would not require the implementation of a pre-construction survey within the Project area for nesting migratory birds and raptors prior to development given the lack of identified active or inactive nests during the April 2023 surveys implemented within the Project area and due to the lack of adequate nesting sites within the Project area.

## Conclusion

Given the site conditions of the Project area and the dominance of Annual Grassland habitat and heavy disturbance and development within the Project area, there are habitat types of little value within the Project area for special-status wildlife and plant species previously recorded within 3 miles of the Project area. Special-status plant species have a very low potential to occur within the Project area given no suitable habitat for such species was documented during the April 2023 site visit and survey. Furthermore, as discussed above, the Project area does not contain suitable habitat for any special-status wildlife species, nor does it contain sensitive habitats such as streams, ponds, wetlands, riparian habitat, vernal pools, etc.

Therefore, it is the conclusion of this Biological Resources Assessment that there are no regulated aquatic habitats or protected trees within the Project area and there is little potential for special-status plant and wildlife species to occur within the Project area, such impacts are considered non-existent for the proposed Project.

Given the reconnaissance-level biological resources survey did identify the existing trees or Annual Grasslands as potential suitable nesting habitat for protected bird species, the implementation of the pre-construction surveys for protected nesting bird species would not be required for such species protected under the MBTA and by CDFW. The site survey was conducted during the nesting season for such nesting bird species and the Project area does not contain any active or inactive nests.

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 1996. Determination of Endangered Status for Four Plants and Threatened Status for One Plant From the Central Sierran Foothills of California. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Federal Register. October 18, 1996.

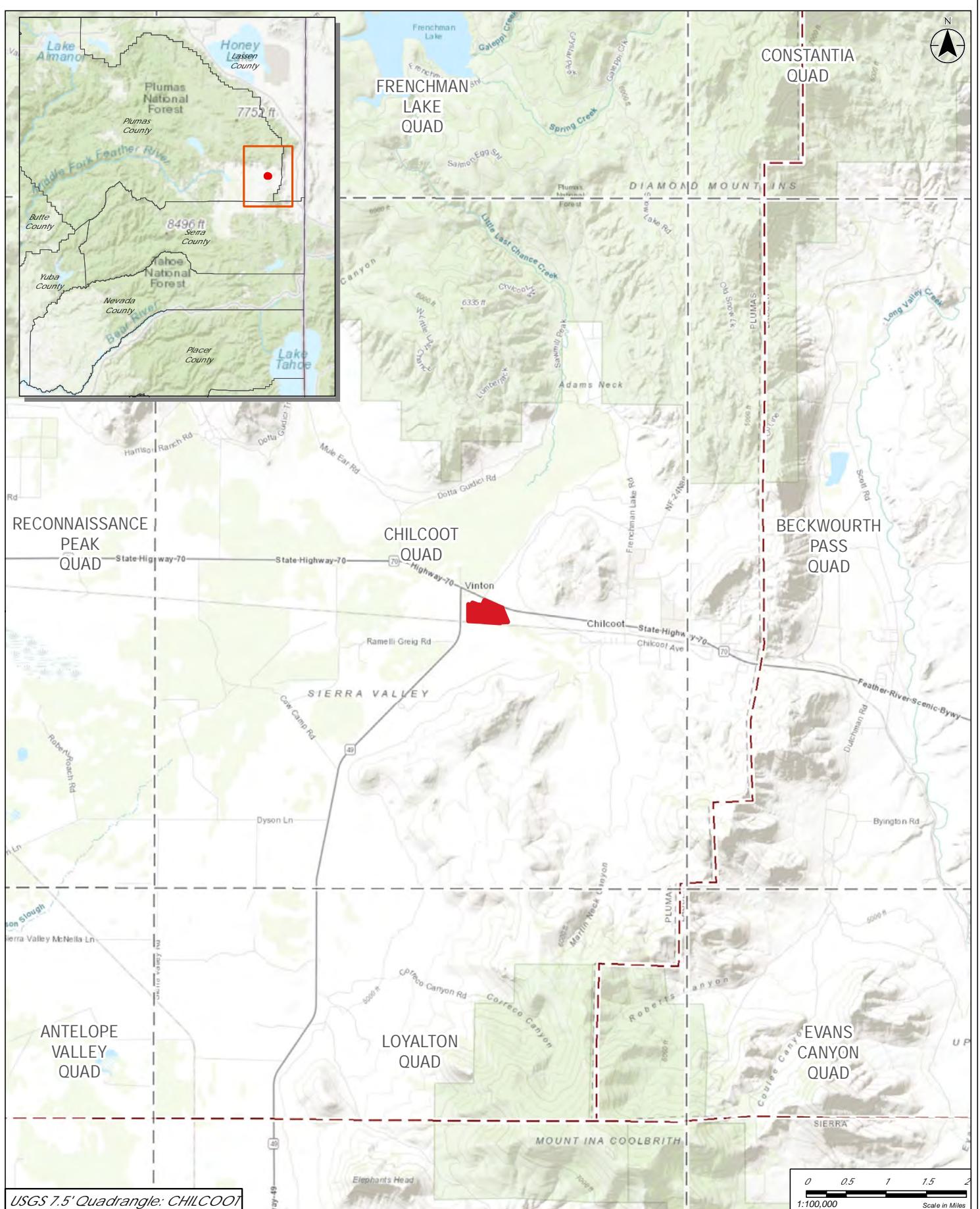
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Zeiner, D.C., Laudenslayer Jr., W.F., Mayer, K.E., White, M. 1988-1990. California's Wildlife, Vol. I-III. Updated 2000. California Department of Fish and Game. Sacramento, California.

## **Appendix A**

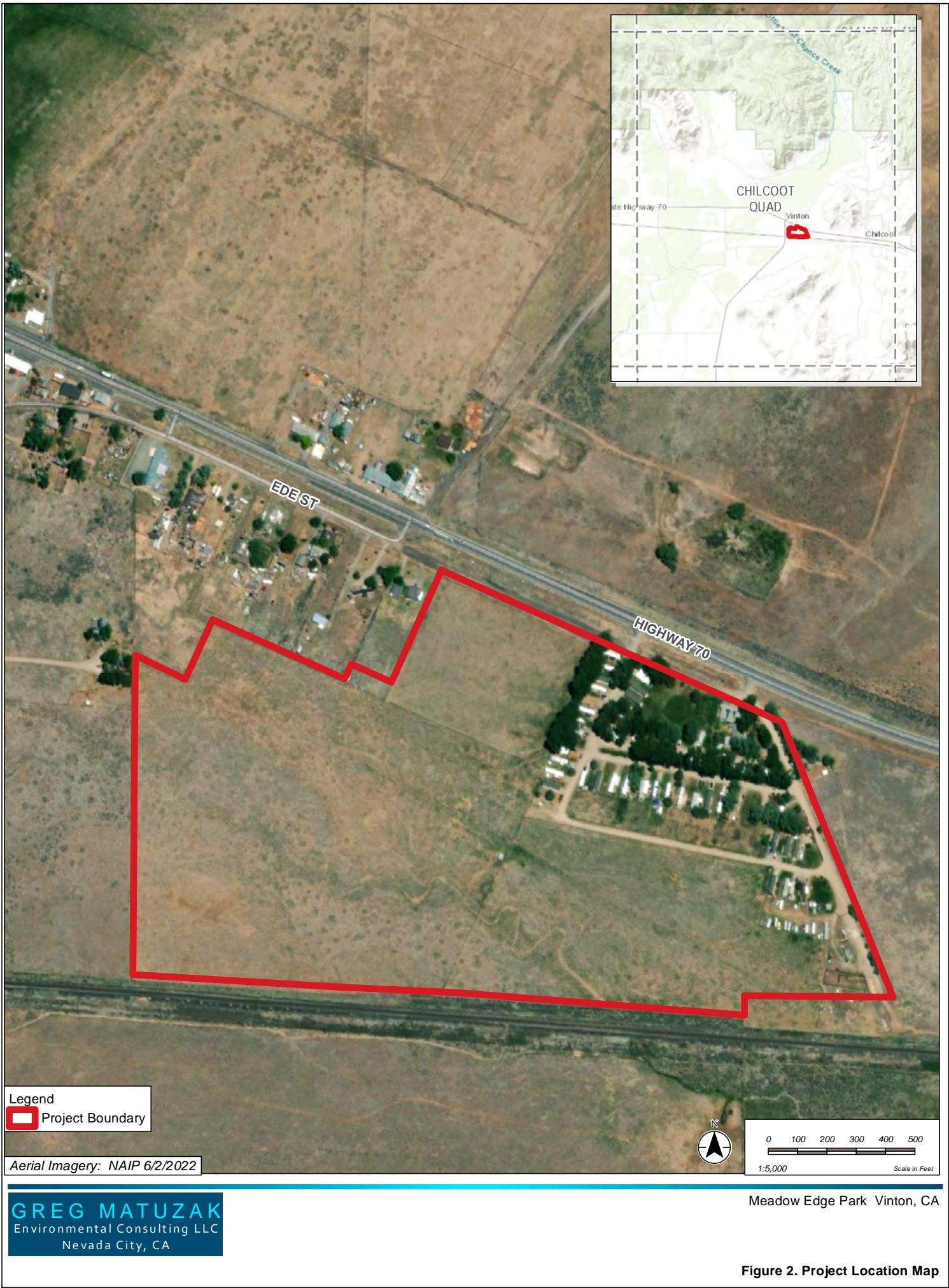
### **Project Vicinity Figure and Project Location Figure**



**GREG MATUZAK**  
Environmental Consulting LLC  
Nevada City, CA

Meadow Edge Park Vinton, CA

**Figure 1. Vicinity Map**



## **Appendix B**

### **Site Plan**



## **Appendix C**

### **Plants and Wildlife Observed**

## Plant Species Identified During Field Survey on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Family/Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Indicator Status <sup>b</sup>
<b>Plants</b>		
<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	Narrow-leaved milkweed	FAC
<i>Avena fatua</i> *	Wild oat	
<i>Brassica nigra</i> *	Black mustard	
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Ripgut brome	
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Soft chess	FACU
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> *	Bull thistle	FACU
<i>Leymus cinerius</i>	Great Basin wildrye	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Filaree	
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Bur clover	
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual bluegrass	FAC
<i>Poplar</i> sp.	Poplar	
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> *	Woolly mullein	FACU
<i>Vicia sativa</i> spp. <i>nigra</i> *	Common vetch	UPL

\* denotes naturalized species

<sup>b</sup> OBL: Obligate, FACW: Facultative Wetland, FAC: Facultative, FACU: Facultative Upland, U: Upland

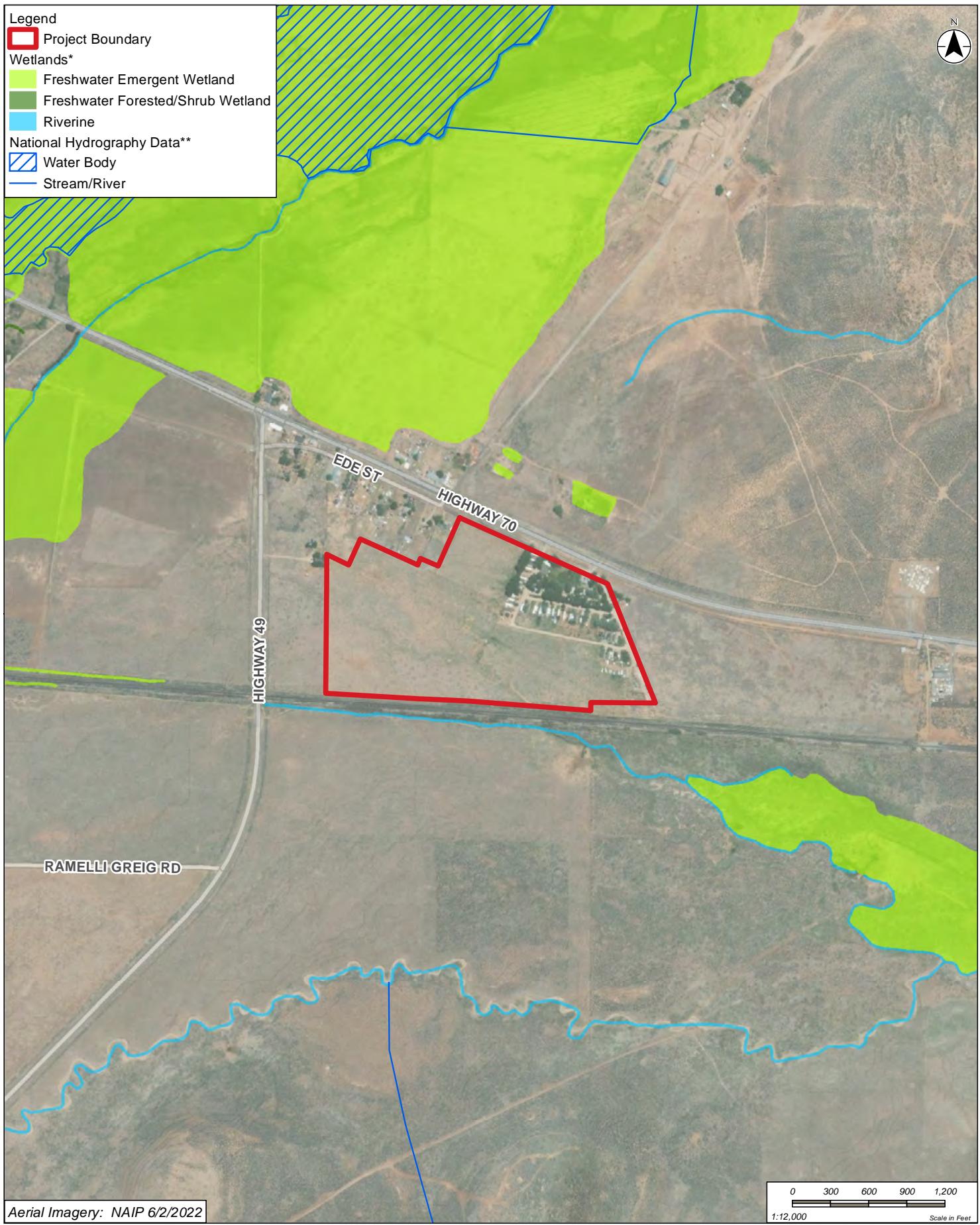
## Wildlife Species Observed Within the Project Area on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Wildlife

<i>Apheloxoma californica</i>	Western scrub jay
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Red-tailed hawk
<i>Callipepla californica</i>	California quail
<i>Melozone crissalis</i>	California towhee

## **Appendix D**

### **National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and National Hydrography Database (NHD) Map**



**GREG MATUZAK**  
Environmental Consulting LLC  
Nevada City, CA

Meadow Edge Park Vinton, CA

\* Data downloaded from <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Data-Download.html> 11/15/2021

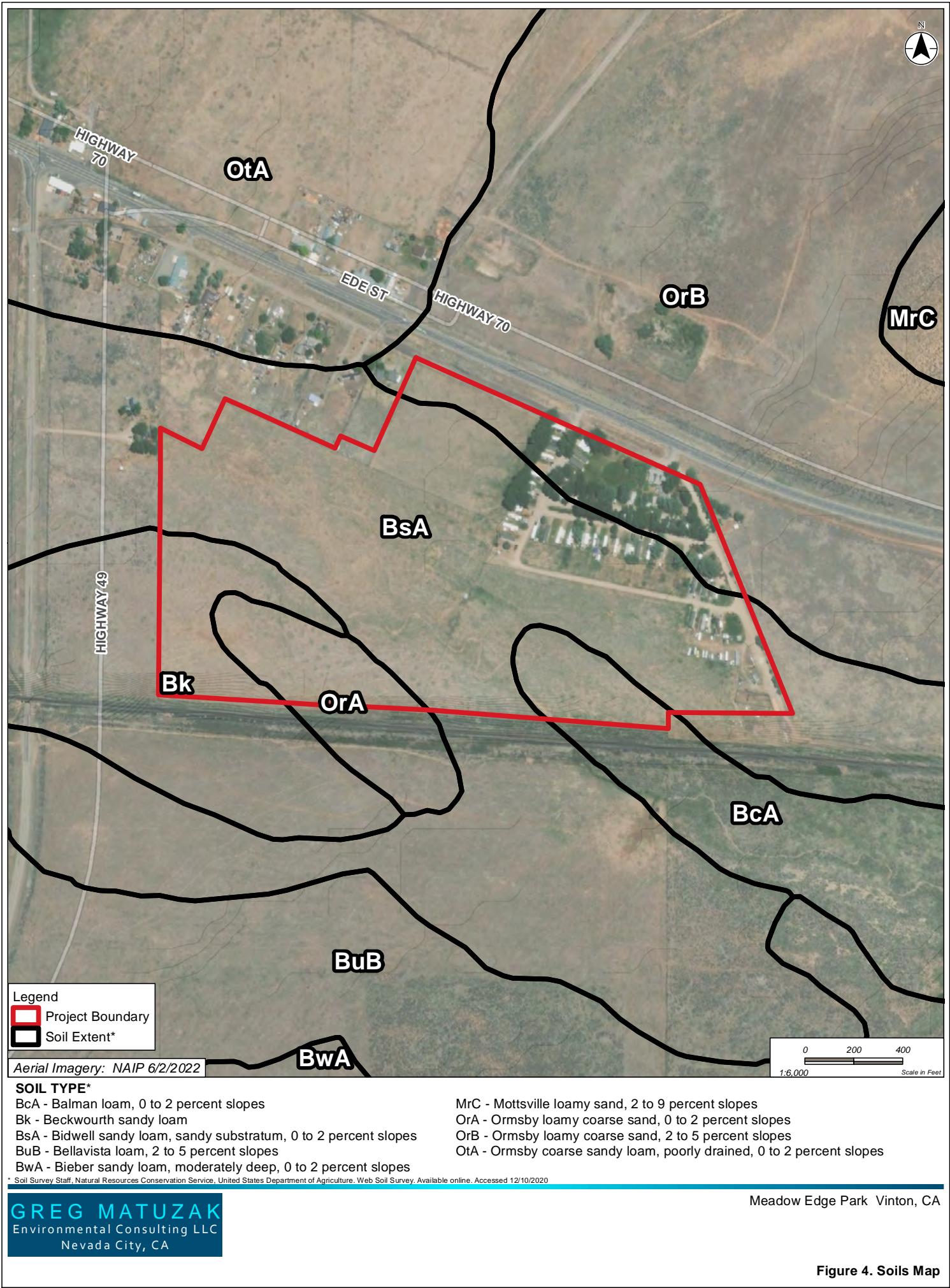
\*\* National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) downloaded from <http://nhd.usgs.gov> October, 2021

Prepared: Melissa Nugent 1/14/2023 D:\\_GIS\Matuzak\20230114\_Plumas\_MeadowEdge\mxd\Fig5\_NWI-NHD\_Plumas\_MeadowEdge.mxd

**Figure 5. Wetlands and Water Features Map**

## **Appendix E**

### **USDA Soils Map**



## **Appendix F**

### **Photo Log**

## Photos of the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Field Survey of the Project Area



**Photo 1: Entrance and frontage of the overall Project area looking north towards Ede Street and SR 70. The photo includes the entrance into the existing development.**



**Photo 2: Looking south into the existing development within the Project area.**



**Photo 3: Looking northeast along the eastern border of the Project area. The Site Plan has this road listed as Old Road and is outside the proposed Project area.**



**Photo 4: Looking west in the area south of the Project area. Vegetation present is dominated by Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass.**



**Photo 5: Large open area to the south of the Project area. Vegetation is dominated by Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass with some non-native annual grassland species.**



**Photo 6: Looking north towards existing development within the large open area to the south of the Project area. Vegetation is dominated by Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass.**



**Photo 7: Foot trail and standing water from snowmelt to the south of the Project area. Standing water is not a drainage or regulated wetland feature.**



**Photo 8: Looking south from Ede Street along the eastern boundary of the Project area to the right within the large, open area. Existing development to the left.**



**Photo 9: Looking north with the existing development within the Project area to the right. Area to the left is ungrazed Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass and is the Project area.**



**Photo 10: Looking southwest within the area of ungrazed Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass. This area is the location of the proposed future development.**



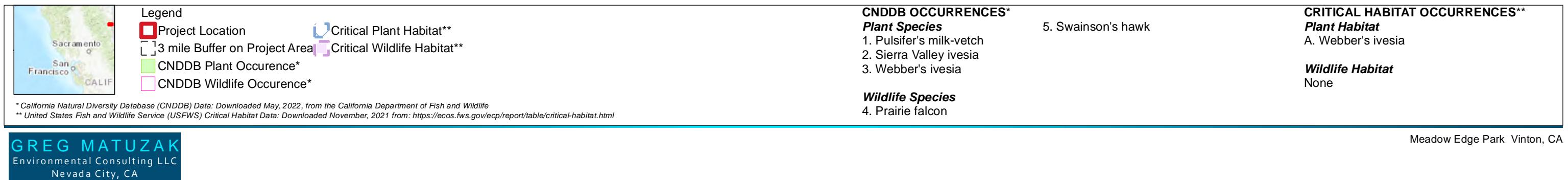
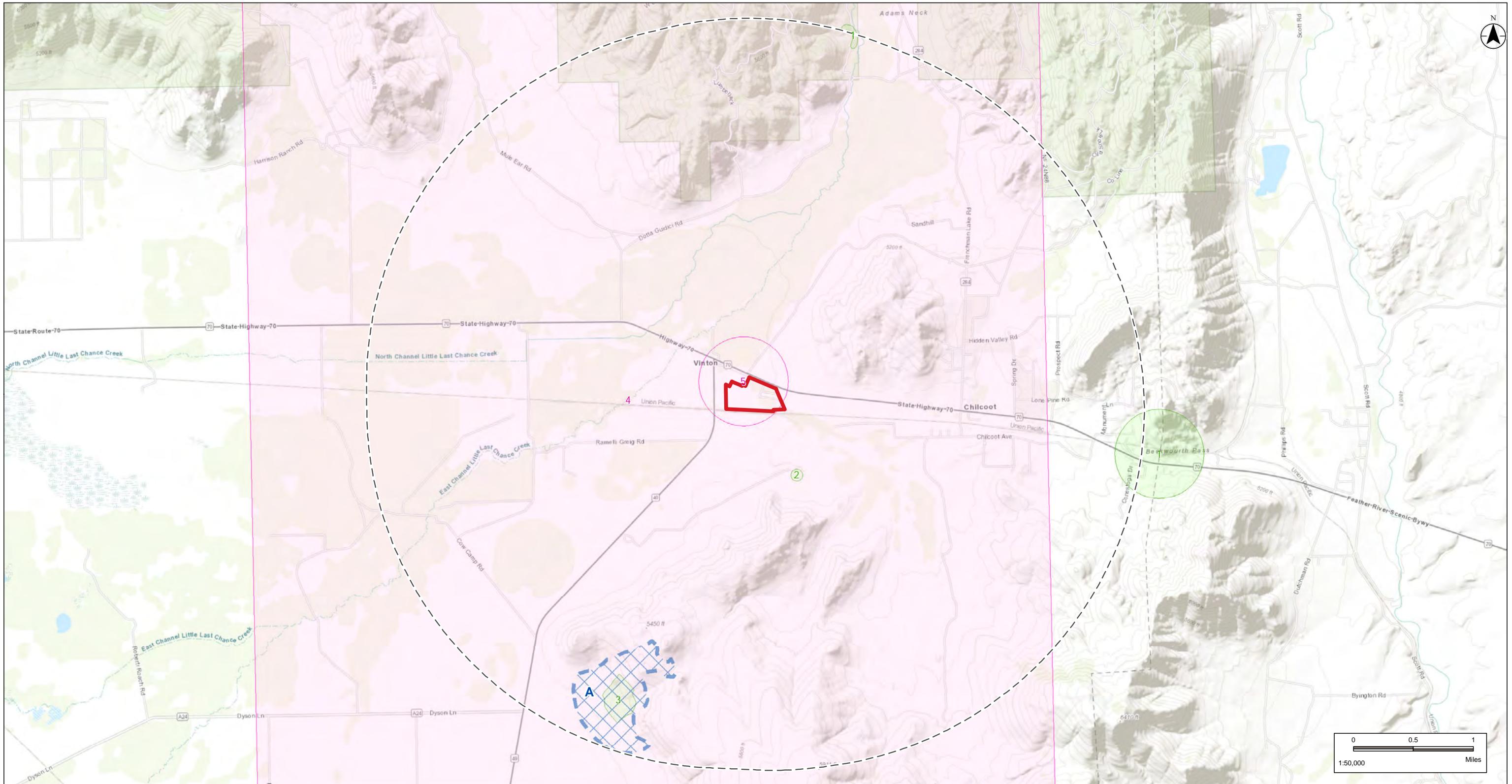
**Photo 11: Looking southwest along Ede Street within the Project area. Project area is dominated by Great Basin wild rye bunchgrass. Photo at the entrance into Project.**



**Photo 12: Looking northeast towards the Project area. The proposed mounded septic system will be located within this area in the photo.**

## **Appendix G**

### **CNDDB Locations of Special Status Species within 3 Miles of the Project Area**



## **Appendix H**

### **USFWS IPaC and CNDB Occurrence Reports for Project Area**



**Occurrence Report**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



**Query Criteria:** EOndx> IS </span>(19291> OR </span>26259> OR </span>43132> OR </span>5547> OR </span>6716> OR </span>91633)

<b>Map Index Number:</b>	90513	<b>EO Index:</b>	91633
<b>Key Quad:</b>	Chilcoot (3912072)	<b>Element Code:</b>	ABNKC19070
<b>Occurrence Number:</b>	2597	<b>Occurrence Last Updated:</b>	2013-10-25

<b>Scientific Name:</b>	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	<b>Common Name:</b>	Swainson's hawk
<b>Listing Status:</b>	<b>Federal:</b> None	<b>Rare Plant Rank:</b>	
	<b>State:</b> Threatened	<b>Other Lists:</b>	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern
<b>CNDDB Element Ranks:</b>	<b>Global:</b> G5		
	<b>State:</b> S3		

<b>General Habitat:</b>  BREEDS IN GRASSLANDS WITH SCATTERED TREES, JUNIPER-SAGE FLATS, RIPARIAN AREAS, SAVANNAHS, AND AGRICULTURAL OR RANCH LANDS WITH GROVES OR LINES OF TREES.	<b>Micro Habitat:</b>  REQUIRES ADJACENT SUITABLE FORAGING AREAS SUCH AS GRASSLANDS, OR ALFALFA OR GRAIN FIELDS SUPPORTING RODENT POPULATIONS.
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<b>Last Date Observed:</b> 1981-05-13	<b>Occurrence Type:</b> Natural/Native occurrence
<b>Last Survey Date:</b> 1981-05-13	<b>Occurrence Rank:</b> Unknown
<b>Owner/Manager:</b> UNKNOWN	<b>Trend:</b> Unknown

**Presence:** Presumed Extant

**Location:**

VICINITY OF VINTON.

**Detailed Location:**

TERRITORY PL001 FROM CDFW SWHA DATABASE. MAPPED TO COORDINATES GIVEN IN USFS NRIS DATABASE. EXACT LOCATION UNKNOWN, POSSIBLY CLOSER TO CREEK PER COMMENTS "LAST CHANCE CREEK" (USFS) "HWY 70, 150 YDS N LITTLE LAST CHANCE CREEK" (CDFW).

**Ecological:**

NESTING BIRDS "DISTURBED BY TRACTOR."

**Threats:**

**General:**

PAIR OF SWAINSON'S HAWKS OBSERVED ATTEMPTING TO BUILD NEST ON TOP OF AN OLD MAGPIE NEST; OUTCOME UNKNOWN. MULTIPLE FLYOVER DETECTIONS OF SINGLE HAWKS IN 1983 BUT NO NEST DOCUMENTED.

<b>PLSS:</b> T23N, R16E, Sec. 34, N (M)	<b>Accuracy:</b> 2/5 mile	<b>Area (acres):</b> 0
<b>UTM:</b> Zone-10 N4409583 E741976	<b>Latitude/Longitude:</b> 39.80181 / -120.17358	<b>Elevation (feet):</b> 4,950

<b>County Summary:</b>	<b>Quad Summary:</b>
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Plumas	Chilcoot (3912072)
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**Sources:**

DFG94U0003 DFG - NONGAME BIRDS & MAMMALS - TABLE OF SWAINSON'S HAWK NEST RECORDS THROUGH 1994. 1994-XX-XX

USFNDD0002 U.S. FOREST SERVICE-REGION 5 - NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NRIS) ANIMAL RECORDS FROM CALIFORNIA NATIONAL FORESTS XXXX-XX-XX



**Occurrence Report**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



**Map Index Number:** 14066      **EO Index:** 26259  
**Key Quad:** Frenchman Lake (3912082)      **Element Code:** ABNKD06090  
**Occurrence Number:** 138      **Occurrence Last Updated:** 2020-11-19

**Scientific Name:** *Falco mexicanus*      **Common Name:** prairie falcon  
**Listing Status:** **Federal:** None      **Rare Plant Rank:**  
\* SENSITIVE \*      **State:** None      **Other Lists:** CDFW\_WL-Watch List  
**CNDDB Element Ranks:** **Global:** G5      IUCN\_LC-Least Concern  
                            **State:** S4

**General Habitat:**  
INHABITS DRY, OPEN TERRAIN, EITHER LEVEL OR HILLY.

**Micro Habitat:**  
BREEDING SITES LOCATED ON CLIFFS. FORAGES FAR AFIELD, EVEN TO MARSHLANDS AND OCEAN SHORES.

**Last Date Observed:** 1976-XX-XX      **Occurrence Type:** Natural/Native occurrence  
**Last Survey Date:** 1976-XX-XX      **Occurrence Rank:** Unknown  
**Owner/Manager:**      **Trend:** Unknown

**Presence:** Presumed Extant

**Location:**

\*SENSITIVE\* LOCATION INFORMATION SUPPRESSED.

**Detailed Location:**

PLEASE CONTACT THE CALIFORNIA NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, FOR MORE INFORMATION: (916) 322-2493

**Ecological:**

NEST WAS ON A 150 FT ROCK CLIFF IN A POTHOLE.

**Threats:**

**General:**

<b>PLSS:</b>	<b>Accuracy:</b>	4/5 mile	<b>Area (acres):</b>	1,312
<b>UTM:</b>	<b>Latitude/Longitude:</b>		<b>Elevation (feet):</b>	5,801

**County Summary:**      **Quad Summary:**

Plumas      Chilcoot (3912072), Frenchman Lake (3912082)

**Sources:**

DFG81U0003	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME - SWAINSON'S HAWK & PRAIRIE FALCON NEST RECORDS FROM FILES AT DFG NONGAME WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS (WILDLIFE BRANCH); NOT AT CNDDB. 1981-XX-XX
DFG86U0002	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME - 1986 NON-GAME RAPTOR NEST REPORT FOR FALCO MEXICANUS 1986-01-XX
WAL76F0005	WALTON ET AL. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR FALCO MEXICANUS 1976-XX-XX





# Occurrence Report

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife

### California Natural Diversity Database



<b>Map Index Number:</b>	43132	<b>EO Index:</b>	43132
<b>Key Quad:</b>	Chilcoot (3912072)	<b>Element Code:</b>	PDFAB0F783
<b>Occurrence Number:</b>	13	<b>Occurrence Last Updated:</b>	2000-06-27

<b>Scientific Name:</b>	<i>Astragalus pulsiferae</i> var. <i>pulsiferae</i>		<b>Common Name:</b>	Pulsifer's milk-vetch
<b>Listing Status:</b>	<b>Federal:</b> None <b>State:</b> None		<b>Rare Plant Rank:</b>	1B.2
<b>CNDDB Element Ranks:</b>	<b>Global:</b> G4T2 <b>State:</b> S2		<b>Other Lists:</b>	BLM_S-Sensitive SB_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz USFS_S-Sensitive
<b>General Habitat:</b>	<b>Micro Habitat:</b> GREAT BASIN SCRUB, LOWER MONTANE CONIFEROUS FOREST, PINYON AND JUNIPER WOODLAND. USUALLY GRANITIC SUBSTRATE, SANDY OR ROCKY, OFTEN WITH PINES OR SAGEBRUSH. 1145-1860 M.			

**Last Date Observed:** 1993-09-28      **Occurrence Type:** Natural/Native occurrence  
**Last Survey Date:** 1993-09-28      **Occurrence Rank:** Good  
**Owner/Manager:** USFS-PLUMAS NF      **Trend:** Unknown

**Presence:** Presumed Extant

**Location:**

ADAMS NECK, W SIDE OF LITTLE LAST CHANCE CREEK, ABOUT 1.7 AIR MILES SSE OF CHILCOOT CAMPGROUND, 3 MILES NNE OF VINTON.

FROM VINT  
EOM 2011

FOUND IN A VARIETY OF HABITATS: MOST DENSE IN OPEN SAGE WITH CALOCEDRUS DECURRENS AND ON OLD UNUSED ROADS. LESS DENSE

## IN OPEN

**Threats:** SOME PLANTS FOUND ON OLD ROADS, SKID TRAILS, LANDINGS. POSSIBLE FUTURE THREATS INCLUDE REGRADING ROADS AND NEW

## LANDING

## **General:**

## MISSOURI VERSUS MISSOURI

PLSS: T23N, R16E, Sec. 14, SW (M)

SWR - ZERO TO N

## County Summary: Quad Summary:

---

Plumas Chilcoot (3912072)  
**Sources:** MAS92E0003 MASTALIP, D. ET AL. FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR *ASTRAGALUS PULSIFERAE* VAR. *PULSIFERAE* 1992-07-28



**Occurrence Report**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



**Map Index Number:** 25815      **EO Index:** 6716  
**Key Quad:** Chilcoot (3912072)      **Element Code:** PDROS0X011  
**Occurrence Number:** 31      **Occurrence Last Updated:** 1994-05-27

**Scientific Name:** *Ivesia aperta* var. *aperta*      **Common Name:** Sierra Valley ivesia  
**Listing Status:**      **Federal:** None      **Rare Plant Rank:** 1B.2  
      **State:** None      **Other Lists:** BLM\_S-Sensitive  
**CNDDB Element Ranks:**      **Global:** G2T2      SB\_UCSC-UC Santa Cruz  
      **State:** S2      USFS\_S-Sensitive

**General Habitat:** GREAT BASIN SCRUB, PINYON AND JUNIPER WOODLAND, LOWER MONTANE CONIFEROUS FOREST, MEADOWS AND SEEPS.      **Micro Habitat:** USUALLY IN LOAMY SOILS DERIVED FROM VOLCANICS. GRASSY AREAS W/IN SAGEBRUSH SCRUB OR OTHER COMMUNITIES. 1480-1985 M.

**Last Date Observed:** 1992-05-27      **Occurrence Type:** Natural/Native occurrence  
**Last Survey Date:** 1992-05-27      **Occurrence Rank:** Good  
**Owner/Manager:** PVT      **Trend:** Unknown  
**Presence:** Presumed Extant

**Location:** ABOUT 1.1 AIR MILE SOUTHEAST OF THE HIGHWAY 70/HIGHWAY 49 INTERSECTION IN VINTON, WSW OF CHILCOOT.

**Detailed Location:** ALONG JEEP TRAIL NEAR INTERSECTION WITH DIRT ROAD IN THE E 1/2 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 5.

**Ecological:**

SILVER SAGE FLAT WITH JUNCUS, CAREX, AGOSERIS GLAUCIA, IVA AXILLARIS, AND ACHILLEA.

**Threats:**

GRAZING.

**General:**

3 PLANTS OBSERVED IN 1992.

<b>PLSS:</b> T22N, R16E, Sec. 03, NE (M)	<b>Accuracy:</b> 80 meters	<b>Area (acres):</b> 0
<b>UTM:</b> Zone-10 N4408329 E742706	<b>Latitude/Longitude:</b> 39.79032 / -120.16552	<b>Elevation (feet):</b> 4,960

**County Summary:**      **Quad Summary:**

Plumas	Chilcoot (3912072)
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**Sources:**

SCH92F0047      SCHOOLCRAFT, G. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR IVESIA APERTA VAR. APERTA 1992-05-27



**Occurrence Report**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



<b>Map Index Number:</b>	25814	<b>EO Index:</b>	5547		
<b>Key Quad:</b>	Chilcoot (3912072)	<b>Element Code:</b>	PDROS0X0Q0		
<b>Occurrence Number:</b>	1	<b>Occurrence Last Updated:</b>	2020-06-05		
<b>Scientific Name:</b> <i>Ivesia webberi</i>		<b>Common Name:</b>	Webber's ivesia		
<b>Listing Status:</b>		<b>Rare Plant Rank:</b>	1B.1		
<b>CNDDB Element Ranks:</b>		<b>Other Lists:</b>	SB_CalBG/RSABG-California/Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive		
<b>Federal:</b> Threatened <b>State:</b> None		<b>Global:</b> G2 <b>State:</b> S1			
<b>General Habitat:</b> GREAT BASIN SCRUB, LOWER MONTANE CONIFEROUS FOREST, PINYON AND JUNIPER WOODLAND.		<b>Micro Habitat:</b> ROCKY OR GRAVELLY VOLCANIC SOILS. 1035-1920 M.			
<b>Last Date Observed:</b>	1998-08-26	<b>Occurrence Type:</b>	Natural/Native occurrence		
<b>Last Survey Date:</b>	2013-08-12	<b>Occurrence Rank:</b>	None		
<b>Owner/Manager:</b>	PVT, STATE, BLM	<b>Trend:</b>	Unknown		
<b>Presence:</b>	Possibly Extirpated				
<b>Location:</b> SLOPES EAST OF HIGHWAY 49 ABOUT 0.8 MILE EAST OF INTERSECTION WITH DYSON LANE, 8 MILES NORTH OF LOYALTON, SIERRA VALLEY.					
<b>Detailed Location:</b> MAPPED WITHIN THE MIDDLE OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF SECTION 16 AND THE SE 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 9.					
<b>Ecological:</b> SPARSELY VEGETATED, VERNALLY DAMP SWALES AND FLATS IN LOW SAGE SCRUB. ASSOCIATED WITH ARTEMISIA ARBUSCULA, TRIFOLIUM MACROCARPUM, ANTENNARIA DIMORPHA, ARENARIA, ERIOGONUM DOUGLASII, BROMUS, AND BALSAMORHIZA HOOKERI. ROCKY, VOLCANIC SOILS.					
<b>Threats:</b> LIVESTOCK GRAZING & TRAMPLING, ORV USE, INVASIVE SPECIES/ERODIUM CICUTARIUM, AND POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.					
<b>General:</b> 2000+ PLANTS OVER ENTIRE POPULATION IN 1990, 50 SEEN ON BLM PORTION OF SITE IN 1992, 10,000+ PLANTS IN 1998. NO PLANTS SEEN ON EITHER SIDE OF FENCE IN 2013; LIKELY EXTINCT. TYPE LOCALITY COLLECTED IN SIERRA VALLEY BY LEMMON IN 1873.					
<b>PLSS:</b> T22N, R16E, Sec. 16, N (M)	<b>Accuracy:</b>	specific area	<b>Area (acres):</b> 45		
<b>UTM:</b> Zone-10 N4405300 E740355	<b>Latitude/Longitude:</b>	39.76373 / -120.19406	<b>Elevation (feet):</b> 5,100		
<b>County Summary:</b>		<b>Quad Summary:</b>			
Plumas		Chilcoot (3912072)			



**Occurrence Report**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



**Sources:**

DUR90U0002	DURON, W. - SURVEY OF HISTORIC LOCATIONS FOR IVESIA WEBBERI ON THE PLUMAS AND TAHOE NATIONAL FORESTS. 1990-XX-XX
ERT89U0002	ERTTER, B. - COLLECTION LABELS/COLLECTION HISTORY FOR IVESIA WEBBERI 1989-02-XX
LEM73S0001	LEMMON, J. - LEMMON #13 NDG, DS #12498, CAS-BOT-BC #123384 (ALSO CITED IN ERT89U0002) 1873-05-10
LEM74S0002	LEMMON, J. - LEMMON SN GH #443851 1874-XX-XX
LOC13F0010	LOCKIE, V. (U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT) - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR IVESIA WEBBERI 2013-08-12
PLU79S0001	PLUMMER, S. - PLUMMER SN GH #443853 (ALSO CITED IN ERT89U0002) 1879-XX-XX
SCH92F0048	SCHOOLCRAFT, G. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR IVESIA WEBBERI 1992-05-27
SCH98F0067	SCHOOLCRAFT, G. - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR IVESIA WEBBERI 1998-08-26
WIT00R0001	WITHAM, C. - CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND CONSERVATION STATUS OF IVESIA WEBBERI, THE WEBBER IVESIA, IN NEVADA. 2000-11-01
WIT90F0026	WITHAM, C. & G. KAREOFELAS - FIELD SURVEY FORM FOR IVESIA WEBBERI 1990-05-24
WIT90S0002	WITHAM, C. & G. KAREOFELAS - WITHAM #146 UC #1561778 1990-05-24
WIT90U0002	WITHAM, C. - FINAL REPORT, FOCUSED FIELD SURVEY FOR IVESIA WEBBERI IN SIERRA VALLEY. 1990-08-02

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Plumas County, California



## Local office

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

📞 (916) 414-6600  
📠 (916) 414-6713

Federal Building  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

# Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> Wherever found There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321</a>	Threatened

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds  
<https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds  
<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
	<p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p>
Cassin's Finch <i>Carpodacus cassini</i>	Breeds May 15 to Jul 15
	<p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462</a></p>
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
	<p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</a></p>

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

#### Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

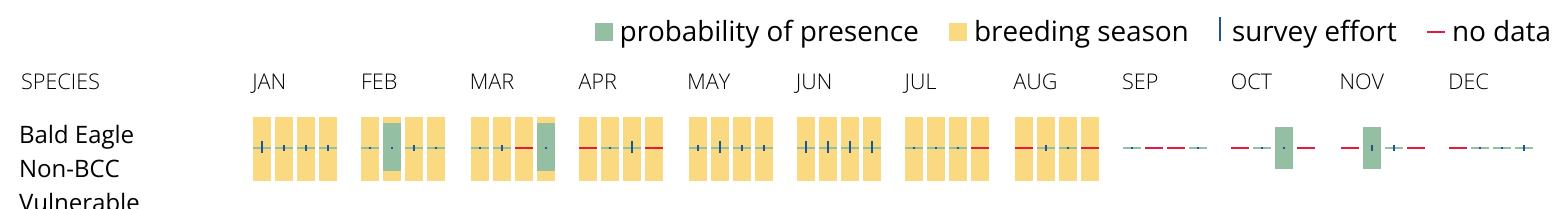
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### No Data (-)

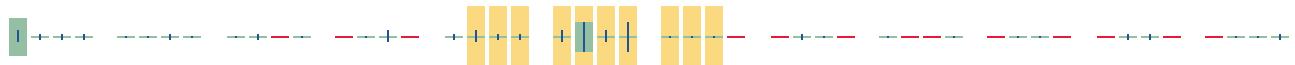
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

#### Survey Timeframe

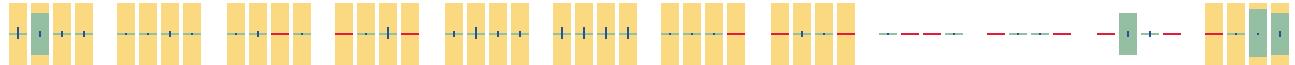
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Cassin's Finch  
BCC Rangewide  
(CON)



Golden Eagle  
Non-BCC  
Vulnerable



**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

**What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

**How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

**What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review.

Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

## Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

### **Data exclusions**

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubificid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.