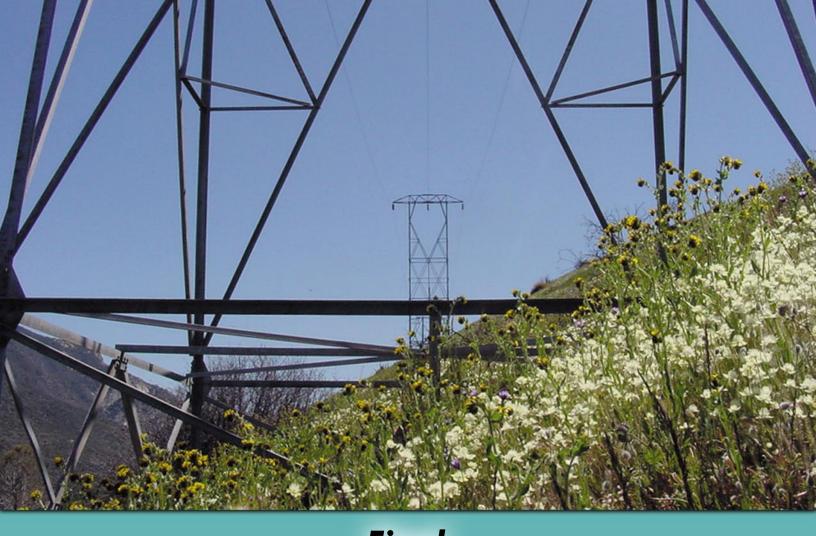
# Appendix 1. Biological Technical Report

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# Final Biological Technical Report for the Valley - Ivyglen Transmission Line Project Riverside County, California

(Volume I of II)

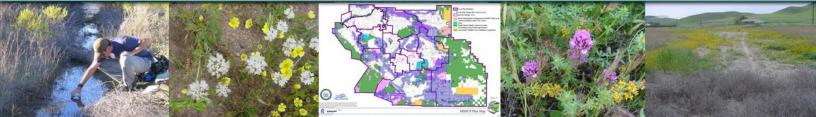
Prepared for: Southern California Edison Company 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue Rosemead, California 91770



Prepared by: AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc. 9210 Sky Park Court, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92123 (858) 300-4300



October 2006 Project No. 6151000801-1001



## FINAL BIOLOGICAL TECHNICAL REPORT FOR THE VALLEY-IVYGLEN TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

## VOLUME I OF II

Prepared for: Southern California Edison 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue Rosemead, California 91770

Submitted by: AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc. 9210 Sky Park Court, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92123 (858) 300-4300

October 2006

Project No. 6151000801-1001

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ACRO	NYMS		iv
EXEC		SUMMARY	.1
1.0	INTRO	DUCTION	.2
	1.1	Project Background	.2
	1.2	Project Description	.2
	1.3	Project Location	.5
	1.4	Regulatory Setting	.5
		1.4.1 Federal Regulations	.5
		1.4.2 State Regulations	.7
		1.4.3 Local Regulations	. 8
2.0	METH	ODOLOGY	5
	2.1	Sensitive Plant Species Surveys	17
	2.2	Sensitive Wildlife Surveys	17
		2.2.1 Burrowing Owl Surveys	17
3.0	SURVI	EY RESULTS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS	23
	3.1	Regional Overview	23
		3.1.1 Climate	23
		3.1.2 Soils	23
		3.1.3 Vegetation Communities	26
	3.2	Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Preferred Route and Alternatives	26
		3.2.1 Preferred Route	27
		3.2.2 Alternative Routes	
	3.3	Recommended Additional Surveys	11
4.0	ASSE	SSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS	2
	4.1	Thresholds for Determining Potential Significance	13
		4.1.1 Direct Impacts	14
		4.1.2 Indirect Impacts	
		4.1.3 Cumulative Impacts	16
5.0	AVOID	DANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES	6
6.0	REFE	RENCES	18

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.	Regional Project Location	3
Figure 2.	Project Vicinity	4
Figure 3.	Narrow Endemic Species Survey Area and Criteria Area Species Survey Area	i <b>. 12</b>
Figure 4.	Bird, Amphibian, and Mammal Survey Areas	13
Figure 5.	Land Ownership	24
Figure 6.	Sensitive Soils	25

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.	MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Additional Criteria Area Species	.11
Table 2.	Survey Dates, Personnel, and Methods	.16
Table 3.	Special-Status Plant Species Known to Occur or with the Potential to Occur in the Valley-Ivyglen Project Area	
Table 4.	Special-Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur or with the Potential to Occur the Valley-Ivyglen Project Area	
Table 5.	Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project Vegetation Communities	.26
Table 6.	Preferred Route Vegetation Communities	. 28
Table 7.	Alternative E-2 Vegetation Communities	. 30
Table 8.	Alternative C-2 Vegetation Communities	.31
Table 9.	Alternative C-5 Vegetation Communities	. 32
Table 10.	Alternative C-7 Vegetation Communities	. 33
Table 11.	Alternative W-2 Vegetation Communities	. 34
Table 12.	Alternative W-3 Vegetation Communities	. 35
Table 13.	Alternative W-5 Vegetation Communities	.36
Table 14.	Alternative W-6 Vegetation Communities	. 37
Table 15.	Alternative W-7. Vegetation Communities	. 38
Table X. Segr	nent 8 Vegetation Communities	. 39
Table X. Alte	rnative W-11 Vegetation Communities	.40
Table 16.	Alternative W-12 Vegetation Communities	.41
Table 17.	Recommended Additional Surveys	

## LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix A Plant Species Encountered
- Appendix B Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur in the Proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project
- Appendix C Western Riverside MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Plant Species
- Appendix D Animal Species Encountered
- Appendix E Vegetation Communities

## ACRONYMS

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CFGC	California Fish and Game Code
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CSC	California Special Concern Species
CWA	Clean Water Act
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EPD	Environmental Programs Department
FE	Federally Listed as Endangered
FSC	Federal Species of Concern
FT	Federally Listed Threatened
GPS	Geographic Position System
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
kV	Kilowatt
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MSHCP	Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
NEPSS	Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PEA	Proponent's Environmental Assessment
ROW	Right-of-Way
SCE	Southern California Edison
SE	State Listed as Endangered
ST	State Listed as Threatened
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Project:	Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project
Project Proponent:	Southern California Edison
Principal Investigator:	AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc.
	9210 Sky Park Court, Suite 200
	San Diego, California 92123

At the request of Southern California Edison (SCE), AMEC Earth & Environmental (AMEC) conducted a biological resources assessment for the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project which is designed to improve reliability and meet projected electrical load requirements in the western Riverside County area. The Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project involves the construction of a new 115kV transmission line which will connect the Valley Substation to the Ivyglen Substation. The Valley Substation is located in the southwest corner of an unincorporated area known as Romoland, adjacent to the city of Perris. The Ivyglen Substation is located in the southeastern portion of unincorporated Corona, along Temescal Canyon Road and near the Glen Ivy Hot Springs. The Ivyglen Substation is approximately 19 miles west of the Valley Substation.

The project area has been divided into one Preferred Route and ten alternative routes. The biological study area for the proposed project consists of a 200-foot wide corridor, 100 feet on each side of the proposed transmission line segments. The length of the biological study area is approximately 59 miles.

The project site is in the coverage area of the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The purpose of the biological resources assessment is to provide an overview-level assessment of the biological resources present and potentially present within the project area, evaluate consistency with the MSHCP, and to determine what focused sensitive species surveys or wetland/jurisdictional waters delineations may be necessary for further project review.

As a result of the biological resources assessment, it was determined that the following focused studies will be required for project consistency with the MSHCP:

- Focused surveys for MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species, MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species, and other California Native Plant Society (CNPS) listed species that are not covered by the MSHCP.
- Burrowing Owl Pre-Construction Surveys
- Delineations of jurisdictional waters/wetlands and MSHCP Riverine and Vernal Pool Habitats.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project Background

The purpose of this study is to document the biological resources associated with the Valleylvyglen Transmission Line Project which is designed to improve reliability and meet projected electrical load requirements in the western Riverside County area (Figure 1).

The proposed project is in the coverage area of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The MSHCP is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in western Riverside County.

## 1.2 **Project Description**

The Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project involves the construction of a new 115kV transmission line which will connect the Valley Substation to the Ivyglen Substation. This transmission line will be installed in an existing right-of-way (ROW) where available, and new ROWs where none exist. The Valley Substation is located in the southwest corner of an unincorporated area known as Romoland, adjacent to the city of Perris. The Ivyglen Substation is located in the southeastern portion of unincorporated Corona, along Temescal Canyon Road and near the Glen Ivy Hot Springs (Figure 2). The Ivyglen Substation is approximately 19 miles west of the Valley Substation.

The majority of the transmission poles will be 75 feet high; however, 80-foot and 85-foot high poles may be installed for clearance purposes. Pole spacing (spanning) will be determined by ground clearance, overhead clearance, wind loading per California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) standards, distance between angle points, and environmental constraints.

The project area has been divided into one Preferred Route and ten alternative routes. Each proposed route is illustrated in Volume II and described in Section 3.2 of this report. The biological study area for the proposed project consists of a 200-foot wide corridor, 100 feet on each side of the proposed transmission line segments. The length of the biological study area is approximately 59 miles.

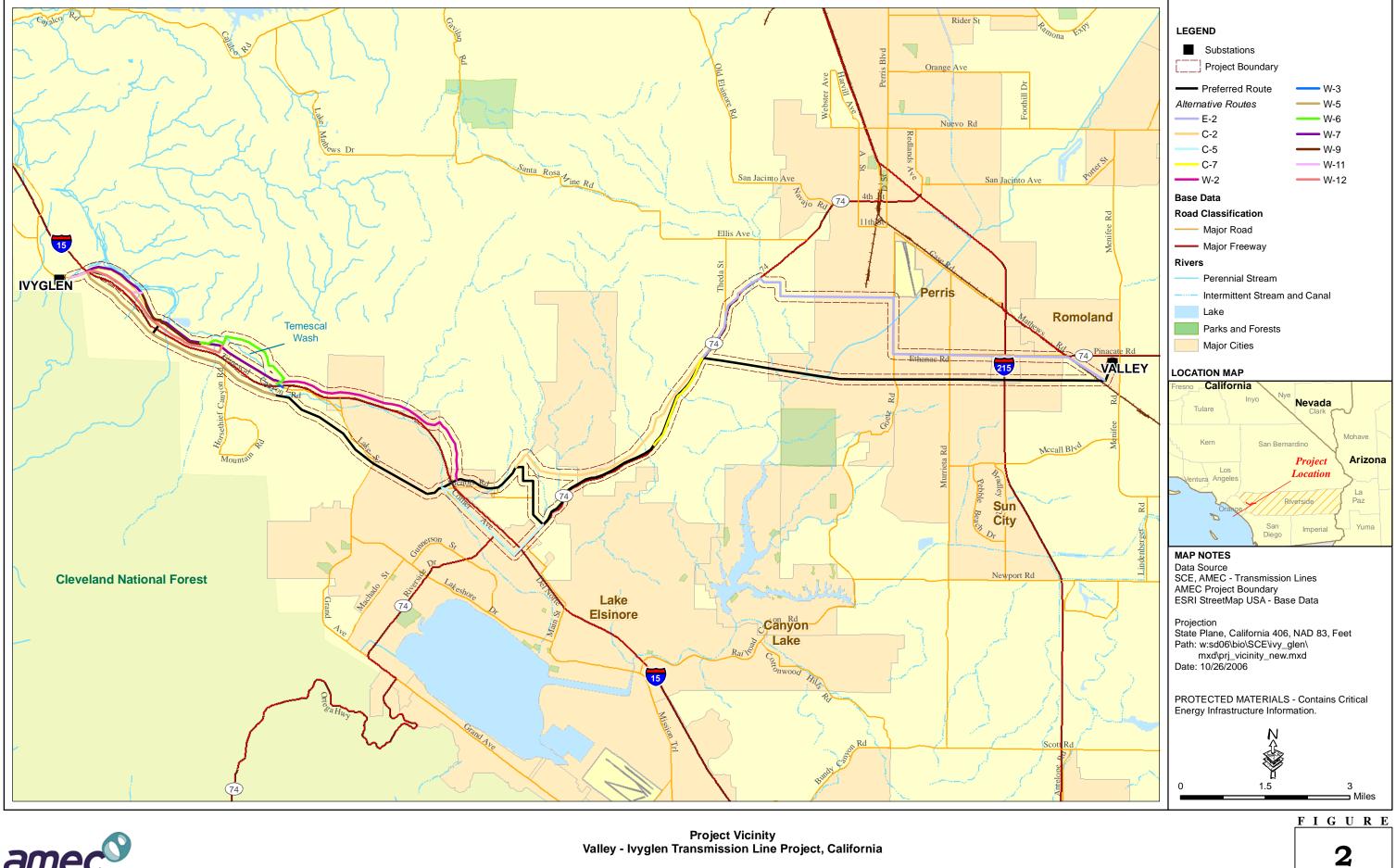
SCE engineers will select transmission line routes based on well-located sites that will minimize or avoid any impacts to sensitive environmental resources. Route selection will influence equipment and construction, pole types, pole height, and other factors. Therefore, potential impacts may vary according to the routes which are selected for construction. The chosen routes will determine the transmission route alternatives for analysis in the required Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA).

The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project would also require construction of a new communication path which would connect the Ivyglen Substation to the Valley Substation. This communication path is required for communication and monitoring of the substation and subtransmission line equipment. Along most of the telecommunication route, fiber optic cable



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Regional Project Location Valley - Ivyglen Transmission Line Project, California 1





will be installed overhead on the new Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV structures. The telecommunication line construction activities would begin after new Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV subtransmission line structures are installed. Some sections of the fiber optic line will be installed underground by the use of trenching and/or boring methods.

The trenching method would involve installing the underground conduit through a 5-inch PVC conduit that will be place in an excavated trench (18 inches wide and 36 inches deep) which will be dug using a backhoe. Areas where boring will be utilized to install the fiber optic telecommunication line would initially involve the excavation of a 6 foot by 8 foot hole. A boring machine will then be placed within the hole and drilling tube wherein the conduit will be placed would be inserted in the ground by the machine. Areas along the Preferred Route where these methods will be used are identified in Section 3.2 of this report.

## 1.3 Project Location

The proposed project is located in western Riverside County; the proposed transmission line routes also traverse unincorporated Riverside County, and the cities of Lake Elsinore, Corona, Perris, Sun City, and Canyon Lake, California. The proposed routes also traverse through portions of the following U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangles: Corona South, Lake Matthews, Steele Peak, Perris, Lakeview, Santiago Peak, Alberhill, Lake Elsinore, Romoland, Winchester, Sitton Peak, and Wildomar.

## 1.4 Regulatory Setting

## 1.4.1 Federal Regulations

# 1.4.1.1 Federal Regulation of Waters of the United States, Including Wetlands (Clean Water Act Sections 404 and 401)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps or USACE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into "*waters of the United States*", including wetlands, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The USACE has defined the term "wetlands" as follows:

"Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstance do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas."

Some classes of fill activities may be authorized under general permits if specific conditions are met. Projects that would result in the placement of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. require a Section 404 permit from the Corps. Utility line construction activities that result in the placement of fill into waters of the U.S. may be authorized under Section 404 Nationwide Permit 12 (at the discretion of the Corps). Nationwide Permit 12 also notes that overhead utility lines constructed over navigable waters of the United States require a Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 permit. The general definition of navigable waters of the United States includes those waters of the United States that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide shoreward to

the mean high water mark, and/or are presently used or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible to use to transport interstate or foreign commerce. Nationwide permits do not authorize activities that are likely to jeopardize the existence of a threatened or endangered species (listed or proposed for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act) or that may affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (56 FR 59134, November 22, 1991). In addition to conditions outlined under each nationwide permit, project-specific conditions may be required by the Corps as part of the Section 404 permitting process.

Section 401 of the CWA requires the issuance of a water quality certification or waiver thereof for all Section 404 nationwide or individual permits issued by the Corps. The EPA has deferred water quality certification authority to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The federal government also supports a policy of minimizing "*the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands*." Executive Order 11990 (May 24, 1977) requires that each federal agency take action to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.

## 1.4.1.2 Federal Policies on Riparian Communities in California

Riparian communities have a variety of functions, including providing high-quality habitat for resident and migrant wildlife, streambank stabilization, and runoff water filtration. Throughout the United States, riparian habitats have declined substantially in extent and quality compared with their historical distribution and condition. These declines have increased concerns about dependent plant and wildlife species, which consequently, has lead federal agencies to adopt policies to arrest further loss. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) mitigation policy identifies California's riparian habitats as belonging to resource Category 2, for which no net loss of existing habitat value is recommended (46 FR 7644, January 23, 1981).

## 1.4.1.3 Federal Endangered Species Act

The USFWS and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries oversee the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Sections 9 and 4(d) of the ESA prohibit the "*take*" of any fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened, including the destruction of habitat that could hinder species recovery. The ESA defines take as, "*to harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect listed animal species, or attempt to engage in such conduct.*" The Section 9 take prohibition of the ESA applies only to wildlife and fish species. Section 9 also prohibits the removal, possession, damage, or destruction of any endangered plant from federal lands. Section 9 further prohibits acts to remove, cut, dig up, damage, or destroy an endangered plant species in non-federal areas in knowing violation of any state law or in the course of criminal trespass.

Candidate species and species that are proposed for listing receive no protection under the ESA. The USFWS has jurisdiction over plants, wildlife, and resident fish; NOAA Fisheries has jurisdiction over anadromous fish, marine fish, and marine mammals. Section 7 of the Act mandates that all federal agencies consult with the USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries to ensure

that federal agencies' actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or adversely modify critical habitat for listed species.

Under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, permits to authorize "*incidental take*" of listed species may be issued. "*Incidental take*" is defined by the ESA as take that is incidental to, and not for the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. To obtain a take permit, an applicant must submit a HCP outlining what will be done to minimize and mitigate the impact of the permitted take on the listed species. The underlying principle of Section 10 exemption from the ESA is that some individuals of a species or portions of their habitat may be expendable over the short term, as long as enough protection is provided to ensure the long-term recovery of the species.

## 1.4.1.4 Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) states that without a permit issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior, it is unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, transport, import, or kill any migratory bird. A list of migratory bird species protected by the MBTA appears in 50 CFR 10.13.

## 1.4.1.5 Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (The Eagle Act) amended in 1962, was originally implemented for the protection of bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). In 1962, Congress amended the Eagle Act to cover golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*), a move that was partially an attempt to strengthen protection of bald eagles, since the latter were often killed by people mistaking them for golden eagles. This act makes it illegal to import, export, take (which includes molest or disturb), sell, purchase, or barter any bald eagle or golden eagle or part thereof. The golden eagle, however, is accorded somewhat lighter protection under the Eagle Act than the bald eagle (USFWS 2006b).

## 1.4.2 State Regulations

## 1.4.2.1 State Regulation of Waters

The CDFG regulates activities that would interfere with the natural flow of, or substantially alter, the channel, bed, or bank of a lake, river, or stream. Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code (CFGC) requires notification of the CDFG for lake or stream alteration activities. If, after notification is complete, the CDFG determines that the activity may substantially adversely affect an existing fish and wildlife resource, the CDFG has authority to issue a streambed alteration agreement under Section 1603 of the CFGC. Requirements to protect the integrity of biological resources and water quality are often conditions of streambed alteration agreements. These may include avoidance or minimization of heavy equipment use within stream zones, limitations on work periods to avoid impacts to wildlife and fisheries resources, and measures to restore degraded sites or compensate for permanent habitat losses.

## 1.4.2.2 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

The RWQCB implements water quality regulations under the federal CWA and the State Porter-Cologne Act. These regulations require compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), including compliance with the California Storm Water NPDES General Construction Permit for discharges of storm water runoff associated with construction activity. General Construction Permits for projects that disturb one or more acres of land require development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

## 1.4.2.3 California Endangered Species Act

California implemented its own Endangered Species Act (CESA) in 1984. The state act prohibits the take of state-listed endangered and threatened species; however, habitat destruction is not included in the state's definition of take. Section 2090 of CESA requires state agencies to comply with endangered species protection and recovery and to promote conservation of these species. The CDFG administers the act and authorizes take through Section 2081 agreements (except for designated "fully protected species"). Regarding listed rare and endangered plant species, CESA defers to the California Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) of 1977, which prohibits importing of rare and endangered plants into California, and the taking and selling of rare and endangered plants. The CESA includes an additional listing category for threatened plants which are not regulated under the NPPA. In this case, plants listed as rare or endangered under the NPPA are not protected under CESA but can be protected under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition, plants that are not state-listed but meet the state standards for listing, are also protected under CEQA (Guidelines, Section 15380). In practice, this is generally interpreted to mean that all species on lists 1B and 2 of the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (CNPS 2006) potentially qualify for protection under CEQA, and some species on lists 3 and 4 of the CNPS Inventory may qualify for protection under CEQA. List 3 includes plants for which more information is needed on taxonomy or distribution. Some of these are rare and endangered enough to gualify for protection under CEQA. List 4 includes plants of limited distribution that may qualify for protection if their abundance and distribution characteristics are found to meet the state standards for listing.

## 1.4.2.4 California Fish and Game Code Bird Protections

Section 3503 of the CFGC prohibits destruction of the nests or eggs of most native resident and migratory bird species. Section 3503.5 of the CFGC specifically prohibits the taking of raptors or destruction of their nests or eggs.

## 1.4.3 Local Regulations

### 1.4.3.1 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project is in the coverage area of the Western Riverside County MSHCP which serves as a HCP pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, as well as a Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the NCCP Act of 2001. The MSHCP, which was adopted by the County of Riverside on 17 June 2003, is one of several

large, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation planning efforts in Southern California with the overall goal of maintaining biological diversity within a rapidly urbanizing region. The MSHCP will allow Riverside County and participating cities to better control local land-use decisions and maintain a strong economic climate in the region while addressing the requirements of the ESA and CESA.

The MSHCP aims to create a 500,000-acre Conservation Area from approximately 347,000 acres of existing public lands and 153,000 acres of existing private land within the 1.26-million-acre MSHCP area (1,966 square miles). It includes all unincorporated Riverside County land west of the crest of the San Jacinto Mountains to the Orange County line, as well as the jurisdictional areas of the cities of Temecula, Murrieta, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, Norco, Corona, Riverside, Moreno Valley, Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Perris, Hemet, and San Jacinto. It covers multiple species and multiple habitats within a diverse landscape, from urban centers to undeveloped foothills and montane forests.

The MSHCP provides a conservation area for 146 special-status species, including federal and state listed endangered and threatened species, and provides incidental take permits for development projects that impact these conserved "covered" species. Under the MSHCP, the USFWS and CDFG (collectively known as the "Wildlife Agencies") will grant "*Take Authorization*" for otherwise lawful actions, such as public and private development that may incidentally take or harm individual species or their habitat outside of the MSHCP Conservation Area in exchange for the assembly and management of a coordinated MSHCP Conservation Area.

The MSHCP Conservation Area is designated within a significantly larger MSHCP Criteria Area. This Criteria Area is intended to facilitate the process by which the county or cities will evaluate property that may be included in the MSHCP Conservation Area after the plan is implemented. The Criteria Area is an analytical tool which assists in determining which properties to evaluate for acquisition, and conservation under the MSHCP and does not impose land use restrictions. The Criteria Area is mapped as cells of approximately 160 acres that are formed by overlaying USGS quarter sections on the Criteria Area. Each cell is uniquely identified and has specific conservation criteria. Some of the cells are grouped into subunits of the Criteria Area.

The overall 1.26 million acre MSHCP area is subdivided into 16 Area Plans, each of which include Criteria Area cells. Each Area Plan has specific protection measures, criteria, and surveys that are required for a proposed development plan to comply with the MSHCP. The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line lies within the Temescal Canyon, Elsinore, Lake Matthews/Woodcrest, Mead Valley, and Sun City/Menifee Area Plans of the MSHCP.

For land use projects within the Criteria Areas, the county's Environmental Programs Department (EPD) administers the Property Owner Initiated Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy (HANS) and ensures project level consistency with other elements of the MSHCP. The HANS process applies to property which may be needed for inclusion in the MSHCP Conservation Area or subjected to other MSHCP criteria and shall be implemented by the county and those cities that have agreed to implement the HANS process. Based on

current mapping, portions of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line are within Criteria Area cells, and thus will be subject to the HANS process.

A parcel outside the Criteria Areas generally does not require any type of habitat assessment, unless the parcel is within a required plant/animal survey area. With certain covered species, existing data is not sufficient to meet ESA Section 10(a) issuance criteria for take authorization.

### **MSHCP Biological Surveys**

Of the 146 species covered by the MSHCP, no surveys are required by applicants for public and private projects for 106 of these Covered Species. There are 40 species for which surveys may be required by applicants for public and private development projects, including 4 birds, 3 mammals, 3 amphibians, 3 crustaceans, 14 narrow endemic plants, and 13 other sensitive plants within the Criteria Area. Of these species, surveys will be required within suitable habitat areas in locations identified on MSHCP survey maps (Section 6.0 of the MSHCP) and avoidance and minimization measures implemented in accordance with the species-specific objectives for those species. The possibility exists that surveys may be avoided if the project is designed to avoid identified species and their associated habitats.

### Narrow Endemic Plant Species Surveys and Criteria Area Species Surveys

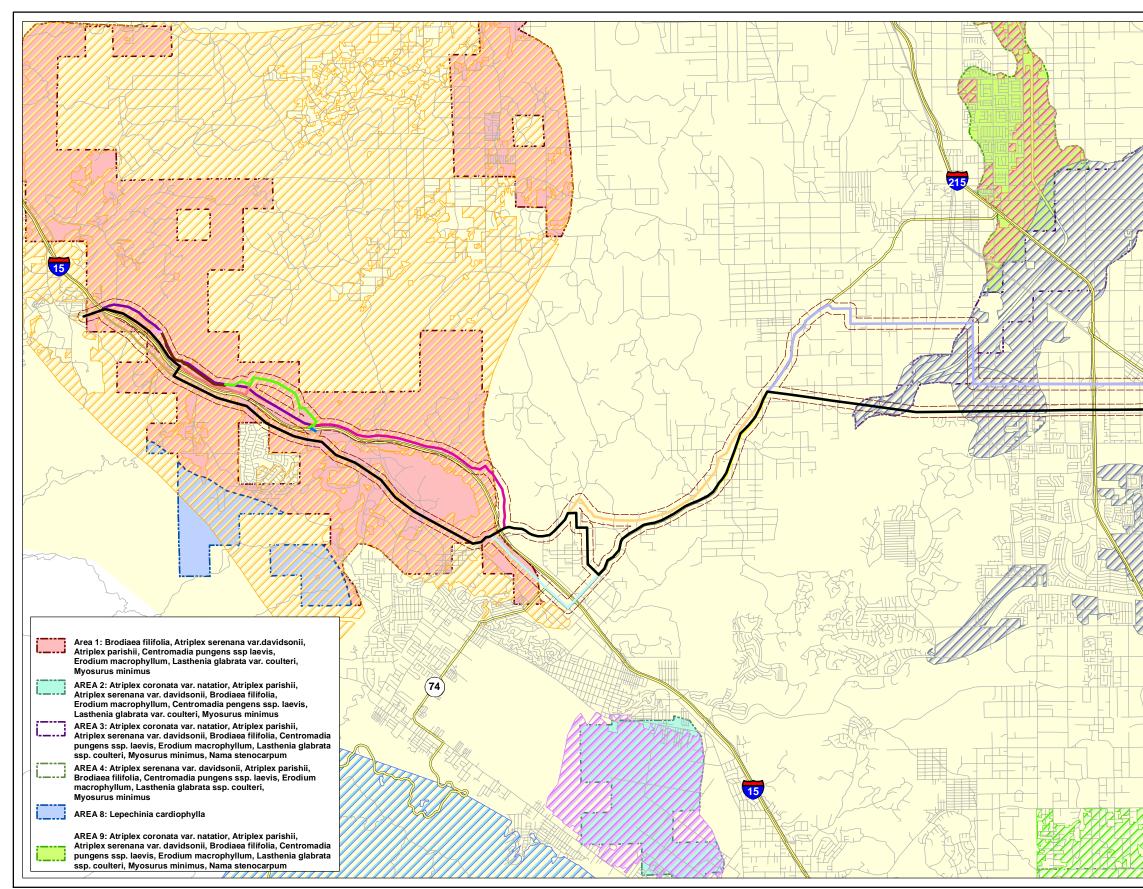
The Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project lies within identified MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey Areas (Figure 3). Within these areas, site-specific focused surveys for Narrow Endemic Plant Species (Table 1) shall be required for all public and private projects where appropriate habitat is present.

In addition to the Narrow Endemic Plant Species, other surveys are needed for specific species "Criteria Area Species" (Table 1) in conjunction with the MSHCP. The Additional Survey Needs and Procedures policies presented in Section 6.3.2 of the MSHCP outlines these habitats and species. Additional surveys shall be conducted within suitable habitat for these species in the MSHCP Criteria Area (Figure 3).

The MSHCP also specifies areas that need to be surveyed for specific amphibian, bird, and mammal species (Figure 5). The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project does not traverse any of the areas depicted on the Amphibian and Mammal Survey Areas within the Criteria Area. However, the project does include areas which include Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) Survey Areas (Figure 4).

MSHCP Narrow En	demic Plant Species	MSHCP Criteria Area Species		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	
Allium marvinii	Yucaipa Onion	Atriplex coronata var. notatior	San Jacinto Valley Crownscale	
Allium munzii	Munz's Onion	Atriplex parishii	Parish's Brittlescale	
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego Ambrosia	Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's Saltscale	
Arabis johnstonii	Johnston's Rockcress	Berberis nevinii	Nevin's Barberry	
Calochortus palmer var. munzii	Munz's Mariposa lily	Brodiaea filifolia	Thread-Leaved Brodiaea	
Dodecahema leptoceras	Slender-Horned Spine Flower	Ceanothus ophiochilus	Vail Lake Ceanothus	
Dudleya multicaulis	Many-Stemmed Dudleya	Erodium macrophyllum	Round-Leaved Filaree	
Galium angustifolium ssp. jacinticum	San Jacinto Mountains Bedstraw	Centromadia pungens	Smooth Tarplant	
Navarretia fossalis	Spreading Navarretia	Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	Coulter's Goldfields	
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt Grass	Lepechinia cardiophylla	Heart-Leaved Pitcher Sage	
Phacelia stellaris	Brands Phacelia	Myosurus minimus	Little Mousetail	
Satureja chandleri	San Miguel Savory	Nama stenocarpum	Mud Nama	
Sibaropsis hammittii	Hammitt's Clay-Cress	Navarretia prostrata	Prostrate Navarretia	
Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii	Wright's Trichocoronis			

## Table 1. MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Additional Criteria Area Species





Narrow Endemic Species Survey Area and Criteria Area Species Survey Area Valley - Ivyglen Transmission Line Project, California



#### LEGEND

**Riverside MSHCP** 

MSHCP Boundary

#### Narrow Endemic Plant Species Survey

Allium munzii, Ambrosia pumila, Dodecahema leptoceras, Dudleya multicaulis Navarretia fossalis, Orcuttia californica, Satureja chandleri, Sibaropsis hammittii, Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii Allium munzii, Ambrosia pumila, Dudleya multicaulis, Navarretia fossalis, Orcuttia californica, Sibaropsis Hammittii, Trichocoronis wrightii var wrightii Allium munzii, Ambrosia pumila, Dudleya multicaulis, Navarretia fossalis, Orcuttia californica, Trichocoronis wrightii var wrightii Allium munzii, Ambrosia pumila, Dudleya multicaulis, Navarretia fossalis, Orcuttia californica, Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii Dudleya multicaulis, Orcuttia californica, Navarretia fossalis, Satureja chandleri, Sibaropsis hammittii, Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii

Ambrosia pumila, Dudleya multicaulis, Navarretia fossalis, Orcuttia californica, Trichocoronis wrightii var wrightii

#### Project Data

Project Boundary

Preferred Route	<b>—</b> W-3
Alternative Routes	<b>—</b> W-5
E-2	—— W-6
C-2	<b>—</b> W-7
C-5	<b>—</b> W-9
C-7	—— W-11
W-2	—— W-12

#### Base Data

- Major Freeways
  - Roads

#### MAP NOTES

Data Source: AMEC - Project Boundary RCIP - Riverside MSHCP SCE - Proposed Segment, Base Data Projection: State Plane, California 406

NAD 83, Feet Path: w\sd06\bio\SCE\ivy\_glen\mxd\ MSHCP\_NESSA\_new.mxd Date: 10/30/2006

PROTECTED MATERIALS - Contains Critical Energy Infrastructure Information.

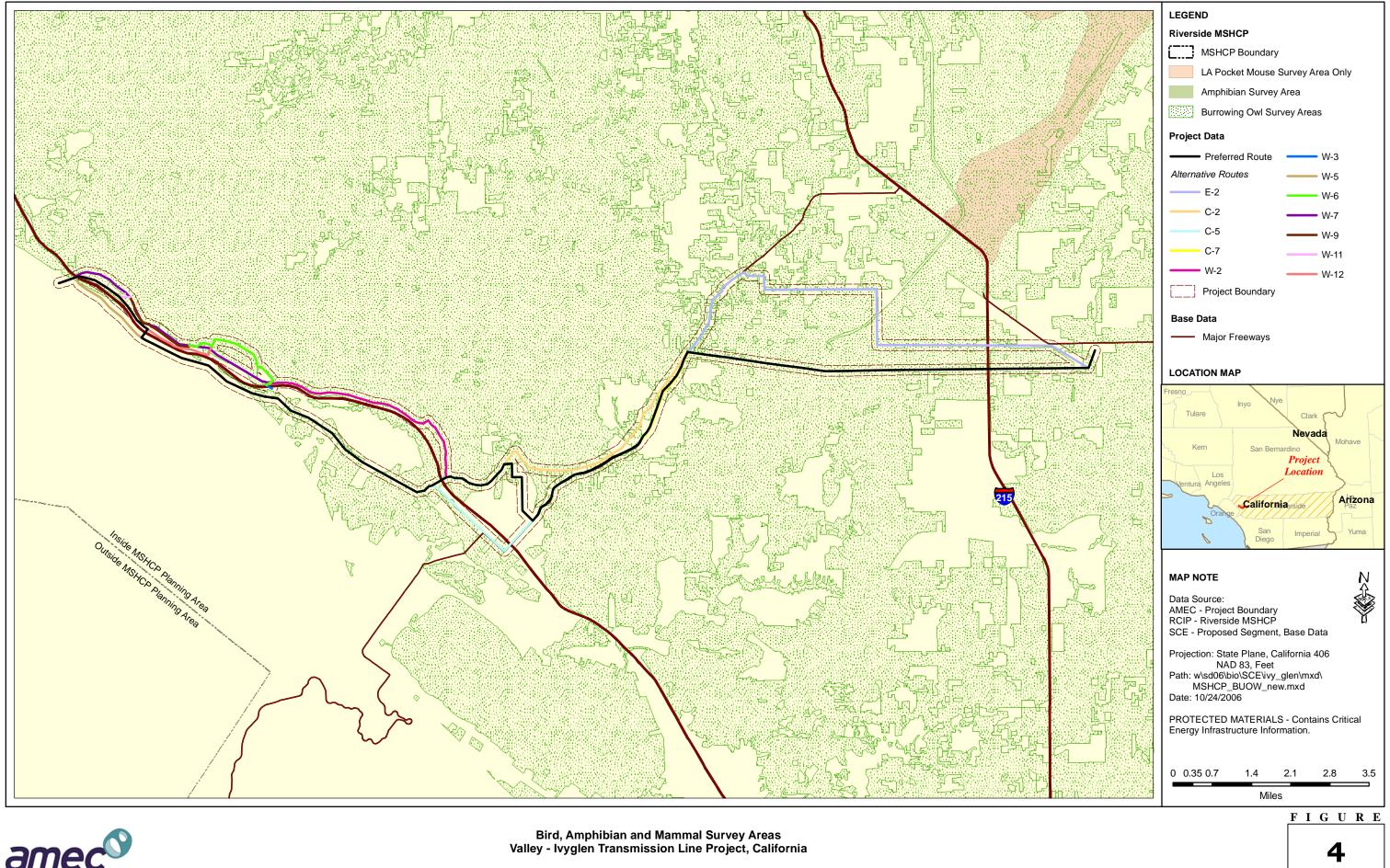




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## MSHCP Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools

The MSHCP requires site surveys of riparian, riverine, and vernal pool resources in order to conserve these resources and the species that use them. The MSHCP does not replace existing federal and state regulations covering lakes, streams, vernal pools and other wetland areas. Thus, projects must comply with existing regulations for these resources. An assessment of the potentially significant effects of projects on riparian/riverine areas, and vernal pools, shall be performed as currently required by CEQA.

Section 6.1.2 *Protection of Species Associated with Riparian/Riverine Areas and Vernal Pools* of the MSHCP defines Riparian/Riverine Areas and vernal pools as follows:

- Riparian/Riverine Areas are lands which contain habitat dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year.
- Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation, and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season, but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season. Obligate hydrophytes and facultative wetlands plant species are normally dominant during the wetter portion of the growing season, while upland species (annuals) may be dominant during the drier portion of the growing season.

In addition to mapping vernal pools, the MSHCP requires mapping of stock ponds, ephemeral pools, and other features which may be suitable habitat for Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), and Santa Rosa fairy shrimp (*Linderiella santarosae*).

If surveys find these resources on a project site, these resources may be conserved through inclusion in the Conservation Area during the HANS process. The MSHCP describes a strategy of impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation for these resources. The MSHCP further requires that long-term conservation of these areas is assured, and recommends that indirect impacts be reviewed to provide protection for these areas.

### MSHCP Habitat Suitability Assessments

The MSHCP states that "prior to conducting surveys for Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species, habitat suitability assessments may be undertaken by a biologist/botanist with expertise in the plant species of concern to determine whether focused surveys for individual species are required and to focus the species-specific survey efforts."

In general, habitat suitability assessments may be undertaken year-round, with the exception of vernal pool species for which habitat suitability assessments must be conducted during the rainy season. For species with specific known reliance on rainfall and hydrology affinities, completion of a habitat suitability assessment and/or focused survey with negative results shall be sufficient to satisfy survey requirements for those species during years with at least normal rainfall.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

Prior to the field survey, records from the CDFG's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) *RareFind3* (CNDDB 2005) and the CNPS' *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants* (CNPS 2006) were reviewed for potential occurrence of any sensitive species or habitats within the quadrangles wherein the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project lies. In addition, a previous study conducted within the project area, *Draft Biological Resources Report Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project Riverside County, California* (Entrix, Inc. 2005) was reviewed.

Based on this review, a list of potentially occurring special-status plants and animals was prepared for the study area. Plant and animal taxa were considered to be special-status species if they were classified as one or more of the following:

- Officially listed by California or the federal government as endangered, threatened, or rare;
- A candidate for State or Federal listing as endangered, threatened, or rare;
- Taxa listed in the CNPS' Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California;
- Taxa which meet the criteria for listing, even if not currently included on any list, as described in Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines;
- Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species; and
- Taxa that are biologically rare, very restricted in distribution, or declining (CDFG 2006).

Field maps were created prior to field visits (1 inch = 400 feet) which depicted the aerial view of each proposed transmission line segment and included known sensitive species CNDDB data points. Potentially occurring habitats for special-status species were identified prior to field investigations through aerial photo-interpretation and consultations with SCE staff biologists.

Between 24 April and 22 August 2006 AMEC biologists, Patrick McConnell, Chester McGaugh and Nathan Moorhatch conducted biological surveys and habitat suitability assessments within the preferred transmission line segment and nine alternative routes.

Surveys were conducted in order to assess the biological resources and potential impacts to biological resources which are associated with the proposed transmission line project. Surveyed areas included a 200-foot-wide corridor centered on the segment. The survey efforts documented the following:

- 1. General biological characteristics of the each segment corridor;
- 2. Presence of any listed or special-status species;
- 3. Vegetation communities;
- 4. Flora and fauna species inventories;
- 5. Habitat suitability for MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species;

- 6. Habitat suitability for MSHCP Criteria Area Plant Species;
- 7. Habitat suitability for other listed species that are not included in the MSHCP;
- 8. Habitat suitability and presence/absence surveys for burrowing owls;
- 9. MSHCP vernal pool and riparian/riverine habitats; and
- 10. USACE and CDFG jurisdictional areas.

As part of the proposed project, a telecommunication route will also be installed along the Preferred Route. Areas where telecommunication construction activities will involve trenching and/ or boring activities associated with the installation of the telecommunication line were additionally surveyed. These five locations along the Preferred Route were surveyed to include a 500-foot area.

Data was collected by numerous techniques including the use of a hand-held global positioning system (GPS), standardized data forms, photographs, and aerial field maps. Surveys were conducted according to Table 2, which indicates the surveyed segments, personnel involved, and date.

Proposed Routes	Surveyor	Date (2006)	Foot Survey	Windshield Survey	Inaccessible
Preferred Route	P.M.;C.M.	04/25, 4/26, 04/27, 05/02, 05/03	✓	✓	
Alternative E-2	P.M.;N.M.	4/27, 05/02, 05/03	✓	~	
Alternative C-1	P.M.;C.M.	4/27 , 05/02, 05/03	✓	✓	
Alternative C-5	P.M.;N.M.	4/27 , 05/02, 05/03	✓	✓	
Alternative C-7	P.M.;N.M.	4/27 , 05/02, 05/03		~	
Alternative W-2	P.M.;N.M.	05/03, 05/04	✓	~	✓
Alternative W-3	P.M.;N.M.	04/27, 05/02	~	~	
Alternative W-5	P.M.;N.M.	04/26, 4/27	~		
Alternative W-6	P.M.;N.M.	04/27, 05/02	~	~	
Alternative W-7	P.M.;N.M.	04/24, 04/25, 05/03, 05/04	~	~	
Alternative W-9	P.M.;N.M.	05/02, 05/03	✓	✓	
Alternative W-11	P.M.;N.M.	05/02, 05/03	✓	✓	
Alternative W-12	P.M.;N.M.	04/24, 04/25, 04/26	~	~	

Table 2. Survey Dates, Personnel, and Methods

C.M. = Chester McGaugh; AMEC Wildlife Biologist

N.M. = Nathan Moorhatch; AMEC Wildlife Biologist

P.M. = Patrick McConnell; AMEC Botanist

## 2.1 Sensitive Plant Species Surveys

Botanical surveys of the transmission line Preferred Route and Alternative routes were conducted following the CDFG *Guidelines for Assessing the Effects of Proposed Project on Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants and Natural Communities* (CDFG 2006) and the CNPS *Botanical Survey Guidelines* (CNPS 2001). Botanical surveys were performed when most plant species would be detectable.

Areas with potential habitat for special-status species (i.e., mesic sites, rocky outcrops, gabbroic soils, etc.) to occur were surveyed on foot. Other areas were surveyed by vehicle in areas where there was little to no potential for occurrence or in highly disturbed areas. Plant species were noted along each proposed route during field surveys (Appendix A).

Vegetation communities along each proposed transmission line route were described according to the MSHCP Conservation Area descriptions (County of Riverside 2003), and dominant plant species and community structure were recorded. Wetlands, streams, and/or vernal pools were also noted.

According to the CNPS *Electronic Inventory of Rare or Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (CNPS 2006) and the CDFG *RareFind3* database, 51 special-status plant species are known to occur or have the potential to occur in the general vicinity of the proposed Valley- Ivyglen project (Table 3).

Additional information on special-status species, such as habitat needs, flowering periods, potential for occurrence within the project area, and MSHCP coverage is provided in Appendix B. Species accounts are also provided for MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area species (Appendix C).

## 2.2 Sensitive Wildlife Surveys

Reconnaissance wildlife surveys were conducted in conjunction with vegetation mapping and sensitive plant species surveys for sensitive wildlife known to occur within the vicinity of the study area and/or that have the potential to occur in the study area (Table 4). The project area was traversed on foot to survey each vegetation community and look for evidence for wildlife presence. All wildlife and wildlife signs, including tracks, fecal material, nests, and vocalizations were noted (Appendix D). All sensitive wildlife species encountered were mapped and added to a GIS database.

### 2.2.1 Burrowing Owl Surveys

Habitat on each proposed transmission line route was also assessed for burrowing owl presence, use, and potential use. Burrowing owl habitat assessment surveys were conducted according to the CDFG *Burrowing Owl Consortium Guidelines* (CDFG 1993) and the *Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area* (County of Riverside 2006).

Areas with potential burrowing owl habitat, including grasslands, sage scrub, and low growing vegetation were surveyed for potential owl burrows and owls. These surveys included ground squirrel and ground squirrel burrow surveys. Biologists walked areas of potential habitat while searching for burrowing owls, potential and active burrows, and owl sign such as feathers, pellets, and prey items.

Surveys were conducted to allow 100 percent visual coverage of potential habitat. The survey area included a 500-foot buffer area from the center line of each route. The guidelines require that, if the project site contains burrows that could be used by burrowing owls, survey efforts should be directed towards determining owl presence.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status CNPS/Federal/State/County
Abronia villosa var. aurita	Chaparral Sand-Verbena	1B.1/-/-/-
Allium munzii	Munz's Onion	1B.1/FE/ST/NES
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego Ambrosia	1B.1/FE/-/NES
Arctostaphylos rainbowensis	Rainbow Manzanita	1B.1/-/-/CS
Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri	Jaeger's Milk-Vetch	1B.1/-/-/CS
Atriplex coronata var. notatior	San Jacinto Valley Crownscale	1B.1/FE/-/CAS
Atriplex coulteri	Coulter's Saltbush	1B.2/-/-/CS
Atriplex pacifica	South Coast Saltscale	1B.2/-/-/CS
Atriplex parishii	Parish's Brittlescale	1B.1/-/-/CAS
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's Saltscale	1B.2/-/-/CAS
Brodiaea filifolia	Thread-Leaved Brodiaea	1B.1/FT SE/CAS
Brodiaea orcuttii	Orcutt's Brodiaea	1B.1/-/-/CS
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's Mariposa Lily	1B.2/-/-/CS
Calochortus weedii var. intermedius	Intermediate Mariposa Lily	1B.2/-/-/CS
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis	Smooth Tarplant	1B.1/-/-/CS
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi	Parry's Spineflower	3.2/-/-/CS
Chorizanthe polygonoides var. longispina	Long-Spined Spineflower	1B.2/-/-/CS
Chorizanthe xanti var. leucotheca	White-Bracted Spineflower	1B.2-/-/-
Comarostaphylis diversifolia ssp. diversifolia	Summer Holly	1B.2/-/-/-
Convolvulus simulans	Small-Flowered Morning Glory	4.2/-/-/CS
Cupressus forbesii	Tecate Cypress	1B.1/-/-/CS
Dodecahema leptoceras	Slender-Horned Spineflower	1B.1/FE/SE/NES
Dudleya cymosa ssp. ovatifolia	Santa Monica Mountains Dudleya	1B.2/FT/NC
Dudleya multicaulis	Many-Stemmed Dudleya	1B.2/NES
Dudleya viscida	Sticky Dudleya	1B.2/-/-/CS
Erodium macrophyllum	Round-Leaved Filaree	2.1/CAS
Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii	San Diego Button-Celery	1B.1/FE/SE
Hordeum intercedens	Vernal Barley	3.2/-/-/CS
Harpagonella palmeri	Palmer's grapplinghook	4.2/-/-/CS
Horkelia cuneata ssp. puberula	Mesa Horkelia	1B.1/-/-/-
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	Coulter's Goldfields	1B.1/-/-/CAS
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii	Robinson's Pepper-Grass	1B.2/-/-/CS
Lepechinia cardiophylla	Heart-Leaved Pitcher Sage	1B.2/-/-/CAS

# Table 3.Special-Status Plant Species Known to Occur or with the Potential<br/>to Occur in the Valley-Ivyglen Project Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status CNPS/Federal/State/County
Limnanthes gracilis ssp. parishii	Parish's Meadowfoam	1B.2/-/ST/CS
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. lanata	Felt-Leaved Monardella	1B.2/-/-/-
Monardella macrantha ssp. hallii	Hall's Monardella	1B.3/-/-/CS
Myosurus minimus ssp. apus	Little Mousetail	3.1/-/-/CAS
Navarretia fossalis	Spreading Navarretia	1B.1/FT/-/CS
Navarretia prostrata	Prostrate Navarretia	1B.1/NC/CAS
Nolina cismontanas	Chaparral Nolina	1B.2/-/-/-
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt Grass	1B.1/FE/SE/NES
Phacelia suaveolens ssp. keckii	Santiago Peak Phacelia	1B.3/-/-/CS
Satureja chandleri	San Miguel Savory	1B.2/-/-/NES
Senecio aphanactis	Rayless Ragwort	2.2/-/-/-
Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. austromontana	Southern Skullcap	1B.2-/-/CS
Sibaropsis hammittii	Hammitt's Clay-Cress	1B.2/-/-/-
Sidalcea neomexicana	Salt Spring Checkerbloom	2.2-/-/CS
Sphaerocarpos drewei	Bottle Liverwort	1B.1/-/-/-
Symphyotrichum defoliatum	San Bernardino Aster	1B.2/-/-/-
Tetracoccus dioicus	Parry's Tetracoccus	1B.2/-/-/CS
Tortula californica	California Screw Moss	1B.2/-/-/-
Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii	Wright's Trichocoronis	2.1/-/-/CS
Federal Status         FE       = Federal Endangered         FT       = Federal Threatened         Status       Status	CNPS Status         1B = Rare or Endangered in California and elsewhere         2 = Rare or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere         2 = Rare or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere	

#### State/CDFG Status

- SE = State Endangered
- ST = State Threatened

#### County Status

- CS = MSHCP Covered Species which has been "take authorized".
- NES = MSHCP Narrow Endemic Species
- CAS = MSHCP Criteria Area Species

**BOLD** = Identified within the project area.

- 3 = Review List- Plant for which we need more information
- 4 = Plants with limited Distribution- Watch List
- .1 = Seriously endangered in California
- .2 = Fairly endangered in California
- .3 = Not very endangered in California

# Table 4.Special-Status Wildlife Species Known to Occur or with the Potential to<br/>Occur in the Valley-Ivyglen Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Birds		
Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	CSC (nesting), MBTA, CS
Sharp-Shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	CSC, CS
Tri-Colored Blackbird (Nesting Colony)	Agelaius tricolor	FBCC, CSC, MBTA, CS
Southern California Rufous-Crowned Sparrow	Aimophila ruficeps canescens	CSC, MBTA, CS
Bell's Sage Sparrow	Amphispiza belli belli	FBCC, CSC, MBTA, CS
Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos	FBCC, BEPA, CSC, CFP, MBTA, CS
Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia	FSC, FBCC, CSC (Burrow sites) , MBTA. CAS
Ferruginous Hawk	Buteo regalis	FBCC, CSC (wintering), MBTA, CS
Northern Harrier	Circus cyaneus	CSC (nesting), MBTA, CS (breeding)
White-Tailed Kite	Elanus leucurus	CFP, MBTA, CS
Willow Flycatcher (Southwestern)	Empidonax traillii (extimus)	FE ( <i>extimus</i> ), SE (all subspecies), MBTA, CS ( <i>extimus</i> )
California Horned Lark	Eremophila alpestris actia	CSC, MBTA, CS
American Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus anatum	FBCC, SE, MBTA, CS
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FT, SE, BEPA, MBTA, CS
Yellow-Breasted Chat	Icteria virens	CSC (nesting), MBTA, CS
Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius Iudovicianus	FBCC, CSC (nesting), MBTA, CS
White-Faced Ibis	Plegadis chihi	CSC, MBTA
Coastal California Gnatcatcher	Polioptila californica californica	FT, CSC, MBTA, CS
Least Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii pusillus	FE, SE, MBTA, CS
Mammals		
Dulzura California Pocket Mouse	Cheatodipus californicus femoralis	CSC
Stephens' Kangaroo Rat	Dipodomys stephensi	ST/FE CS
Western Mastiff Bat	Eumops perotis	CSC
San Diego Black-Tailed Jackrabbit	Lepus californica bennettii	CSC, CS
San Diego Desert Woodrat	Neotoma lepida intermedia	CSC, CS
Southern Grasshopper Mouse	Onychomys torridus ramona	CSC
Northwestern San Diego Pocket Mouse	Perognathus (Chaetodipus) fallax fallax	CSC, CS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Los Angeles Pocket Mouse	Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	FE, CSC, NE, MSHCP Covered Species
(Townsend's) Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus (Plecotus) townsendii	CSC
Amphibians	· · · ·	
Arroyo Toad	Bufo californicus	FE, CSC, CS
Western Spadefoot Toad	Scaphiopus hammondii	CSC, CS
Reptiles		
Orange-Throated Whiptail	Aspidoscelis (Cnemidophorus) hyperythra beldingi	CSC CS
Coastal Western Whiptail	Aspidoscelis (Cnemidophorus) tigris stejnegeri	CNDDB: G5T3T4S2S3, CS
Coastal Rosy Boa	Coastal Rosy Boa Charina (Lichanura) trivirgata roseofusca	
Southwestern Pond Turtle	Clemmys marmorata pallida	CSC, CS
San Diego Banded Gecko	Coleonyx variegates abbottii	CNDDB: G5T3T4S2S3, CS
Northern Red Diamond Rattlesnake	Crotalus ruber ruber	CSC, CS
San Diego Mountain Kingsnake	Lampropeltus zonata pulchra	CSC, CS
Coast (San Diego) Horned Lizard	Phrynosoma coronatum (blainvillei)	CSC, CS
Coast Patch-Nosed Snake	Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	CSC
Two-Striped Garter Snake	Thamnophis hammondi	CSC
Invertebrates	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Quino Checkerspot Butterfly	Euphydryas editha quino	FE, CS
Riverside Fairy Shrimp	Streptocephalus woottoni	FE, CS

#### Federal Status

FE = Federal Endangered
FT = Federal Threatened
FBCC= Federal Birds of Conservation Concern MBTA = Migratory Bird Treaty Act Species BEPA=Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

#### State/CDFG Status

SE = State Endangered
ST = State Threatened
CFP= California Fully Protected Species
CSC = California Species of Concern
CNDDB = has a California Natural Diversity DataBase ranking only

#### County Status

CS = MSHCP Covered Species which has been "*take authorized*". CAS= MSHCP Criteria Area Species

**BOLD**= Identified within the project area.

## 3.0 SURVEY RESULTS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

The topography in the study area is generally gentle rolling hills. The approximately 58 miles of study area contains a combination of agricultural, municipal, private, and reserve land, most with previous disturbance. The project area also traverses through portions of public lands which are managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (Figure 5).

## 3.1 Regional Overview

## 3.1.1 Climate

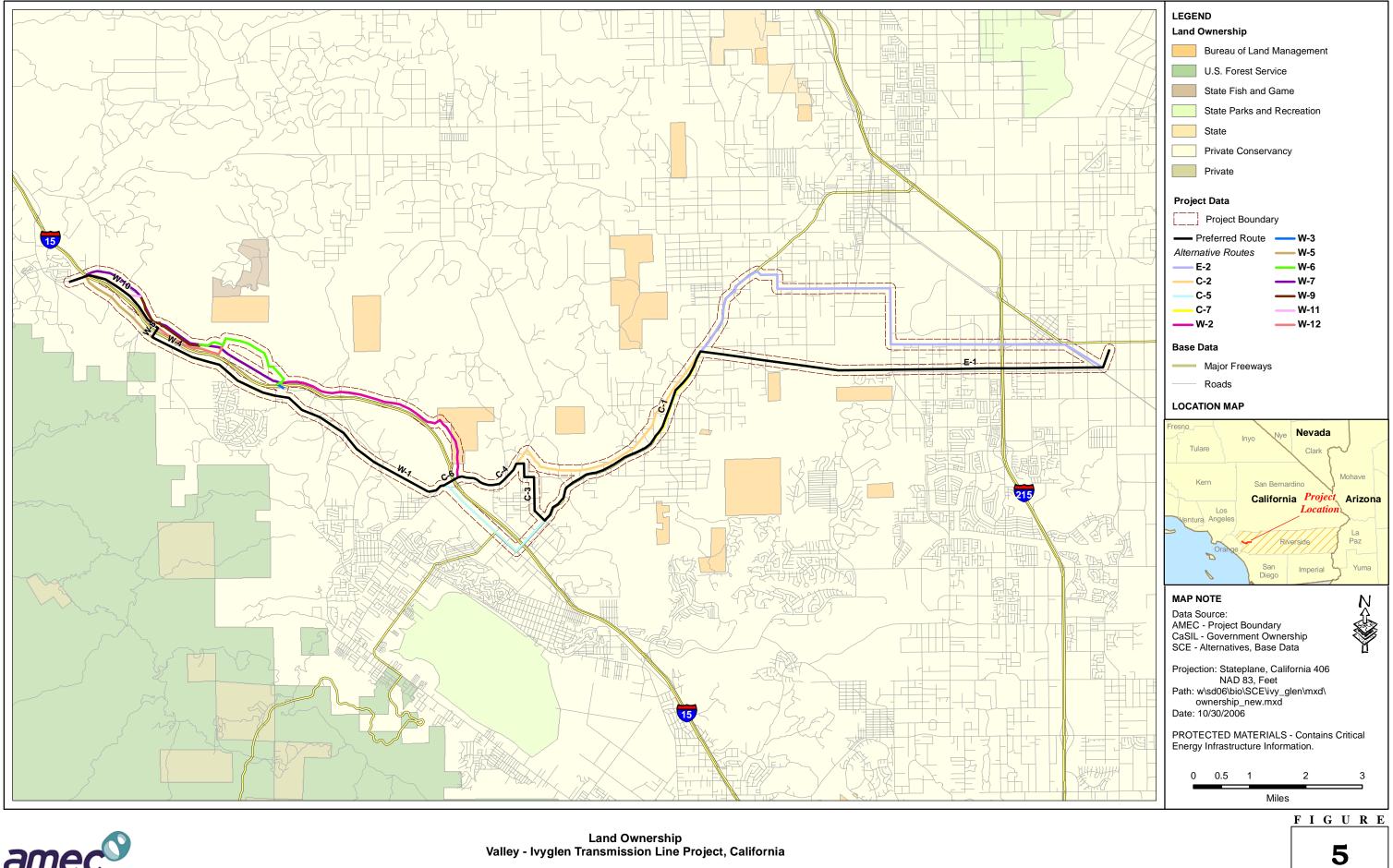
The study area is located within a Mediterranean climate region consisting of warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters. In summer, temperatures often reach 100° F and winter temperatures fall into the 30°, with an occasional freeze. Average annual temperature ranges are fairly moderate for the area, ranging from 49.3° F to 79.5° F. Average total precipitation for the area is approximately 10 to 15 inches per year (Western Regional Climate Center 2005).

## 3.1.2 Soils

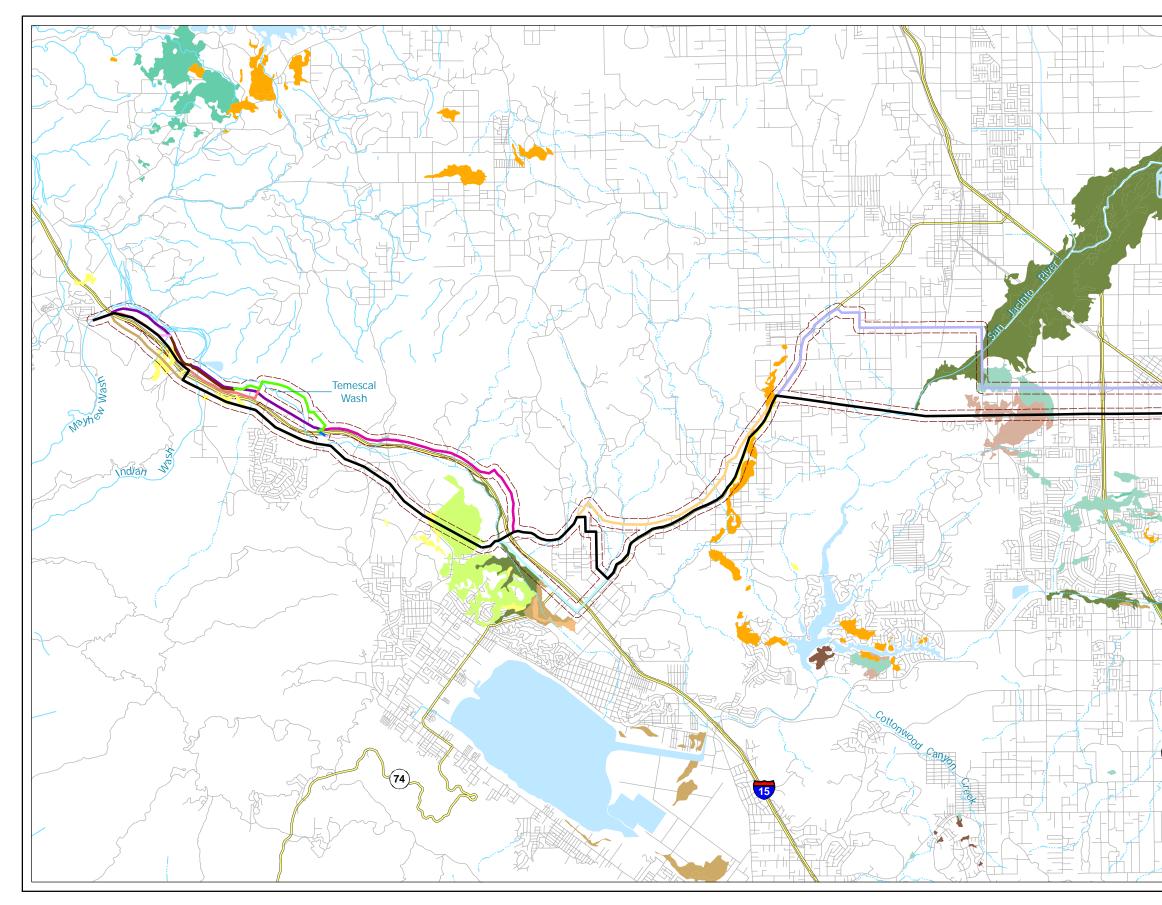
The project area is located on predominantly flat areas that have historically been used for grazing and agriculture. Soils in the study area are primarily in the Monserate-Arlington-Exeter and Traver-Domino-Willows associations. These soils are characterized as level to moderately steep soils that have a surface layer of sandy loam often with a hardpan. The soils can vary from very shallow to relatively deep (USDA 1971). The soils in the area do not generally have a high clay component. However, there are "lenses" of clay soils in the study area.

The Traver-Domino-Willows association is considered a MSHCP sensitive soil type and includes saline-alkali soils largely located along floodplain areas of the San Jacinto River (Figure 6). Sensitive plants which may be supported by the Traver-Domino-Willows soil association include two federally-listed species: San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*) and spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*). Other sensitive plant species found in this association include Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*), Davidson's saltscale (*Atriplex serenana* var. *davidsonii*), and vernal barley (*Hordeum intercedens*) (County of Riverside 2003).

Clay soils may support several listed threatened or endangered species: Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*) and San Diego button celery (*Eryngium aristulatum* var. *parishii*). Other sensitive plant species occurring on clay soils include, Orcutt's brodiaea (*Brodiaea orcuttii*), long-spined spineflower (*Chorizanthe polygonoides* var. *longispina*), small-flowered morning glory (*Convolvulus simulans*), many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*), Palmer's grapplinghook (*Harpagonella palmeri*), graceful tarplant (*Holocarpha virgata* ssp. *elongata*), and small-flowered microseris (*Microseris douglasii* ssp. *platycarpha*) (County of Riverside 2003).

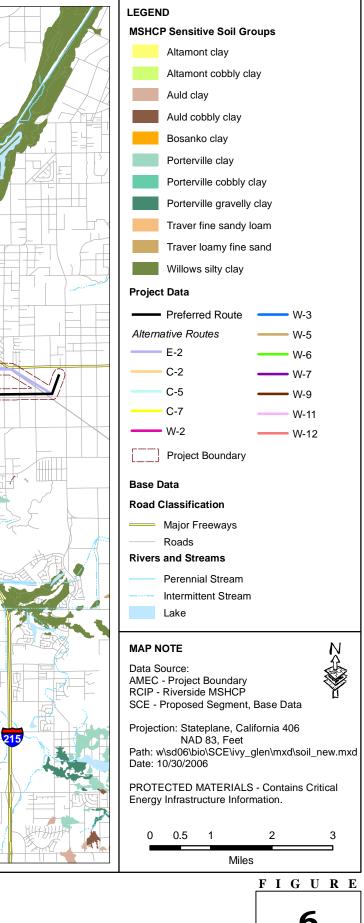








Sensitive Soils Valley - Ivyglen Transmission Line Project, California



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## 3.1.3 Vegetation Communities

The vegetation communities and land cover types in the Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project area are primarily coastal sage scrub, grasslands, agriculture, and developed disturbed land (ruderal habitat). Additional plant communities found within the study area include woodlands and forest, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, riparian scrub/woodland/forest, vernal pools, and open water. Previous agriculture, grazing, fire suppression, and invasion of nonnative plant species have contributed to the disturbed condition of many vegetation communities in the study area.

The vegetation communities which were identified in the Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project area are described in Appendix E. These communities are classified using the plant community definitions in the Western Riverside County MSHCP which is based on the vegetation communities presented in the *Preliminary Descriptions of Terrestrial Natural Communities of California* (Holland 1986).

## 3.2 Valley-lvyglen Transmission Preferred Route and Alternatives

Existing conditions of the Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line preferred and alternative routes are discussed below. Table 5 illustrates the habitat types that were present along each of the routes. Volume II of this report contains aerial maps which illustrate the vegetation communities that are present along each route.

Proposed Routes	Coastal Sage Scrub	Nonnative Grassland	Agricultural Land	Developed- Disturbed Land	Woodlands and Forest	Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	Riparian Scrub, Woodland Forest	Meadows and Marshes
Preferred Route	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Alternative Routes								
E-2	1	1	1	1	1		✓	
C-2	1	1	1	1		1	✓	
C-5	1		1	1			✓	✓
C-7	✓		✓	✓			✓	
W-2	1	1	1	1			✓	
W-3	1						✓	
W-5	1	1		✓	✓	✓	✓	
W-6	1	1	1	✓		✓	✓	✓
W-7	1	1	1	✓	✓	~	✓	√
W-9	1	1		✓	✓	1	✓	✓
W-11	~	~			~	~	~	
W-12	1	1		✓	✓	~	~	

## Table 5. Valley-lvyglen Transmission Line Project Vegetation Communities

## 3.2.1 Preferred Route

The Preferred Route is approximately 22.6 miles long and begins at the Valley Substation in unincorporated Romoland and ends at the Ivyglen Substation near the Glen Ivy Hot Springs (Maps 1-4, 9-16, 20, 22-23, 28-33). Areas of the Valley Substation (Map 1) (approximately 500 feet from the substation fence to the Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line riser pole) will be excavated in order to install a telecommunication line.

Portions along the Preferred Route will be trenched and/or bored in order to install underground portions of the fiber optic telecommunication line. The following sites where underground activities will occur were individually surveyed for sensitive species:

- a. Valley Substation the trenched area includes approximately 500 feet from the substation fence to the Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line riser pole (Map 1).
- b. Crossing at existing Elsinore Ivyglen 115kV line and Lake Street- the trenched area includes approximately 500 feet beneath Lake Street (Map 29).
- c. Crossing at I-15 at Hostettler Road the trenched area includes approximately 500 feet beneath the freeway along Hostettler Road (Map 31).
- d. Crossing Existing Elsinore-Ivyglen 115 kV line at Temescal Canyon Road the trenched area includes approximately 500 feet at crossing beneath Temescal Canyon Road (Map 31).
- e. Ivyglen Substation the trenched area includes approximately 1,500 feet along Temescal Canyon Road beneath the freeway, from Mayhew Road to the Ivyglen Substation (Map 23).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of this Preferred Route passes through disturbed coastal sage scrub and developed habitats. Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat (Table 6, Maps 1-4, 9-16, 20, 22-23, 28-33).

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: Two MSHCP Covered Species were identified adjacent to the project area boundary along this route. Bells' sage sparrow (*Amphispiza belli belli*) was identified within disturbed coastal sage scrub habitat (Map 11) and evidence of kangaroo rats (scat and burrows) was identified within nonnative grassland habitat in very close proximity to a CNDDB occurrence of Stephens' kangaroo rat (Map 16).

Entrix, Inc. additionally identified populations of smooth tarplant and San Diego ambrosia along this route (Map 16) however; these species were not identified during our field investigations.

Veget	ation Community	Acreage
Coostal Saga Saruh	Undisturbed	18.80
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	144.90
Agriculture	3.90	
Disturbed/Developed		156.50
Nonnative Grassland	Undisturbed	170.90
Normalive Grassianu	Disturbed	11.20
Coast Live Oak Woodland	6.50	
Pivorsidoon Alluvial Sago Serub	Undisturbed	5.90
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub	Disturbed	17.80
Seasonal Wetland		0.35
	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	6.90
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland	0.76
Nipanan Serub, Wooulanu, Polesi	Southern Willow Scrub	2.90
	Riparian Woodland	0.18

An active red tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) nest, was identified in the southeast fringe of the Pacific Clay property, within a stand of blue gum trees (*Eucalyptus* spp.) (Map 29). Red-tailed hawk is an MBTA listed species. The MBTA of 1916 protects all migratory avian populations, and therefore mandates that this nest not be destroyed if still active during the construction or expansion of this route.

Also, juvenile western spadefoot toads (*Scaphiopus hammondii*), which are California species of special concern and MSHCP Covered Species, were identified within three artificial pools located in a clay mining area of Pacific Clay (Map 30).

No other special status plant or animal species were identified along this route during field investigations.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: Potential habitat for the sensitive long-spined spineflower does exist within undisturbed coastal sage scrub habitat along this route. In addition, areas of this route along the San Jacinto floodplain which include saline-alkali soils may support sensitive plant species which are supported by this soil association. These species include San Jacinto Valley crownscale, spreading navarretia, Parish's brittlescale, San Diego ambrosia, Davidson's saltscale and vernal barley. Focused preconstruction plant surveys will be required within these areas for sensitive plant species.

Clay soils also exist along areas of this route that are associated with the Pacific Clay, Inc. property. Clay soils may provide suitable habitat for sensitive species such as Munz's

onion, thread-leaved brodiaea, San Diego button celery, Orcutt's brodiaea, long-spined spineflower, small-flowered morning glory, many-stemmed dudleya, graceful tarplant, and small-flowered microseris. Focused preconstruction plant surveys will be required within these areas for sensitive plant species.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: There is a CNDDB point that indicates the historic use of burrowing owls along this route (Map 11) and adjacent to this route outside of the survey area boundary (Map 4). Surveys for burrowing owls were conducted in these potential habitat areas intensively; however, none were observed. Other areas along this route which are occupied by open, nonnative grassland and agricultural fields may support this species. No burrowing owls or evidence of this species were identified during field investigations; however, focused preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within the nonnative grassland and agriculture field areas if this route is chosen.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> This Preferred Route crosses through some wetland/riparian habitats that are associated with the San Jacinto River and other drainages, and (Maps 9, 10, 22, 23, and 31-33). The San Jacinto River is considered jurisdictional waters under both the USACE and CDFG. A wetland delineation will be necessary within these areas in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

## 3.2.2 Alternative Routes

## 3.2.2.1 Alternative E-2

Alternative E-2 begins approximately 2,500 feet west of the Valley Substation and is approximately 9.4 miles long. This alternative route runs northwest along Mathews Road; west on Ethanac Road; north on Goetz Road; west on Mapes Road; north on Sophie Road; and south along Highway 74 terminating at Ethanac Road and Transmission Node 2 (Maps 1-8 and 11).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: Much of this route passes through developed/disturbed, agricultural and nonnative grassland habitats. Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat (Table 7, Maps 1-8 and 11).

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along this route during field investigations.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: A historic CNDDB point for thread-leaved brodiaea, a MSHCP Criteria Area species is located along this route (Map 5), focused surveys for this species were conducted within this area however, thread-leaved brodiaea plants were not identified. The size and extent of populations of thread-leaved brodiaea within suitable habitat vary in response to the timing and amount of rainfall, as well as temperature patterns. Typically, in any given year, only a fraction of the plants will develop to maturity. Thus, due to the lack of rainfall during this season this species may not be evident within this area during our survey. Thus, focused preconstruction surveys for this species and other alkali soil associated species will be required within this area.

Vegetation	n Community	Acreage
Coastal Sage Scrub	Coastal Sage Scrub	
Disturbed/Developed		292.9
Agriculture	Field Cropland	85.9
Agriculture	Grove/Orchard	1.30
Nonnative Grassland	Nonnative Grassland	
Woodland and Forest (Juniper Woodland and Scrub)		0.41
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Disturbed Riparian Scrub	0.89
	Southern Willow Scrub	0.44
	Tamarisk Scrub	3.78
	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	0.11
	Tamarisk Scrub	11.9
Seasonal Wetland		0.66

Table 7.	Alternative E-2 Vegetation Communities
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<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative E-2. However, locations along this route do have the potential for burrowing owl occupation due to the presence of ground squirrel burrows and open disturbed habitat. These potentially occupied sites are along the agricultural fields in the eastern half of the route (Maps 1-6). A historic CNDDB occurrence of this species occurs in near the terminus of this segment, in open-disturbed nonnative grassland (Map 11). Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within these areas if this route is chosen.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative E-2 crosses through some alluvial habitat that is associated with the San Jacinto River and other drainages (Map 5). The San Jacinto River is considered jurisdictional waters and thus, activities in this area may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

### 3.2.2.2 Alternative C-2

Alternative C-2 begins at Transmission Node 2 is approximately 4.6 miles long. This alternative route runs southwest to its terminus at the junction of El Torro Road and Wells Fargo Drive (Maps 11-15).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of Alternative C-2 passes through nonnative grassland, developed habitats and disturbed coastal sage scrub. Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat (Table 8, Maps 11-15).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Constal Same Samuh	Undisturbed	14.0
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	65.7
Agriculture Grove/Orchard	Agriculture Grove/Orchard	
Disturbed/Developed		88.1
Nonnative Grassland		37.5
Disturbed Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub		9.96
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	0.58
	Mule Fat Scrub	0.55
	Southern Willow Scrub	1.47

Table 8.	Alternative C-2 Vegetation Communities
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<u>Special-Status Species</u>: Bells sage sparrow, an MSHCP Covered Species, was identified within disturbed coastal sage scrub habitat along this route (Map 11). No other special-status species were identified along Alternative C-2.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSCHP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative C-2. However, locations along this route do have the potential for burrowing owl occupation due to the presence of ground squirrel burrows and open disturbed habitat. Potential burrowing owl habitat was identified within the areas that are occupied by nonnative grassland along this route (Maps 11-15). A historic CNDDB occurrence of this species occurs in near the terminus of this segment at Transmission Node 2, in open-disturbed nonnative grassland (Map 11). Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within these areas if this route is chosen.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative a crosses through some wetland/riparian habitats that is associated with an unnamed drainage (Map 13). This and other drainages which intersect this route (Maps 12-15) may be considered jurisdictional waters and thus, activities in this area may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within these areas in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

### 3.2.2.3 Alternative C-5

Alternative C-5 runs southeast along Collier Avenue and northeast along Central Avenue to its terminus at the junction of Central Avenue and Conard Avenue (Maps 16 and 25-27). Alternative C-5 is approximately 2.5 miles long.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: Alternative C-5 mostly passes through disturbed and developed properties (Table 9, Maps 16 and 24-27). This route additionally traverses through portions of riparian/wetland habitat that is associated with Temescal Wash (Maps 16 and 27).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Agriculture Field Cropland		1.11
Disturbed Coastal Sage Scrub		0.40
Disturbed/ Developed		108.5
Freshwater Marsh		0.56
Alkali Marsh		0.74
	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	4.03
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Mule Fat Scrub	1.49
	Southern Willow Scrub	7.2

 Table 9.
 Alternative C-5 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along this route during field investigations.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: Historic CNDDB points for three alkali soils associated species, San Diego ambrosia, San Jacinto Valley crownscale and Coulter's goldfields occurs adjacent to the boundary of this route, along the Temescal Wash floodplain (Map 16). Surveys for these species were conducted within this area, however none were identified. Focused preconstruction surveys for these and other alkali soils associated species will be required within this area.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative C-5; however, potential habitat for this species occurs within the open and disturbed habitats along this route (Maps 25 and 26).

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative C-5 passes directly through riparian and wetland habitat that is associated with Temescal Wash (Maps 16 and 27). These habitats are possibly jurisdictional wetlands, and thus, activities in this area may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within these areas in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

### 3.2.2.4 Alternative C-7

Alternative C-7 begins at Transmission Node 2 and travels southwest to its terminus at Peach Street (Maps 11-13). This alternative route is approximately 1.8 miles in length.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: Alternative C-7 passes predominantly through disturbed and developed lands (Table 10, Maps 11-13). This alternative route also traverses through nonnative grassland and disturbed coastal sage scrub habitat (Table 10, Maps 11-13).

Vegetation Community	Acreage
Agriculture	3.53
Disturbed Coastal Sage Scrub	2.63
Disturbed/ Developed	65.1
Nonnative Grassland	18.0
Southern Willow Scrub	0.28

#### Table 10. Alternative C-7 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: Surveys for special-status species were not conducted by AMEC biologists along Segment C-7; however, the vegetation communities along this route were delineated. Pre-construction for species that may occur in the habitats identified along this route will be needed.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSHCP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative C-7. However, locations along this route do have the potential for burrowing owl occupation due to the presence of ground squirrel burrows and open disturbed habitat. Potential burrowing owl habitat was identified within the areas that are occupied by nonnative grassland along this route (Maps 11-15). A historic CNDDB occurrence of this species occurs in near the terminus of this segment at Transmission Node 2, in nonnative grassland habitat (Map 11). Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within these areas if this route is chosen.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> An isolated area containing riparian vegetation (riparian scrub) is located along this route (Map 13). Activities in this area may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation may be necessary within this areas in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

#### 3.2.2.5 Alternative W-2

Alternative W-2 follows I-15 north from Nichols Road to Concordia Ranch Road. This route then travels northward through the BLM land to Big Canyon Drive and Walker Canyon Road; proceeding westerly along the north side of I-15 to its terminus at Concordia Ranch Road and Temescal Canyon Road near the Ivyglen Substation (Maps 16-19, and 31). This route is approximately 4.1 miles long.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The habitat alternates along this route between nonnative grassland, remnant coastal sage scrub, and disturbed coastal sage scrub. Areas containing riparian vegetation are also located along this route (Table 11, Maps 16-19, and 31).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
A prior la re	Field Cropland	1.65
Agriculture	Grove/Orchard	1.37
Nonnative Grassland		58.2
Disturbed/ Developed		32.9
Coostal Saga Saruh	Undisturbed	0.94
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	103.6
	Mule Fat Scrub	0.72
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	0.73
	Riparian Scrub	2.39

#### Table 11. Alternative W-2 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special Status Species</u>: Two sensitive MSHCP Covered Species, coastal California gnatcatcher and southern California rufous crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*) were observed along this route (Maps 16 and 17). Evidence (scat and burrows) of kangaroo rat species (*Dipodomys* spp.) were also identified along this route (Map 16). It is difficult to determine what species of kangaroo rat is associated with this evidence; however, a historical CNDDB occurrence of Stephens' kangaroo rat occurs in the vicinity of the scat and burrows which were observed; thus, this species is likely to currently inhabit this area (Map 16).

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability:</u> No potential habitat for MSCHP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative W-2. In addition, no suitable habitat for burrowing owls was found along Alternative W-2 during field investigations.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Areas which contain riparian vegetation associated with unnamed tributaries are located along this route (Maps 17 and 19). Activities in these areas may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation may be necessary within these areas in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

### 3.2.2.6 Alternative W-3

Alternative W-3 is a very small segment (0.12 miles) that follows Temescal Canyon Road (Map 31).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of this alternative route passes through developed habitat (Table 12, Map 31).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Capatal Saga Saruh	Undisturbed	0.14
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	1.27
Disturbed/Developed		7.08
Discription Control Mandlend Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	0.001
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Willow Scrub	0.09

#### Table 12. Alternative W-3 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along Alternative W-3.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSCHP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along this route. Additionally, potential habitat for this species does not occur along this route.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> No riparian/riverine or wetland habitats were identified along this route.

### 3.2.2.7 Alternative W-5

Alternative W-5 begins at the intersection of Hostettler Road and Desperado Drive and travels along the south side of I-15 northwestward to Temescal Canyon Road to its terminus just east of the Ivyglen Substation (Maps 20, 22, 23, and 31-33). This route is approximately 4.4 miles long.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The first half of this route travels through a mosaic of developments, disturbed coastal sage scrub and nonnative grassland. Some of the coastal sage scrub on this section is in relatively undisturbed condition, but varies greatly from one hillside to another. The second half of the route crosses intermittent areas of Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, and then travels northwest through development. Small stands of coast live oak woodland also exist along this route (Table 13, Maps 20, 22, 23, and 31-33).

<u>Special Status Species</u>: Two populations of Munz's onion (Map 32), a MSHCP Narrow Endemic Plant Species, and a population of small-flowered morning glory (*Convolvulus simulans*), a MSHCP Covered Species were identified in association with clay soils along this route (Map 32).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Occurrent Occurrent	Undisturbed	46.7
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	20.5
Disturbed/ Developed		118.3
Nonnative Grassland		7.27
Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub		14.2
Oak Woodland		0.02
Coast Live Oak Woodland		3.39
	Mule Fat Scrub	0.90
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland	1.04
	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	0.69
	Southern Willow Scrub	2.67

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: The CNDDB has point locations for round leaved filaree, many stemmed dudleya, and Munz's onion in this general location where clay soils were identified along this route (Map 32). Clay soils may support other listed threatened or endangered species which prefer these soils such as, thread-leaved brodiaea, San Diego button celery, Orcutt's brodiaea, long-spined spineflower. Focused surveys for these and other clay soils endemic species should be conducted within this area prior to construction activities if this alternative route is chosen.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>. No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along Alternative W-5. In addition, no suitable habitat for burrowing owls was found along Alternative W-5 during field investigations.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative W-5 passes through a isolated stand of riparian habitat (Map 31). In addition, this route crosses over riparian habitat that is associated with Temescal Wash, near Campbell Ranch Road (Map 33). These areas are likely to be considered jurisdictional wetlands, and thus, activities in these areas may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

### 3.2.2.8 Alternative W-6

Alternative W-6 begins near the junction of Concordia Ranch Road and Temescal Canyon Road and travels northeast and then northwest to its terminus at Temescal Canyon Road (Maps 20, 31 and 32). This route is approximately 2.1 miles in length.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of Alternative W-6 passes through disturbed coastal sage scrub, developed habitats, and Riversidean alluvial sage scrub. Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat (Table 14, Maps 20, 31, and 32).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Coostal Saga Saruh	Undisturbed	0.14
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	38.9
Agriculture	Agriculture	
Disturbed/Developed		21.9
Nonnative Grassland		17.5
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub		18.7
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	5.73
	Southern Willow Scrub	0.09
Freshwater Marsh		0.22

#### Table 14. Alternative W-6 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special-status species were observed along this route during field investigations.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along this route. Additionally, potential habitat for this species was not identified along Alternative W-6.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSCHP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative W-6 traverses through portions of riparian and alluvial habitat this associated with Temescal Wash (Maps 20 and 32). These areas are likely to be considered jurisdictional wetlands, and thus, activities within in these areas may have oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

The following special status plant and animal species are known to occur or have historically occurred near or along Alternative W-6:

### 3.2.2.9 Alternative W-7

Alternative W-7 is approximately 4.2 miles in length. This proposed route runs along the north side of 1-15 from west of Concordia Ranch Road to Mayhew Road to its terminus at the Ivyglen Substation (Maps 20-23 and 31-33). Portions of Alternative W-7 will be excavated in order to install the telecommunication line. The excavated area includes approximately 1,500 feet along Temescal Canyon Road beneath the freeway, from Mayhew Road to the Ivyglen Substation (Map 23).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: Alternative W-7 is predominately vegetated by disturbed and developed habitats. Areas of this route are also vegetated by coastal sage scrub, nonnative grassland, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, riparian and wetland habitats and small patches of coast live oak woodland (Table 15, Maps 20-23, 32, and 33). Only portions of this route were

surveyed by AMEC biologist. The vegetation along the un-surveyed areas was mapped through photo-interpretation. Portions of Alternative W-7 will be excavated in order to install the telecommunication line. The excavated area includes approximately 1,500 feet along Temescal Canyon Road beneath the freeway, from Mayhew Road to the Ivyglen Substation (Map 23). These areas were surveyed by AMEC biologists.

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Capatal Saga Saruh	Undisturbed	5.12
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	16.7
Agriculture		3.79
Disturbed/Developed		93.7
Nonnative Grassland		20.2
Coast Live Oak Woodland		8.73
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Serub	Undisturbed	20.2
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub	Disturbed	6.27
Freshwater Marsh		1.95
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	9.24
	Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland	9.26
	Southern Willow Scrub	3.86
	Riparian Scrub	7.05
	Mule Fat Scrub	0.46

Table 15. Alternative W-7. Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along the surveyed portions of this route during field visits.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: Potential habitat for MSHCP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species may exist in areas which contain clay or alkali soils along this route. Species which are endemic to these soils types which include Munz's onion, thread-leaved brodiaea, and San Diego button celery, Orcutt's brodiaea, small-flowered morning glory, many-stemmed dudleya, Palmer's grapplinghook, graceful tarplant, small-flowered microseris, San Jacinto Valley crownscale, spreading navarretia, Parish's brittlescale, Davidson's saltscale, and vernal barley. Focused surveys for clay and alkali soil endemic species should be conducted within areas containing these soils prior to construction activities if this segment is chosen. <u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or potential burrowing owl habitat was found along the length Alternative W-7 in areas that were surveyed. However, locations along this route may have the potential for burrowing owl occupation due to the presence of open disturbed habitat (Maps 20-22, 31, and 33). Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within these areas if this route is chosen.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Areas of this route that traverse the riparian/wetland habitat associated with Temescal Wash may require regulatory oversight by the CDFG and USACE (Maps 20- 23, 32). A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

#### 3.2.2.10 Alternative W-9

Alternative W-9 begins at Concordia Ranch Road and travels northwest to its terminus near Temescal Canyon Road (Maps 21, 32 and 33). This route is approximately 1.5 miles in length.

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of Alternative W-9 passes through disturbed coastal sage scrub, nonnative grassland and developed habitats. Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat (Table 16, Maps 21, 32, and 33).

Vegetat	Acreage	
Coostal Come Comul	Undisturbed	2.68
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	16.8
Disturbed/Developed		22.4
Nonnative Grassland		15.6
Coast Live Oak Woodland		6.00
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub	Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub	
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	5.73
	Southern Willow Scrub	0.09

Table 16. Alternative W-2 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along the surveyed portions of this route during field visits.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSCHP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or potential burrowing owl habitat was found along the length Alternative W-9 in areas that were surveyed. However, locations along this route may have the potential for burrowing owl occupation due to the presence of open disturbed habitat (Maps 21 and 33). Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys will be needed within these areas if this route is chosen

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Areas of Alternative W-9 that traverse riparian and wetland habitats that are associated with Indian Wash and Temescal Wash may require regulatory oversight by the CDFG and USACE (Maps 32 and 33). A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction.

#### 3.2.2.11 Alternative W-11

Alternative W-11 is approximately 1.4 miles long. This route travels along the I-15 freeway to its terminus at Ivyglen Substation (Maps 22, 23 and 33)

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: The majority of Alternative W-11 passes through disturbed coastal sage scrub, nonnative grassland, and developed habitats (Table 17, Maps 22, 23, and 33). Portions of this route are also vegetated by riparian habitat that is associated with Temescal Wash (Map 33).

Vegetation Community		Acreage
Constal Come Comula	Undisturbed	3.68
Coastal Sage Scrub	Disturbed	50.6
Nonnative Grassland		40.1
Coast Live Oak Woodland		5.47
Riversidean Alluvial Sage Scrub		6.57
Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland		2.54

 Table 17. Alternative W-11 Vegetation Communities

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along this route during field investigations.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSHCP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or signs of burrowing owls were identified along this route. Additionally, potential habitat for this species was not identified along Alternative W-11.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative W-11 traverses riparian/wetland habitat that is associated with Temescal Wash. This area may require regulatory oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction (Maps 22 and 23).

#### 3.2.2.12 Alternative W-12

Alternative W-12 is approximately 3.2 miles long. This route begins along the north side of I-15 and runs between the freeway and Temescal Canyon Road traveling northwest crossing Indian Truck Trail to its terminus at Temescal Canyon Road east of the Ivyglen Substation (Maps 20, 22, 23, 32, and 33).

<u>Vegetation Communities</u>: Alternative W-12 is predominately vegetated by disturbed coastal sage scrub and developed habitats. Areas of this route are also vegetated by riparian forest, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub and small patches of coast live oak woodland (Table 18, Maps 20, 22, 23, 32, and 33).

Veg	Acreage	
Coast Live Oak Woodland		2.78
Coastal Sage Scrub	Undisturbed	6.60
Coasial Sage Scrub	Disturbed	76.3
Disturbed/ Developed		49.9
Nonnative Grassland		4.20
Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub		13.2
Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest	Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland	1.05
Riparian Scrub, Woodiand, Polest	Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian Forest	2.27

<u>Special-Status Species</u>: No special status plant or animal species were identified along this route during field investigations.

<u>MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Species Habitat Suitability</u>: No potential habitat for MSHCP Narrow Endemic and/or Criteria Area plant species were identified along this route.

<u>Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment</u>: No burrowing owls or potential burrowing owl habitat was found along the length Alternative W-12.

<u>*Riparian/Riverine Habitat:*</u> Alternative W-12 intersects Temescal Wash upstream of Lake Corona. Areas of this route that traverse the riparian/wetland habitat associated with Temescal Wash may require regulatory oversight by the CDFG and USACE. A wetland delineation will be necessary within this area in order to determine the extent of jurisdiction (Maps 20-23, 32, and 33).

## 3.3 Recommended Additional Surveys

Once specific routes have been selected, focused surveys for sensitive species that are required by the MSHCP, such as burrowing owls, Narrow Endemic Plant Species and Criteria Area Species should be conducted prior to the commencement of construction. Sensitive plant and animal species that were not found during the biological surveys for this report but still have a moderate to high potential to occur within the proposed routes of this project are presented in Appendix B. Some of the species that were not found may be absent from the habitat for various reasons (e.g., plants that do not sprout until later in the season, migratory birds that have not yet arrived, etc.). The following focused pre-construction surveys are recommended below to assess the populations within the study area, identify potential impacts to these species, and if present mitigate impacts to them to below a level of significance (Table 16).

Proposed Routes	Focused Sensitive Plant Species Surveys	Burrowing Owl Surveys	Wetland Delineation
Preferred Route	$\checkmark$	~	$\checkmark$
E-2	$\checkmark$	~	$\checkmark$
C-2	$\checkmark$	~	✓
C-5	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
C-7	$\checkmark$	~	✓
W-2	$\checkmark$	~	✓
W-3			✓
W-5	$\checkmark$	~	✓
W-6	$\checkmark$	~	✓
W-7	$\checkmark$	~	✓
W-9			✓
W-11			✓
W-12			$\checkmark$

#### Table 19. Recommended Additional Surveys

## 4.0 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

This section presents a general impact analysis of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line project. Because the project is still early in the design stage, this section outlines the potential issues that are likely to arise from the construction of the proposed transmission line segments. A complete project impact analysis will be conducted once a project impact footprint is established.

Impacts are defined as activities that destroy, damage, alter, or otherwise affect biological resources in the project area. Impacts are characterized as five types and are described below.

- Direct impacts occur when biological resources are altered, disturbed, destroyed, or removed during the course of project implementation. Examples of direct impacts are loss of habitat as a result of grading or filling or "take" of a sensitive species.
- Indirect impacts occur when project-related activities affect biological resources in a manner other than direct. Potential indirect impacts include increased noise levels and nonnative weed establishment. Chronic indirect impacts to biological resources resulting

from the operation of a project can include noise, lighting, and increased human presence among other factors.

- Permanent impacts result in the irreversible loss of biological resources. Examples include the removal of sensitive vegetation or vegetation that supports a sensitive species or chronic disturbance of sensitive species during a critical time period (e.g., breeding season).
- Temporary impacts are reversible with the implementation of mitigation measures. Examples include the revegetation of an area cleared during construction, or short-term noise events associated with operations.
- Cumulative impacts are the sum of all impacts from this and other local projects on the biological resources of a region.

## 4.1 Thresholds for Determining Potential Significance

The primary sources for determining significance of impacts are determined by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), CEQA, NCCP, MSHCP, and local guidelines and ordinances. Guidelines under CEQA provide guidance and interpretation for implementing CEQA statutes. CEQA significance entails any impact to plant and wildlife species listed by federal or state agencies as threatened or endangered, or of regional or local significance. A significant impact to listed or sensitive species could be direct or indirect, with impacts to rare or sensitive habitats also considered significant.

In general, the proposed project could result in a potentially significant impact to the environment if it would:

- Substantially reduce the habitat of a plant or wildlife species
- Cause a plant or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels
- Threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community
- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFG or the USFWS
- Reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species
- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFG, USACE, RWQCB, or USFWS.

The proposed project could potentially produce three types of project-related impacts: direct impacts, indirect impacts, and cumulative impacts.

## 4.1.1 Direct Impacts

Direct impact analysis is subject to final project design. The most sensitive biological resources found in the study area are related to coastal sage scrub and riparian/wetland habitats. The coastal sage scrub vegetation type itself is a sensitive resource, as several sensitive flora and fauna species are associated with this habitat type including the coastal California gnatcatcher and Stephens' kangaroo rat.

Some permanent impacts to coastal sage scrub may result from clearing around new transmission line poles for construction and maintenance purposes. It is assumed that any direct impacts to sensitive species or habitats will be temporary in nature except for these clearance areas. Participation and compliance with the MSHCP however, can provide mitigation for any net loss to coastal sage scrub habitat within the MSHCP area.

Direct impacts to riparian/wetland habitats may also occur as a result of this project. Vegetation associated with this habitat type may be temporarily negatively impacted during the construction phase of this project. Permanent impacts to these habitats are not anticipated.

### 4.1.2 Indirect Impacts

Indirect impact analysis is subject to final project design. It is anticipated that there will be some indirect impacts resulting from the project and its proximity to sensitive habitat and sensitive species.

### 4.1.2.1 Runoff, Erosion, and Siltation

Siltation and erosion resulting from the proposed activities are potentially significant indirect impacts associated with this project because of the proximity of the proposed work area to wetlands and other sensitive habitats. Erosion can remove topsoil necessary for plant growth both in the graded areas and in lower areas affected by increased runoff. The eroded soil can be deposited as silt and alluvium in the drainages. Siltation can damage wetlands and aquatic habitats and bury vegetation or topsoil. Erosion control measures are recommended in the mitigation section of this report that would reduce this potential impact to below a level of significance.

### 4.1.2.2 Nonnative Weed Establishment

The loss of topsoil from grading or as a result of overland flow may increase the likelihood of exotic plant establishment in native communities. Nonnatives may outcompete native species, suppress native recruitment, alter community structure, degrade or eliminate habitat for native wildlife, and provide food and cover for undesirable nonnative wildlife (Bossard et al. 2000). The introduction of nonnative plant species into a community as a result of soil disturbance and erosion can increase the competition for resources such as water, minerals, and nutrients between native and nonnative species as well as alter the hydrology and sedimentation rates. In addition, if the nonnative plants form a continuous ground cover, an increase in the natural fire regime may occur, further eliminating any remaining native vegetation, and causing a type conversion to a disturbed/nonnative habitat type. As a means of avoiding and minimizing impacts due to nonnative species, mitigation measures should be implemented. The

establishment of nonnative weeds could affect endangered species associated with the surrounding habitat and could therefore be considered potentially significant if not mitigated.

## 4.1.2.3 Noise and Human Presence

Indirect and temporary impacts to wildlife movement due to construction noise, including presence of humans, would be expected during the construction phases of the proposed project. Noise impacts during the construction of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen transmission lines could be potentially significant. Noise can adversely affect wildlife by frightening or repelling individuals, masking communication, and impairing foraging success and predator detection. These effects are significant when they adversely affect the lifecycle of sensitive species, or constrain wildlife movement through a wildlife corridor; however, these impacts would not be considered significant if the activities were temporary in nature and of short duration.

Construction noise has the potential to impact the lifecycle of sensitive wildlife species identified onsite, or that have a high potential to occur onsite, including sage scrub nesters such as the coastal California gnatcatcher, Bell's sage sparrow, and Southern California rufous crowned sparrow or riparian-nesting birds such as the and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). The current threshold for significant noise impacts to these species is generally accepted to be 60 dBA (Leq 1 hour) during the breeding season. If construction were to occur outside of the breeding season for these species, noise impacts would be considered not significant. Indirect noise impacts to other nesting migratory birds, including raptors, if present, could be adverse, but not necessarily significant because of the lower sensitivity status of these species.

## 4.1.2.4 Lighting

If used, nighttime lighting entering adjacent wildlife habitat from construction could temporarily impact sensitive wildlife species and wildlife movement. These temporary impacts would likely be considered adverse, but not significant, unless listed bird species were found nesting within the area of the lighting impact. These impacts could be avoided if nighttime work did not occur during construction of the project.

### 4.1.2.5 Toxic Substances

Toxic substances can kill wildlife and plants or prevent new growth where soils or water are contaminated. Toxic substances can be released into the environment through several scenarios including planned or accidental releases, leaching from stored materials, pesticide or herbicide use, or fires, among others. No intentional releases of toxic substances are planned as part of the proposed project. Accidental releases could occur from several sources such as leaking equipment, or fuel spills during the course of the construction. The implementation of best management practices (BMPs) during construction will reduce the risk of leaks and fuel spills below a level of significance. A spill contingency plan, written by the construction contractor and approved prior to construction, should be in effect during all phases of construction activities.

## 4.1.2.6 Fugitive Dust

Trenching, grading, and vehicle operations associated with the construction of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen transmission line may produce fugitive dust. Excessive dust can damage or degrade vegetation by blocking leaf exposure to sunlight. Implementation of dust control measures, as part of BMPs during construction, will reduce fugitive dust emissions to below a level of significance. Dust control measures can include spraying work or driving areas with water and careful operation of equipment.

#### 4.1.3 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impact analysis is subject to final project design.

## 5.0 AVOIDANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Construction activity associated with the proposed project should incorporate BMPs in order to eliminate or minimize environmental impacts. From the biological survey data, potential impacts to coastal sage scrub habitat and populations of Munz's onion would be the largest impacts from the project. As such, steps should be taken to minimize or eliminate these impacts.

Some general environmentally sensitive construction practices that can be implemented to minimize biological impacts before or during construction are listed below.

- Flagging or otherwise marking sensitive plant species so construction crews will avoid direct or indirect impacts to these areas.
- Fencing all construction limits that are adjacent to sensitive biological resources. Temporary fencing should consist of t-posts with the orange barrier fence. Silt fences should be included when construction occurs adjacent to wetlands.
- Flagging kangaroo rat and burrowing owl burrows so as to avoid crushing individuals with heavy equipment.
- Avoid work in coastal California gnatcatcher occupied coastal sage scrub habitat during the breeding season (February-August).
- Avoid the fueling of equipment adjacent to drainages, tributaries, or wetlands and associated plant communities to preclude water quality impacts.
- "No fueling zones" should be designated on construction maps and should be situated a minimum distance of 10 meters from all drainages and wetlands. Contractor equipment shall be checked for leaks prior to operation near riparian areas in coordination with the project biologist.
- Implement appropriate BMPs at all times to maintain proper water quality and prevent additional/excessive soil erosion. Refer to the erosion control plan that will be prepared by the construction contractor. This plan should detail the proper use of hay bales, straw wattles, silt fences, siltation basins, or other devices necessary to stabilize the soil in denuded or graded areas during construction phases of the project.

- Conduct a briefing with all construction supervisors and personnel by a biologist familiar with the biological issues of the project.
- Install new poles, where possible, in areas that are not environmentally sensitive.
- Utilize existing access roads, pads, and previously developed or disturbed areas as much as feasible in order to avoid impacts to sensitive areas.
- In areas where impacts are unavoidable, limit impacts to driving on or parking on scrub instead of grading or otherwise removing vegetation.

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# **APPENDIX A**

# **Plant Species Encountered**

# Appendix A Plant Species Encountered

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Baccharis salicifolia Mule Fat N		Artemisia douglasiana	Douglas' Mugwort	Ν
		Artemisia dracunculus	Tarragon	Ν
Baccharis sarothroides Broom Baccharis N		Baccharis salicifolia	Mule Fat	Ν
		Baccharis sarothroides	Broom Baccharis	Ν

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
	Bebbia juncea	Sweetbrush	Ν
	Centaurea melitensis	Tocalote	E
	Chaenactis artemisiifolia	Chaenactis	Ν
	Chaenactis glabriuscula	Yellow Pincushion	Ν
	Cnicus benedictus	Blessed Thistle	E
	Conyza canadensis	Horseweed	Ν
	Conyza coulteri	Fleabane	E
	Cotula coronopifolia	African Brass Buttons	E
	Encelia californica	California Encelia	Ν
	Encelia farinosa	Brittlebush	Ν
	Deinandra (Hemizonia) fasciculata	Fascicled Tarplant	Ν
	Deinandra kelloggii	Kellogg's Tarplant	Ν
	Deinandra paniculata	San Diego Tarplant	Ν
	Ericameria palmeri var. pachylepis	Box Spring Goldenbush	Ν
	Erigeron foliosus var. foliosus	Leafy Daisy	Ν
	Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Flat-Topped Goldern Yarrow	Ν
	Filago californica	Fluffweed	E
	Filago gallica	Narrow Leaf Filago	E
	Gnaphalium californicum	California Everlasting	Ν
	Gnaphalium luteo-album	Everlasting	E
	Gnaphalium palustre	Lowland Cudweed	Ν
	Gutierrezia californica	California Matchweed	Ν
	Hedypnois cretica	Hedypnois	E
	Helianthus annuus	Western Sunflower	Ν
	Helianthus gracilentis	Slender Sunflower	Ν
	Heterotheca grandiflora	Telegraph Weed	Ν
	lva axillaris	Poverty Weed	Ν
	Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	E
	Lasthenia californica	Common Goldfields	Ν
	Layia glandulosa	White Layia	Ν
	Lepidospartum squamatum	Scale Broom	Ν
	Lessingia filaginifolia	San Diego Sand Aster	Ν
	Malacothrix saxatilis	Cliff Desert Dandelion	Ν
	Matricaria globifera	Cattle Bush	E
	Matricaria matricarioides	Pineapple Weed	E
	Osmadenia tenella	Osmadenia	Ν

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
	Picris echioides	Bristly Ox-Tongue	E
	Pluchea sericea	Arrow Weed	Ν
	<i>Rafinesquia</i> sp.	Chickory	Ν
	Senecio flaccidus	Butterweed	Ν
	Silybum marianum	Milk Thistle	E
	Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow Thistle	E
	Sonchus oleraceus	Common Sow Thistle	E
	Stephanomeria virgata	San Diego Wreath Plant	Ν
	Stylocline gnaphalioides	Everlasting Nest Straw	Ν
	Tetradymia comosa	Cotton-Thorn	Ν
	Uropappus lindelyi	Silver Puffs	Ν
	Xanthium strumarium	Cocklebur	Ν
Boraginaceae Borage Family			
	Amsinckia menziesii var. intermedia	Yellow Fiddleneck	Ν
	Amsinckia retrorsa	Rigid Fiddleneck	Ν
	Cryptantha intermedia	Nievitas	Ν
	Heliotropium curassavicum	Salt Heliotrope	Ν
	Pectocarya linearis	Comb-Bur	Ν
	Pectocarya penicillata	Winged Pectocarya	Ν
	Pectocarya recurvata	Recurved Pectocarya	Ν
	Plagiobothrys canescens	Valley Popcorn Flower	Ν
	Plagiobothrys collinus ssp. californicus	California Popcorn Flower	
Brassicaceae (Cruciferae) Mustard Family			
	Athysanus pusillus	Dwarf Athysanus	Ν
	Brassica geniculata	Mediterranean Mustard	E
	Brassica rapa	Field Mustard	E
	Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepard's Purse	E
	Hirschfeldia incana	Short-Pod Mustard	E
	Lepidium nitidum	Peppergrass	Ν
	Lepidium dictyotum var. dictyotum	Peppergrass	E
	Lepidium latifolium	Broad-Leaved Peppergrass	E
	Raphanus sativus	Wild Radish	E
	Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum	Watercress	Ν
	Sisymbrium irio	London Rocket	E

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
	Thysanocarpum laciniatus	Notch Fringepod	Ν
	Tropidocarpum gracile	Slender Dobie-Pod	Ν
Cactaceae Cactus Family			
	Cylindropuntia parryi	Cholla	Ν
	Opuntia ficus-indica	Mission Prickly Pear	E
	Opuntia littoralis	Coastal Prickly Pair	Ν
Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family			
	Sambucus mexicana	Blue Elderberry	Ν
Caryophyllaceae Pink Family			
	Loeflingia squarrosa	California Loeflingia	Ν
	Spergularia bocconii	Boccone's Sandspurry	E
	Spergularia marina	San Spurry	Ν
	Stellaria sp.		
Chenopodiaceae Goosefoot Family			
	Atriplex argentea	Silverscale Saltbush	Ν
	Atriplex rosea	Tumbling Oracle	E
	Atriplex semibaccata	Australian Saltbush	E
	Atriplex suberecta	Peregrine Saltbush	E
	Atriplex triangularis	Spearscale	Ν
	Bassia hyssopifolia	Fivehook	E
	Chenopodium californicum	California Pigweed	Ν
	Chenopodium murale	Nettle-Leaved Goosefoot	E
	Chenopodium pumilio	Clammy Goosefoot	E
	Salsola tragus	Russian Thistle	E
Convolvulaceae Morning Glory Family			
	Calystegia macrostegia	Morning Glory	Ν
	Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	E
	Convolvulus simulana	Small-Flowered Bindweed	Ν
	Convolvulus simulans	Smail-Fiuweleu Dinuweeu	CNPS list 4.2
	Cressa truxillensis	Alkali Weed	Ν
Cuscutaceae Dodder Family			
	Cuscuta californica	California Dodder	Ν
	Cuscuta salina	Salt Marsh Dodder	Ν

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
Crassulaceae			
Stonecrop Family			
	Crassula connata	Sand Pygmyweed	Ν
	Dudleya lanceolata	Live-Forever	Ν
	Dudleya pulverulenta	Chalk Live-Forever	Ν
Cyperaceae			
Sedge Family	Carax ca	Sedge	N
	Carex sp.	-	
	Cyperus eragrostis	Tall Flatsedge	N
	Cyperus squarrosus	Bearded Flatsedge	N
	Eleocharis macrostachya	Common Spikerush	N
	Scirpus acutus	Hardstem Bulrush	N
	Scirpus californicus	California Bulrush	Ν
Funbarbiagoa	Scirpus pungens	Spike Sedge	
Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family			
	Croton californicus	California Croton	N
	Chamaesyce albomarginata	Rattlesnake Weed	N
	Chamaesyce polycarpa	Ground Spurge	N
	Eremocarpus setigerus	Doveweed	N
	Ricinus communis	Castor Bean	E
	Stillingia linearifolia	Linear-Leaf Stillingia	N
Fabaceae (Leguminos		Einoar Eoar Oannigia	
Pea Family			
	Astragalus pomonensis	Pomona Rattleweed	Ν
	Lotus hamatus	Small-Flowered Lotus	Ν
	Lotus purshianus	Spanish Clover	Ν
	Lotus salsuginosus	Alkali Lotus	Ν
	Lotus scoparius ssp. brevialatus	Deerweed	Ν
	Lotus strigosus	Strigose Bird's Foot Treifoil	N
	Lupinus bicolor	Miniature Lotus	Ν
	Lupinus excubitus	Grape Soda Lupine	N
	Lupinus succulentus	Collar Lupine	N
	Medicago polymorpha	Bur-Clover	E
	Parkinsonia aculeata	Mexican Palo Verde	E
	Trifolium obtusiflorum	Clammy Clover	N
	Vicia benghalensis	Purple Vetch	E

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
Fagaceae		_	
Oak Family			
	Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast Live Oak	Ν
	Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub Oak	Ν
Frankeniaceae			
Frankenia Family			
Orationary	Frankenia salina	Alkali Heath	Ν
Gentianaceae Gentian Family			
Contain Failing	Centaurium venustum	Canchalagua	N
Geraniaceae	oomaanani vonastani	Ganonalagua	N
Geranium Family			
	Erodium botrys	Long-Beak Filaree	E
	Erodium cicutarium	Red-Stem Filaree	Е
	Erodium moschatum	Green-Stem Filaree	E
	Geranium carolinianum	Carolina Cranesbill	Ν
Hydrophyllaceae			
Waterleaf Family			
	Emmenanthe penduliflora var.	Whispering Bells	Ν
	penduliflora		
	Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia	Common Euscrupta	Ν
	Phacelia cicutaria var. hispida		
	Nemophila sp.	Baby Blue Eyes	Ν
	Phacelia distans	Wild Heliotrope	Ν
	Phacelia minor	California Bluebells	Ν
	Phacelia ramosissima var.latifolia	Branching Phacelia	Ν
Juncaceae			
Rush Family			
	Juncus balticus	Baltic Rush	Ν
	Juncus bufonius	Toad Rush	Ν
	Juncus mexicanus	Mexican Rush	Ν
	Juncus rugulosus	Wrinkled Rush	Ν
Lamiaceae (Labiatae) Mint Family			
	Lamium ampexicaule	Henbit	Е
	Marrubium vulgare	Horehound	E
	Robinia sp.	Black Locust	E
	Salvia apiana	Cleveland Sedge	Ν
	Salvia columbariae	Chia	Ν

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
	Salvia mellifera	Black Sage	Ν
	Stachys ajugoides	Hedge Nettle	Ν
Liliaceae Lily Family			
	Calochortus splendens	Splendid Mariposa Lily	Ν
	Allium haematochiton	Red-Skin Onion	Ν
			N CNPS list 1B
	Allium munzii	Munz's Onion	MSHCP Narrow Endemic Species
	Chlorogalum parviflorum	Small Flower Soap Plant	Ν
	Muilla maritima	Common Muilla	Ν
Lythraceae Loosestrife Family			
	Lythrum californicum	California Loosestrife	Ν
	Lythrum hyssopifolia	Grass Poly	Е
Malvaceae Mallow Family			
	Malacothamnus fasciculatus	Bush Mallow	Ν
	Malva parviflora	Cheeseweed	E
	Malvella leprosa	Alkali Mallow	Ν
Molluginaceae Carpet-weed Family			
	Glinus lotoides	Lotus Sweetjuice	Е
Nyctaginaceae Four O'Clock Family			
	Boerhavia coccinea	Scarlet Spiderling	Ν
	Mirabilis laevis	Wishbone Plant	Ν
Onagraceae Evening Primrose Family			
	Camissonia bistorta	Southern Sun Cup	Ν
	Camissonia californica	False Mustard	Ν
	Camissonia hirtella	Hairy Sun Cup	Ν
	Clarkia purpurea	Purple Clarkia	Ν
	Epilobium canum	California Fuchsia	Ν
	Epilobium ciliatum	Willow Herb	Ν
Oxalidaceae wood sorrel family			
	Oxalis ces-caprae	Burmuda Buttercup	E

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exoti
Deneviorenza			
Papaveraceae Poppy Family			
	Dicentra chrysantha	Goldern Ear Drops	N
	Eschscholzia caespitosa	Tufted Poppy	N
	Eschscholzia californica	California Poppy	N
	Romneya coulteri	Matilija Poppy	N
Plantaginaceae		mainja i oppy	
Plantain Family			
	Plantago coronopifolia	Cut-Leaf Plantain	E
	Plantago erecta	California Plantain	Ν
	Plantago lanceolata	Narrow-Leaf Plantain	E
	Plantago major	Plantain	Е
Platanaceae Plane Tree Family			
	Platanus racemosa	Western Sycamore	N
Poaceae (Gramineae) Grass Family			
-	Aristida purpurea	Three-Awned Grass	Ν
	Arundo donax	Giant Reed	E
	Avena fatua	Wild Oat	E
	Bromus catharticus	Rescue Grass	E
	Bromus diandrus	Ripgut Grass	E
	Bromus hordeaceus	Soft Chess	E
	Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens	Red Brome	E
	Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda Grass	E
	Distichlis spicata	Saltgrass	Ν
	Elymus condensatus	Giant Wild Rye	Ν
	Hordeum murinum	Mediterranean Barley	E
	Lolium multiflorum	Italian Ryegrass	Е
	Lolium perenne	Perennial Ryegrass	Е
	Nassella lepida	Foothill Needlegrass	Ν
	Nassella pulchra	Purple Needlegrass	Ν
	Phalaris paradoxa	Canary Grass	Е
	Poa sp.		
	Polypogon monspeliensis	Rabbitfoot Grass	E
	Schismus barbatus	Mediterranean Grass	Е
	Vulpia myuros	Fescue	E

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
Polemoniaceae		-	
Phlox Family			
	Allophyllum glutinosum	Blue False Gilia	
	Eriastrum sapphirinum	Blue Wool-Star	
	Gilia diegensis	San Diego Gilia	
	<i>Gilia</i> spp.	Gilia	
	Gilia angelensis	Chaparral Gilia	
	Linanthus liniflorus	Flax-Flowered Gilia	
	Navarretia atractyloides	Skunkweed	
Polygonaceae Buckwheat Family			
	Chorizanthe coriacea	Leather Spineflower	Ν
	Chorizanthe staticoides	Turkish Rugging	Ν
	Eriogonum elongatum	Long-Stemmed Eriogonum	Ν
	Eriogonum fasciculatum var.	Leafy Buckwheat	Ν
	foliolosum		
	Eriogonum gracile	Slender Buckwheat	Ν
	Polygonum aviculare	Prostrate Knotweed	E
	Polygonum arenastrum	Common Knotweed	E
	Rumex crispus	Curly Dock	E
	Rumex salicifolius	Willow-Leaved Dock	Ν
Portulaceae Purslane Family			
	Calandrinia sp.		Ν
	Calyptridium monandrum	Sand-Cress	Ν
	<i>Claytonia</i> sp.	Miners Lettuce	Ν
	Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	E
	Dodecatheon clevelandii	Shooting Star	Ν
	Portulaca oleracea	Puselane	E
	Stellaria sp.	Chickweed	E
Primulaceae Primrose Family			
	Ceanothus crassifolius	Hoaryleaf Ceanothus	Ν
	Rhamnus crocea	Red-Berry	Ν
Ranunculaceae			
	Clematis pauciflora	Southern California Clematis	Ν
	Delphinium sp.	Larkspur	Ν

Rosaceae Rose Family			_
Rose Family			
	Adenostoma fasciculatum	Chamise	Ν
	Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Holy Leaved Cherry	Ν
	Rosa californica	California Wild Rose	Ν
Rubiaceae Madder Family			
	Galium angustifolium	Narrow-Leaf Bedstraw	Ν
	Galium aparine	Annual Bedstraw	Ν
Salicaceae Willow Family			
	Populus freemontii	Freemont Cottonwood	Ν
	Salix exigua	Sandbar Willow	Ν
	Salix gooddingii	Goodding's Willow	Ν
	Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo Willow	Ν
Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family			
	Antirrhinum coulterianum	Snapdragon	Ν
	Antirrhinum nuttallianum	Nuttall's Snapdragon	Ν
	Castilleja affinis	Coast Indian Paintbrush	Ν
	Castilleja exserta	Purple Owls Clover	Ν
	Collinsia concolor	Southern Chineese Houses	Ν
	Keckiella antirrhinoides	Chaparral Beard-Tongue	Ν
	Mimulus brevipes	Hillside Monkeyflower	Ν
	Mimulus cardinalis	Scarlet Monkeyflower	N
	Mimulus guttatus	Common-Monkey Flower	N
	Mimulus pilosus	False Monkeyflower	N
	Penstemon spectabilis	Beard-Tongue	Ν
	Scrophularia californica	Coast Figwort	N
	Veronica peregrina ssp. xalapensis	Speedwell	N
Selaginellaceae Spike Moss Family			
	Selaginella bigelovii	Bigelow's Spikemoss	Ν
Simaroubaceae Quassia Family			
	Ailanthus altissima	Tree Of Heaven	E
Solanaceae Nightshade Family			
	Datura wrightii	Jimson Weed	Ν

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/Exotic
	Nicotiana quadrivalvis	Indian Tobacco	E
	Solanum douglasii	White Nightshade	Ν
Saururaceae Lizard-Tail Family			
	Anemopsis californica	Yerba Mansa	Ν
Tamaricaceae Tamarisk Family			
	Tamarix ramosissima		E
Themidaceae Brodiaea Family			
	Bloomeria crocea	Golden Star	Ν
	Dichelostemma capitatum	Blue Dicks	Ν
	Muilla maritima	Common Muilla	Ν
Typhaceae Cattail Family			
	<i>Typha</i> sp.		Ν
Urticaceae Nettle Family			
	Urtica dioica	Stinging Nettle	Ν
	Urtica urens	Dwarf Nettle	Ν
Verbenaceae Vervain Family			
	Verbena lasiostachys	Weedy Verbena	Ν
Violoaceae Violet family			
	Viola pedunculata	Johnny Jump-Up	Ν

# APPENDIX B Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur in the Proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project

## Appendix B Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Species with Potential to Occur in the Proposed Valley-Ivyglen Transmission Line Project

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Plants		L L		<u>-</u>	
Abronia villosa var aurita	Chaparral Sand-Verbena	1B.1	Jan-Sept	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Desert Dunes/sandy	High. CNDDB points occur in the study area.
Allium munzii	Munz's Onion	1B.1 FE ST MSHP Narrow Endemic	Mar-May	Chaparral, Cismontane, Woodland Coastal Scrub, Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Valley and Foothill Grassland/ mesic, clay	High. Identified in the study area.
Ambrosia pumila	San Diego Ambrosia	1B.1 FE MSHP Narrow Endemic	May-Sept	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools/often in disturbed areas	High. CNDDB record within the study area.
Arctostaphylos rainbowensis	Rainbow Manzanita	1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Jan-Feb	Chaparral	Low. No habitat present
Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri	Jaeger's Milk-Vetch	1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	Dec-Apr	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland/sandy or rocky	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Atriplex coronata var notatior	San Jacinto Valley Crownscale	1B.1 FE MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Aug	Playas, Valley and Foothill Grassland (mesic),Vernal Pools/alkaline	High. Alkaline soils exist within the project area.
Atriplex coulteri	Coulter's Saltbush	1B.2 MSHCP Criteria Species	Mar-Oct	Coastal bluff Scrub, Coastal Dunes, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland/alkaline or clay	High. Alkaline soils exist within the project area.

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Atriplex pacifica	South Coast Saltscale	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Mar-Oct	Coastal Bluff Scrub ,Coastal Dunes, Coastal Scrub, Playas	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Atriplex parishii	Parish's Brittlescale	1B.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Jun-Oct	Coastal Scrub, Playas, Vernal Pools	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii	Davidson's Saltscale	1B.2 MSHCP Criteria Species	Apr-Oct	Coastal Bluff Scrub, Coastal Scrub/alkaline	High. Alkaline soils exist within the project area.
Brodiaea filifolia	Thread-Leaved Brodiaea	1B.1 FT SE MSHCP Criteria Species	Mar-Jun	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub, Playas, Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools/often clay	High. CNDDB record within project area. Clay soils exist near Pacific Clay property.
Brodiaea orcuttii	Orcutt's Brodiaea	1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	May-July	Closed Cone Coniferous Forest,Chaparral,Cismontane Woodland, Meadows, Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools/mesic, clay, sometimes serpentine	Low. No habitat present
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's Mariposa Lily	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	May-July	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub, Lower Montane Coniferous Forest, Valley and Foothill Grassland/granitic, rocky	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Calochortus weedii var. intermedius	Intermediate Mariposa Lily	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	May-July	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland/rocky	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis	Smooth Tarplant	1B.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Apr-Sept	Chenopod Scrub, Meadows, Playas, Riparian Woodland, Valley and Foothill Grassland	High. Identified by Entrix, Inc. within study area.

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi	Parry's Spineflower	3.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Jun	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub/sandy or rocky openings	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Chorizanthe polygonoides var. longispina	Long-Spined Spineflower	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	April-July	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Meadows, Valley and Foothill Grassland/often clay	High. Clay soils within study area.
Chorizanthe xanti var. leucotheca	White-Bracted Spineflower	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Jun	Mojavean Desert Scrub Pinyon/Juniper Woodland	Low. No habitat present
Comarostaphylis diversifolia ssp. diversifolia	Summer Holly	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Jun	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland	Low. No habitat present
Cupressus forbesii	Tecate Cypress	1B.1 MSHCP Covered Species	n/a	Closed Cone Coniferous Forest, Chaparral	Low. No habitat present
Dodecahema leptoceras	Slender-Horned Spineflower	1B.1 FE SE MSHP Narrow Endemic	Apr-Jun	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub/(alluvian fan)/sandy	High. Alluvial fan present
Dudleya cymosa ssp. ovatifolia	Santa Monica Mountains Dudleya	1B.2 FT	Mar-Jun	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Dudleya multicaulis	Many-Stemmed Dudleya	1B.2 MSHP Narrow Endemic	Apr-Jul	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland/often clay	High. Clay soils exist near Pacific Clay property.
Dudleya viscida	Sticky Dudleya	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	May-Jun	Coastal Bluff Scrub, Chaparral, Coastal Scrub/rocky	Low. No habitat present

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Erodium macrophyllum	Round-Leaved Filaree	2.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Mar-May	Cismontane Woodland, Valley and Foothill Grassland/clay	High. CNDDB record within project area.
Eryngium aristulatum var. parishii	San Diego Button-Celery	1B.1 FE SE MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Jun	Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools/mesic	Low. No habitat present
Hordeum intercedens	Vernal Barley	3.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Mar-Jun	Coastal Dunes, Coastal Scrub, Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools	Low. No habitat present
Horkelia cuneata ssp. puberula	Mesa Horkelia	1B.1	Feb-Sept	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub/sand, gravelly	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	Coulter's Goldfields	1B.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Feb-Jun	Marsh and Swamp (coastal salt),Playas, Vernal Pools	Low. No habitat present
Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii	Robinson's Pepper- Grass	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Jan-July	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub	Moderate.
Lepechinia cardiophylla	Heart-Leaved Pitcher Sage	1B.2 MSHCP Criteria Species	Apr-Jul	Closed Cone Coniferous Forest,Chaparral,Cismontane Woodland	Low. No habitat present
Limnanthes gracilis ssp. parishii	Parish's Meadowfoam	1B.2/ST MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-Jun	Lower Montane Coniferous Forest, Meadows, Vernal Pools/mesic	Low. No habitat present.
Monardella hypoleuca ssp. lanata	Felt-Leaved Monardella	1B.2	Jun-Aug	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland	Low. No habitat present

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Monardella macrantha ssp. hallii	Hall's Monardella	1B.3 MSHCP Covered Species	Jun-Aug	Broad leafed upland Forest, Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Lower Montane Coniferous Forest, Valley and Foothill Grassland	Low. No habitat present
Myosurus minimus ssp. apus	Little Mousetail	3.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Mar-Jun	Valley and Foothill Grassland, Vernal Pools(alkaline)	Low. No habitat present
Navarretia fossalis	Spreading Navarretia	1B.1/FT MSHP Narrow Endemic	Apr-Jun	Chenopod Scrub, Marsh and Swamp(assorted shallow freshH20),Playas, Vernal Pools	Low. No habitat present
Navarretia prostrata	Prostrate Navarretia	1B.1 MSHCP Criteria Species	Apr-July	Coastal Scrub, Meadows, Valley and Foothill Grassland,(alkaline),Vernal Pools/mesic	Moderate. Mesic alkaline soils present within study area.
Nolina cismontanas	Chaparral Nolina	1B.2	May-July	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub/sandstone or gabbro	Low. No habitat present
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt Grass	1B.1/FE/SE MSHP Narrow Endemic	Apr-Aug	Vernal Pools	Low. No habitat present
Phacelia suaveolens ssp. keckii	Santiago Peak Phacelia	1B.3 MSHCP Covered Species	May-Jun	Closed Cone Coniferous Forest, Chaparral	Low. No habitat present
Satureja chandleri	San Miguel Savory	1B.2 MSHP Narrow Endemic	Mar-Jul	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub, Riparian Woodland, Valley and Foothill Grassland/rocky, gabbroic or metavolcanic	Low. No habitat present
Senecio aphanactis	Rayless Ragwort	2.2	Jan-Apr	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub/alkaline	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Scutellaria bolanderi ssp. austromontana	Southern Skullcap	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Jun-Aug	Chaparral, Cismontane Woodland, ,Lower Montane Coniferous Forest /mesic	Low. No habitat present

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Blooming Period	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Sibaropsis hammittii	Hammitt's Clay-Cress	1B.2	Mar-Apr	Chaparral, Valley and Foothill Grassland	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Sidalcea neomexicana	Salt Spring Checkerbloom	2.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Mar-Jun	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, ,Lower Montane Coniferous Forest, Mojave Desert Scrub ,Playas/alkaline, mesic	High. Alkaline soils within the study area
Sphaerocarpos drewei	Bottle Liverwort	1B.1	n/a	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub/opening, soil	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Symphyotrichum defoliatum	San Bernardino Aster	1B.2	Jul-Nov	Cismontane Woodland, Coastal Scrub,Lower Montane Coniferous Forest, Meadows, Marsh and Swamp, Valley and Foothill Grassland(vernally mesic)/near ditches, streams, springs	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Tetracoccus dioicus	Parry's Tetracoccus	1B.2 MSHCP Covered Species	Apr-May	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub	Moderate. Suitable habitat exists.
Tortula californica	Californica Screw Moss	1B.2	n/a	Chenopod Scrub ,Valley and Foothill Grassland/ sandy, soil	Low. No habitat present
Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii	Wright's Trichocoronis	1B.1 MSHP Narrow Endemic	May-Sept	Meadows, Marsh and Swamp Riparian Forest, Vernal Pools/alkaline	High. Alkaline soils within the study area

Federal Status CNPS Status

FE = Federal Endangered FT = Federal Threatened State/CDFG Status SE = State Endangered ST = State Threatened \*= Not included in the MSHCP

1B= Rare or Endangered in California and elsewhere

2= Rare or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

3= Review List- Plant for which we need more information

4= Plants with limited Distribution- Watch List

ed .1= Seriously endangered in California

.2= Fairly endangered in California

.3= Not very endangered in California

#### **County Status**

MSHCP Covered Species = Covered species under County of Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan MSHCP Narrow Endemic = Listed as a narrow endemic under County of Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Invertebrates		•	•	-
Euphydryas editha quino	Quino Checkerspot Butterfly	FE, MSHCP Covered Species	Grasslands, sage scrub, chaparral with open areas	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Streptocephalus woottoni	Riverside Fairy Shrimp	FE, MSHCP Covered Species	Vernal pools or shallow ponded water within grassland, scrub, chaparral	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Amphibians	•	•		-
Bufo californicus	Arroyo Toad	FE, CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Open, sandy or gravelly, riparian breeding areas and adjacent upland habitat within approximately 1 kilometer of breeding areas	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Scaphiopus hammondii	Western Spadefoot Toad	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Ephemeral pools, grassland, scrub, chaparral	High. Present within study area.
Reptiles				
Aspidoscelis (Cnemidophorus) hyperythra beldingi	Orange-Throated Whiptail	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Open sage scrub, chaparral, sandy wash, woodland	High. Present within study area.
Aspidoscelis (Cnemidophorus) tigris stejnegeri	Coastal Western Whiptail	CNDDB: G5T3T4S2S3, MSHCP Covered Species	Dense chaparral and sage scrub, especially around sandy washes and streambeds	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Charina (Lichanura) trivirgata roseofusca	Coastal Rosy Boa	CNDDB: G4G5S3S4	Dry, rocky brushlands and arid habitats, prefers rock outcrops	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Clemmys marmorata pallida	Southwestern Pond Turtle	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Streams, ponds, upland within 400 meters of ponds	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area in the vicinity of ponded water.

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Coleonyx variegates abbottii	San Diego Banded Gecko	CNDDB: G5T3T4S2S3, MSHCP Covered Species	Coastal Sage scrub and chaparral, prefers rock outcrops	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Crotalus ruber ruber	Northern Red Diamond Rattlesnake	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Scrub, chaparral, riparian	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Lampropeltus zonata pulchra	San Diego Mountain Kingsnake	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Coniferous forest, pine- oak and riparian woodlands, chaparral, Manzanita, and coastal sage scrub; ranging from sea level to high elevations. Prefers areas with rotting logs and/or talus and rock outcrops.	Low. Little to no habitat present.
Lichanura trivirgata roseofusca	Coastal Rosy Boa	CNDDB G4-5, S3-4	Scrub and woodland habitats	High. Has potential to occur within study area.
Phrynosoma coronatum (blainvillei)	Coast (San Diego) Horned Lizard	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Sage scrub, chaparral, forests	High. Has potential to occur within study area.
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea	Coast Patch-Nosed Snake	CSC	Open habitats, brush	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Thamnophis hammondi	Two-Striped Garter Snake	CSC	Creeks and ponds, nearby upland habitats	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Birds	•	•	•	
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's Hawk	CSC (nesting), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Oak woodland, eucalyptus, mature riparian forest	High. Present within study area. Potential to nest in study area.
Accipiter striatus	Sharp-Shinned Hawk	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Grasslands, coastal sage scrub	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area as a winter migrant.
Agelaius tricolor	Tri-Colored Blackbird (Nesting Colony)	FBCC, CSC, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Marshes, fields	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Aimophila ruficeps canescens	Southern California Rufous-Crowned Sparrow	CSC, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Open coastal sage scrub	High. Present within study area. Potential to nest in study area.
Amphispiza belli belli	Bell's Sage Sparrow	FBCC, CSC, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral	High. Present within study area. Potential to nest in study area.
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	FBCC, BEPA, CSC, CFP, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Grasslands, trees, cliffs, scrub	Moderate. Has potential to forage within study area.
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing Owl	FSC, FBCC, CSC (Burrow sites) , MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Open land, old ground squirrel burrows	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential to nest in study area (i.e. ground squirrel burrows present).
Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	FBCC, CSC (wintering), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Grasslands	Moderate. Uncommon winter visitor, could forage in study area.
Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	CSC (nesting), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species (breeding)	Grasslands, marshes, open habitats	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential nesting habitat present.
Elanus leucurus	White-Tailed Kite	CFP, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Open habitats with perches	High. Present within study area. Potential nesting habitat present.
Empidonax traillii (extimus)	Willow Flycatcher (Southwestern)	FE ( <i>extimus</i> ), SE (all subspecies), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species ( <i>extimus</i> )	Well developed riparian woodland, willow meadows	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential nesting habitat present. Potential to nest in study area.

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Eremophila alpestris actia	California Horned Lark	CSC, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Open habitats, bare dirt	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Falco peregrinus anatum	American Peregrine Falcon	FBCC, SE, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Cliffs	Low. Has potential to occur within study area.
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	FT, SE, BEPA, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Ocean shore, lake margins, and rivers.	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Unlikely to nest in area.
Icteria virens	Yellow-Breasted Chat	CSC (nesting), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Mature riparian woodland	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential nesting habitat present.
Lanius Iudovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike	FBCC, CSC (nesting), MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Open habitats, scrub	High. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential nesting habitat present.
Plegadis chihi	White-Faced Ibis	CSC, MBTA	Freshwater lagoons, rivers, lakes, wet agricultural fields, and occasionally salt marshes.	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Polioptila californica californica	Coastal California Gnatcatcher	FT, CSC, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Coastal sage scrub	High. Present within study area. Potential to nest in study area.
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's Vireo	FE, SE, MBTA, MSHCP Covered Species	Riparian scrub and low woodland	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area. Potential nesting habitat present.
Mammals				
Cheatodipus californicus femoralis	Dulzura California Pocket Mouse	CSC	Scrub/grassland interface, also woodlands and chaparral	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area

Scientific Name <sup>1</sup>	Common Name	Status <sup>2</sup>	Habitat	Potential to Occur in Study Area (High, Moderate, Low)
Dipodomys stephensi	Stephens' Kangaroo Rat	ST/FE, MSHCP Covered Species	Grasslands with sparse to no shrub cover	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Eumops perotis	Western Mastiff Bat	CSC	Areas of chaparral or live oaks and in more arid, rocky regions.	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Lepus californica bennettii	San Diego Black- Tailed Jackrabbit	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Scrub/grassland interface	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Neotoma lepida intermedia	San Diego Desert Woodrat	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Cactus thickets, chaparral, sage scrub	High. Has potential to occur within study area.
Onychomys torridus ramona	Southern Grasshopper Mouse	CSC	Abandoned rodent burrows in low to moderate shrub cover	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Perognathus (Chaetodipus) fallax fallax	Northwestern San Diego Pocket Mouse	CSC, MSHCP Covered Species	Sage scrub, grassland, desert scrub	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles Pocket Mouse	FE, CSC, NE, MSHCP Covered Species	Narrow coastal plains.	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.
Corynorhinus (Plecotus) townsendii	(Townsend's) Big- Eared Bat	CSC	Cold caves and mines	Moderate. Has potential to occur within study area.

#### Federal Status

FE = Federal Endangered

FT = Federal Threatened

#### State/CDFG Status

MBTA = Migratory Bird Treaty Act Species

SE = State Endangered

ST = State Threatened

CFP= California Fully Protected Species FBCC= Federal Birds of Conservation Concern

CSC = California Species of Concern

BEPA=Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

CNDDB = has a California Natural Diversity DataBase ranking only

#### County Status

MSHCP Covered Species = Covered species under County of Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

# APPENDIX C Western Riverside MSHCP Narrow Endemic and Criteria Area Plant Species

Allium munzii Munz's onion USFWS: Endangered; 10/13/98 CDFG: Threatened; 01/90 CNPS: List 1B.1 (California endemic) MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



© Roxanne Bittman and CNPS

Munz's onion is a bulb-forming perennial herb in the lily family (Liliaceae). This onion species is endemic to mesic clay soils of chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, cismontane woodland, pinon and juniper woodland, and coastal scrub habitats within southwestern Riverside County at elevations ranging from 300 to 1,070 meters (m) (984 to 3,510 feet [ft.]) (USFWS 1998, CNPS 2006). Munz' onion produces 10 to 36 white flowers which bloom between the months of March and May (CNPS 2005, Hickman 1993). They only flower during years with adequate rainfall and 3 to 5 years are required after seeds germination for plants to reach maturity and produce flowers. As much as 80 to 90 percent of the suitable habitat for this species has been adversely modified through extensive agriculture, urbanization, and clay mining (CDFG 1989).

This species is known from only 13 populations in Western Riverside County, including the Gavilan Hills, Harford Springs County Park, Paloma Valley, Skunk Hollow, Domenigoni Hills, Bachelor Mountain, and the Elsinore Mountains. It is estimated that the total number of plants is somewhere between 20,000 to 70,000 individuals. (USFWS 1998).

#### Ambrosia pumila

San Diego ambrosia USFWS: Endangered 07/02/02 CDFG: None CNPS:1B.1 MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



© 2003 Jim Rocks

San Diego ambrosia is an herbaceous perennial that belongs to the sunflower family (Asteraceae). This species occurs at elevations below 415 m (1,362 ft.) within chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pool habitats of Riverside and San Diego County. It may also be found in disturbed habitats such as fire breaks and roadways. In Riverside County, San Diego ambrosia is associated with open, gently sloped grasslands and is generally associated with alkaline soils (County of Riverside 2003). San Diego ambrosia is monoecious, the staminate and pistillate flowers occur in mixed clusters. Flowers are yellow or translucent and bloom from April to October. This species is known in California from fewer than 20 occurrences and is threatened by development, nonnative plants, road maintenance, and trampling (CNPS 2006).

Three populations of San Diego ambrosia have been mapped in Riverside County. One population is known from Skunk Hollow, a second from Nichols Road north of Lake Elsinore, and a third has been reported for the City of Riverside based on a 1941 collection (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Atriplex coronata var. notatior

San Jacinto Valley crownscale USFWS: Endangered 10/13/98 CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.1 (California endemic) MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



© 2001 Barry Du Bois

San Jacinto Valley crownscale is an annual herb in the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). It is endemic to western Riverside County and is restricted to the San Jacinto, Perris, Menifee, and Elsinore Valleys (County of Riverside 2003). San Jacinto Valley crownscale occurs primarily in floodplains (seasonal wetlands) dominated by alkali scrub, alkali playas, vernal pools, and, to a lesser extent, alkali grasslands at elevations ranging from 380 to 500 m (1,247 to 1,640 ft.) (CNPS 2006, County of Riverside 2003). This bushy, low, grayish erect annual is monoecious the staminate and pistillate flowers occur in mixed clusters and may be found blooming from April to August (CNPS 2006). This species requires seasonal inundation or flooding for habitat rejuvenation and seed dispersal, although the duration and extent of flooding may vary substantially from year to year (USFWS 1998). San Jacinto Valley crownscale is threatened by flood control, agriculture, urbanization, vehicles, and pipeline construction (CNPS 2006).

In western Riverside County, San Jacinto Valley crownscale occurs as 11 looselydefined populations that are primarily associated with Mystic Lake, the San Jacinto River, and Salt Creek tributary drainages. One small, isolated population has recently been discovered on Willows soils at Alberhill Creek near Lake Elsinore (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Atriplex parishii

### NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Parish's brittlescale USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS 1B.1 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species

Parish's brittlescale is an annual herb belonging to the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). Parish's brittlescale is currently known only from the western Riverside County. Historically, this species was also known to occur within the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino (CNPS 2006). Habitats for this species include chenopod scrub, playas, and vernal pools at elevations ranging from

25 to 1,900 m (82 to 6,233 ft.). The obscure and small flowers bloom from June to October (CNPS 2006). Parish's brittlescale is threatened by development, agricultural conversion, and grazing (CNPS 2006).

Currently, Parish's brittlescale is known definitively from only three populations within the Salt Creek drainage west of Hemet (County of Riverside 2003). Appropriate habitat still remains at several historical sites such as on the flood plain along the San Jacinto River (last observed in 1974) (County of Riverside 2003)

#### Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii

Davidson's saltscale USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS 1B.2 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species

#### NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Davidson's saltscale is an annual herb belonging to the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). Davidson's saltbush is known to occur in cismontane southwestern California from Ventura County, western Orange County, and western Riverside County (CNPS 2006). Historically, this species has also been reported in coastal Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties (CNPS 2006, CNDDB 2005). In Riverside County, Davidson's saltbush is found in the Domino-Willows-Traver Soils series in association with the alkali vernal pools, alkali annual grassland, alkali playa, and alkali scrub components of alkali vernal plains at elevations ranging from 10 to 200 m (33 to 656 ft.) (CNPS 2006, County of Riverside 2003), Davidson's saltbush produces male and female flowers in separate clusters. The flowers, which bloom from April to October, are very small and obscure. In Riverside County, this species and its habitat are threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, off road vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

Davidson's saltbush is known to occur in the upper Salt Creek drainage area west of Hemet and along the San Jacinto River floodplain from Mystic Lake south to the Ramona Expressway where it occurs in small, patchy populations. This species may also occur in the vicinity of the Nichols Road wetlands at Alberhill and Murrieta Hot Springs Area (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Brodiaea filifolia

Thread-leaved brodiaea USFWS: Threatened 10/13/98 CDFG: Endangered 01/82 CNPS: 1B.1 (California endemic) MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



© 2001 Salvatore Zimmitti

Thread-leaved brodiaea is a bulbiferous herb in the lily family (Liliaceae). This species is endemic to California and occurs only in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Thread-leaved brodiaea typically occurs on gentle hillsides, valleys, and floodplains in semi-alkaline mudflats, vernal pools, mesic southern needlegrass grassland, mixed native-nonnative grassland, and alkali grassland plant communities in association with clay, loamy sand, or alkaline silty-clay soils within elevations ranging from 25 to 860 m (82 to 2,821 ft.) (CNPS 2006, County of Riverside 2003). The leaves of this species are basal and often wither; its bell-shaped violet-red-purple flowers bloom from March to June (Hickman 1993, CNPS 2006). Thread-leaved brodiaea is seriously threatened by residential development, agriculture, grazing, and vehicles (CNPS 2006).

Twelve populations of thread-leaved brodiaea are known from western Riverside County along the San Jacinto River in Nuevo, Perris, and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area Salt Creek; on Salt Creek; on the Santa Rosa Plateau; and west of the Santa Rosa Plateau (County of Riverside 2003).

Centromadia pungens ssp. laevis

Smooth tarplant USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS 1B.1 (California endemic) MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



© 2003 Dean Wm. Taylor

Smooth tarplant is an annual herb belonging to the sunflower family (Asteraceae). This species is endemic to southern California and is known to occur in Orange (extirpated), Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Smooth tarplant occurs in alkaline soils of chenopod scrub, playas, riparian woodland, meadows, seeps and valley, and foothill grassland habitats at elevations less than 480 m (1,574 ft.) (CNPS 2006). The majority of the populations in western Riverside County are associated with alkali vernal plains (County of Riverside 2003). Smooth tarplant produces large showy yellow flowers which bloom from April to September. In Riverside County, smooth tarplant and its habitat are threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, off-road vehicle activity, trampling by

cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

Populations identified in western Riverside County include the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, the middle segment of the San Jacinto River, Salt Creek, and areas north of the Tres Cerritos Hills (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Dodecahema leptoceras

Slender-horned spineflower USFWS: Endangered 09/28/87 CDFG: Endangered 01/82 CNPS: 1B.1 (California endemic) MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



© James L. Reveal

Slender-horned spineflower is a small, spreading annual herb the buckwheat family (Polygonaceae). This species in endemic to California and occurs only in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties (CNPS 2006). Slender-horned spineflower is known to occur in sandy or gravelly soils of chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub (alluvial fan) habitats in elevations ranging from 200 to 760 m (656 to 2,493 ft.) (CNPS 2006). This species is also known to occur in association with moss, algae, and/or lichen crusts which occur on the soil surface (County of Riverside 2003). Slender-horned spineflower produces white to pink flowers which bloom from April through June. In Riverside County, this species is threatened by urbanization, off-road vehicle use, sand and gravel mining, trampling associated with recreation, flood control measures (*i.e.*, constriction of the floodplain, dams, etc.), and competition from nonnative plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

Slender-horned spineflower is known to occur within the following areas of western Riverside County: Temescal Wash at Indian Creek, upper San Jacinto River near Valle Vista and Hemet, central Bautista Creek, Arroyo Seco and Kolb Creek along the north flank of the Agua Tibia Mountains, and at Vail Lake in southern Riverside (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Dudleya multicaulis

Many-stemmed dudleya USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.2 (California endemic) MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



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Many-stemmed dudleya is a perennial herb in the stonecrop family (Crassulaceae). It is endemic to southwestern California and is known to occur only in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Many-stemmed dudleya is often associated with clay soils in barrens, rocky places, or thinly vegetated openings in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and southern needlegrass grasslands at elevations

ranging from 15 to 790 m (49 to 2,591 ft. in elevation) (Munz 1974, CNPS 2006). Manystemmed dudleya generally produces yellow flowers from April to July (CNPS 2006).

About 10 populations of many-stemmed dudleya have been reported in western Riverside County. These populations are known from the vicinity of Santa Ana Canyon, the Temescal Valley, Estelle Mountain and Lake Mathews, Alberhill near Lake Elsinore, Oak Flats in the San Mateo Wilderness, and at Vail Lake (County of Riverside 2003). A significant portion of the population has been conserved within the Lake Mathews-Estelle Mountain preserve. However, other populations are threatened by urban and transportation development, and landfill expansion (County of Riverside 2003).

*Erodium macrophyllum* Round-leaved filaree USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 2.1 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



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Round-leaved filaree is an herbaceous annual in the geranium family (Geraniaceae) that is found throughout California, southern Oregon and northern Baja California. It typically grows in heavy clay soils within valley and foothill grasslands and cismontane woodland habitats at elevations ranging from 15 to 1,200 m (49 to 3,937 ft.) (CNPS 2006). The white showy white flowers of this species bloom from March through May (Hickman 1993, CNPS 2006). Round leaved filaree is threatened by urbanization, vehicles, grazing, and nonnative plants (CNPS 2006).

Currently there are six populations of round-leaved filaree known to occur in Riverside County from the vicinities of Skinner Reservoir and Bachelor Mountain, Alice Mine, Temescal Wash (south of Highway 15, west of Alberhill), south of Lake Mathews and Big Oak Mountain (Vail Lake region) (CNDDB 2005).

*Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri* Coulter's goldfields USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.1 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



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Coulter's goldfields is a perennial herb in the sunflower family (Asteraceae) that is known to occur in the Counties of Orange, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo, as well as Santa Rosa Island and Baja California. Historically

populations of this species were known to occur in Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties, however, today these populations are extirpated (CNPS 2006). Coulter's goldfields occur in vernal pools, playas, marshes and swamps at elevations ranging from 1 to 1,220 m (3.2 to 3,904 feet). In Riverside County, Coulter's goldfields occur primarily in floodplains dominated by alkali scrub, alkali playas, vernal pools, and, alkali grasslands associated with the Traver-Domino-Willows soils series (County of Riverside 2003). Coulter's goldfields produce orange-yellow ray flowers which may be seen blooming from February to June (CNPS 2006, Hickman 1993). This species and its habitat are threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, off-road vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

Coulter's goldfields is known primarily from four areas in western Riverside County: Mystic Lake and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area; along the San Jacinto River from Lakeview, Nuevo, and Perris to Railroad Canyon; Salt Creek; and the alkali wetlands near Nichols Road in the City of Lake Elsinore. Small, or historic populations, have also been reported from Anza, the vicinity of Murrieta and Temecula, the lake bed of Lake Elsinore, and at Woodcrest near Mockingbird Canyon (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Lepechinia cardiophylla

Heart-leaved pitcher sage USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.2 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



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Heart-leaved pitcher sage is a shrub in the mint family (Lamiaceae) that is known to occur from the Santa Ana Mountains in Orange and Riverside counties, Iron Mountain in San Diego County and the coastal mountains of northern Baja California (County of Riverside 2003). This aromatic species is found in closed-cone coniferous forest chaparral and cismontane woodland habitats in elevations ranging form 520 to 1,370 m (1,706 to 4494 ft.) (CNPS 2006). Heart-leaved pitcher sage produces white to lavender tinged funnel shaped flowers that bloom from April through July (CNPS 2006, Hickman 1993). This species is potentially threatened by development, installation of transmission lines and fire-suppression activities (County of Riverside 2003).

In Riverside County this species is known to occur from the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains northwest of Lake Elsinore, the hills southeast of Alberhill, Cleveland National Forest, and near the border of Orange and Riverside counties (County of Riverside 2003).

*Myosurus minimus ssp. apus* little mousetail USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 3.1 MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



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Little mousetail is an annual herb in the buttercup family (Ranunculaceae) that is known to occur in Riverside County, San Bernardino County, San Diego County, Baja California and Oregon from sea level to 640 m (<2,100 ft.) elevation (CNPS 2006). In southern California, little mousetail occurs in association with vernal pools, as well as within the alkali vernal pools and alkali annual grassland components of alkali vernal plains (County of Riverside 2003). In Riverside County, the small greenish flowers of little mousetail bloom from April to May on the Santa Rosa Plateau and from March to April in the lowlands, but is often detectable most of the year unless disturbed (County of Riverside 2003). This species and its habitat are threatened in Riverside County by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, off-road vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Navarretia fossalis

USFWS: Threatened 10/13/98 CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.1 MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



www.cnps.org

Spreading navarretia is an annual herb in the phlox family (Polemoniaceae). It is distributed from northwestern Los Angeles County and western Riverside County, south through coastal San Diego County, California to San Quintin in northwestern Baja California, Mexico, from near sea level to 1,300 m (<4,200 ft.). In western Riverside County, spreading navarretia has been found in relatively undisturbed and moderately disturbed vernal pools, within a larger vernal floodplains dominated by annual alkali grassland or alkali playa (County of Riverside 2003). This species produces a compact cluster of 15 to 50 small white flowers that bloom from April to June (CNPS 2006, Hickman 1993). Spreading navarretia and its habitat is threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, offroad vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression

practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

Riverside County supports the largest remaining populations of spreading navarretia. Eleven (11) of the 12 populations in Riverside County are found in the alkali soils of two population complexes within the Upper Salt Creek drainage west of Hemet, and along the San Jacinto River extending from just west of Mystic Lake south to the Perris Valley Airport (County of Riverside 2003). Several vernal pools occupied by spreading navarretia south of the Ramona Expressway are on lands managed for conservation by the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Association (County of Riverside 2003).

Navarretia prostrata Prostrate navarretia USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.1 (California Endemic) MSHCP: Criteria Area Species



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Prostrate navarretia is a California endemic annual herb species in the phlox family (Polemoniaceae) that is known to occur only from Alameda, Los Angeles, Merced, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and possibly San Bernardino counties. It is found in mesic sites within valley and foothill grassland (alkaline), coastal scrub, vernal pools, meadows, and seeps at elevations ranging from 15 to 700 m (49 to 2,296 ft.) (CNPS 2006). Prostrate navarretia produces a cluster of blue to white flowers that bloom from April to July. Threats to this species include habitat degradation by nonnative plants and destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development. In Riverside County this species is known from only two occurrences that are located in the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve (CNDDB 2005).

#### Orcuttia californica

California orcutt grass USFWS: Endangered 08/03/93 CDFG: Endangered 09/79 CNPS: 1B.1 MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



California orcutt grass is an annual herb in the grass family (Poaceae). In California it is known to occur from Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, and Ventura counties. California orcutt grass is specific to vernal pool habitats found at elevations below 660 m (<2,165 ft.) (CNPS 2006). Its seeds can remain dormant for at least 3 to 4 years and possibly longer, germinating in the spring only after flooding of the vernal pools.

California orcutt grass blooms from April through August and appears to be strongly adapted to wind pollination (CNSP 2006, County of Riverside 2003). This species and its habitat is threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, off-road vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

California orcutt grass is known to occur from three vernal pool sites in Riverside County: Upper Salt Creek west of Hemet, Skunk Hollow, and the Santa Rosa Plateau Historically, this species was also known from Salt Creek west of Menifee, and Murrieta Hot Springs (County of Riverside 2003).

Satureja chandleri San Miguel savory USFWS: None CDFG: None CNPS: 1B.2 MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species



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San Miguel savory is a perennial herb in the mint family (Lamiaceae) that is known to occur from Orange, Riverside, San Diego counties, and Baja California. It is associated with rocky, gabbroic, and metavolcanic substrates in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, cismontane woodland, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grasslands at elevations ranging from 120 to 1,075 m (394 to 3,526 ft.) (CNPS 2006). The two-lipped white-to-lavender flowers of this species bloom from March to July (CNPS 2006, Hickman 1993). This species is threatened by agricultural conversion, urban development, and recreational activities (CNPS 2006).

Occurrences of San Miguel savory in Riverside County are known from Steele Mountain; in the vicinity of the Hogbacks; in the hills west of the Santa Rosa Plateau; on the Santa Rosa Plateau; in the Santa Ana Mountains: 1 mile west of Murrieta on Tenaja Road, 10 miles west of Murrieta (vicinity of Tenaja guard station), 3 miles south of Murrieta near De Luz Road, and 3 miles southwest of Murrieta near Warner's Ranch. A historic (1959) occurrence is known from St. Johns Canyon south of Hemet that needs verification (County of Riverside 2003).

#### Trichocoronis wrightii var. wrightii

#### NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Wright's trichocoronis **USFWS: None** CDFG: None **CNPS: 2.1** MSHCP: Narrow Endemic Species

Wright's trichocoronis is an annual herb in the sunflower family (Asteraceae) that has naturalized in California. It is currently only known to occur only in Merced and Riverside counties. Historically populations of this species were identified in Merced. Colusa. Sutter, and San Joaquin counties; however, today these populations are extirpated (CNPS 2006). In western Riverside County, Wright's trichocoronis is found in the alkali vernal plains and associated with alkali playa, alkali annual grassland, and alkali vernal pool habitats (County of Riverside 2003). Wright's trichocoronis produces white flower heads that bloom from May to September (CNPS 2006, Hickman 1993). This species and its habitat are threatened by habitat destruction and fragmentation from urban and agricultural development, pipeline construction, alteration of hydrology and flood-plain dynamics, excessive flooding, channelization, off-road vehicle activity, trampling by cattle and sheep, weed abatement, fire suppression practices (including discing and plowing), and competition from alien plant species (County of Riverside 2003).

This species is known only from four locations along the San Jacinto River from the vicinity of the Ramona Expressway and San Jacinto Wildlife Area and along the northern shore of Mystic Lake. Only two locations on either side of the Ramona Expressway have been seen in recent years. This species may have once occurred at Salt Creek and possibly in the alkali wetlands near Nichols Road in the vicinity of Lake Elsinore (County of Riverside 2003).

Athene cunicularia hypugaea Burrowing owl USFWS: Species of Concern CDFG: Species of Concern; Proposed



MSHCP: Criteria Area Species (MSHCP Burrowing Owl Survey Areas)

The western burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia hypugaea) is one of the smallest species of owls, about 9 inches length, with a short tail and very long legs, weighing only about 4 ounces. While most owls are nocturnal, burrowing owls are unique in that they are diurnal, meaning they are active both day and night, with most activity occurring at dusk and dawn. They are opportunistic feeders, mostly eating beetles, grasshoppers, and other large arthropods. Other prev animals include mice, rats, gophers, reptiles, and amphibians (Johnsgard 1988). Burrowing owls occupy grasslands, deserts sagebrush scrub, agricultural areas, earthen levees, berms, coastal uplands, and urban vacant lots,

as well as margins of airports, golf courses, and roads. They prefer low-growing vegetation and presence of existing ground-squirrel burrows (Haug *et al.* 1993).

Currently, the western burrowing owl is a federal and state species of special concern; however, a petition for its listing as threatened or endangered under the CESA was submitted to the CDFG in December 2003 by the Center for Biological Diversity. Although the petition was later found unwarranted by the California Fish and Game Commission, a new petition is expected to be submitted in 2006 and listing may be found warranted in light of new information.

The burrowing owl was formerly common in appropriate habitats throughout the state, excluding the humid northwest coastal forests and high mountains. Population numbers have markedly reduced in recent decades (County of Riverside 2003). The burrowing owl occurs within the central portion of western Riverside County; in the open lowlands (County of Riverside 2003). The primary threats to the species include the loss of natural habitat due to urban development and agriculture, and the expressed effects of insecticides and rodenticides within occupied habitat. The loss of burrowing mammal colonies (due to rodenticides or other means) and the crushing of burrows by heavy equipment and ground maintenance machinery remain problematical (County of Riverside 2003).

Specific instructions for burrowing owl surveys are included in the CDFG Burrowing Owl Survey and Monitoring Guidelines (CDFG 1993) and the Burrowing Owl Survey Instructions for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Area (County of Riverside 2006).

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# APPENDIX D

# **Animal Species Encountered**

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Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
	FISH	
Minnows and Relatives Cyprinidae	Common Carp	Cyprinus carpio
<b>Livebearers</b> Poeciliidae	Western Mosquitofish	Gambusia affinis
	AMPHIBIANS - AMPHIBIA	
<b>Spadefoot Toads</b> Pelobatidae	Western Spadefoot (larvae)	Scaphiopus (Spea) hammondii
<b>True Toads</b> Bufonidae	California Toad	Bufo boreas halophilus
Treefrogs and Relatives Hylidae	Pacific Treefrog (larvae)	Hyla regilla
<b>True Frogs</b> Ranidae	Bullfrog (larvae)	Rana catesbeiana
	REPTILES-REPTILIA	
<b>Horned and Spiny Lizards</b> Phrynosomatidae	Western Fence Lizard	Sceloporus occidentalis
	Side-blotched Lizard	Uta stansburiana
Colubrid Snakes Colubridae	California Kingsnake	Lampropeltis getula californiae
<b>Vipers</b> Viperidae	Southwestern Speckled Rattlesnake	Crotalus mitchellii pyrrhus
	BIRDS-AVES	
Ducks, Geese, and Swans Anatidae	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos
<b>New World Quail</b> Odontophoridae	California Quail	Callipepla californica
<b>Cormorants</b> Phalacrocoracidae	Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus
Herons, Bitterns, and Allies Aredeidae	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias
	Great Egret	Ardea alba
	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax
American Vultures Cathartidae	Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura
Hawks, Kites, Eagles Accipitridae	White-tailed Kite	Elanus leucurus
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus
	Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii

Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Red-shouldered Hawk	Buteo lineatus
	Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis
Falcons	American Kestrel	Falco sparverius
Falconidae		
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots Rallidae	American Coot	Fulica Americana
Lapwings and Plovers Charadriidae	Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus
Stilts and Avocets Haematopodidae	Black-necked Stilt	Himantopus mexicanus
Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies Scolopacidae	Greater Yellowlegs	Tringa melanoleuca
Skuas, Gulls, and Terns Laridae	California Gull	Larus californicus
Pigeons and Doves Columbidae	Rock Pigeon	Columba livia
	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura
Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis Cuculidae	Greater Roadrunner	Geococcyx californianus
<b>Swifts</b> Apodidae	White-throated Swift	Aeronautes saxatalis
	Vaux's Swift	Chaetura vauxi
<b>Hummingbirds</b> Trochilidae	Black-chinned Hummingbird	Archilochus alexandri
	Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna
	Costa's Hummingbird	Calypte costae
<b>Woodpeckers</b> Picidae	Acorn Woodpecker	Melanerpes formicivorus
	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Picoides nuttallii
	Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens
	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus
<b>Tyrant flycatchers</b> Tyrannidae	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi
	Western Wood-pewee	Contopus sordidulus
	Black Phoebe	Sayornis nigricans
	Say's Phoebe	Sayornis saya
	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Myiarchus cinerascens
	Cassin's Kingbird	Tyrannus vociferans

Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Western Kingbird	Tyrannus verticalis
Vireos	Warbling Vireo	Vireo gilvus
Vireonidae		
Jays, Magpies and Crows Corvidae	Western Scrub-jay	Aphelocoma californica
	American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos
	Common Raven	Corvus corax
<b>Larks</b> Alaudidae	Horned Lark	Eremophila alpestris
<b>Swallows</b> Hirundinidae	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripennis
	Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota
<b>Swallows (cont.)</b> Hirundinidae	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Long-tailed Tits and Bushtits Aegithalidae	Bushtit	Psaltriparus minimus
Wrens	Rock Wren	Salpinctes obsoletus
Troglodytidae		
	Bewick's Wren	Thryomanes bewickii
	House Wren	Troglodytes aedon
Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Polioptila caerulea
Sylviidae		
	Coastal California Gnatcatcher	Polioptila californica californica
<b>Babblers</b> Timaliidae	Wrentit	Chamaea fasciata
Mockingbirds and Thrashers Mimidae	Northern Mockingbird	Mimus polyglottos
<b>Starlings</b> Sturnidae	European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris
<b>Wood-Warblers</b> Parulidae	Orange-crowned Warbler	Vermivora celata
	Nashville Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla
	Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata
	Black-throated Gray Warbler	Dendroica nigrescens
	Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas

Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
Tanagers	Western Tanager	Piranga ludoviciana
Thraupidae		
<b>Emberizines</b> Emberizidae	Spotted Towhee	Pipilo maculatus
	California Towhee	Pipilo crissalis
	Southern California Rufous-crowned Sparrow	Aimophila ruficeps canescens
	Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina
	Lark Sparrow	Chondestes grammacus
	Bell's Sage Sparrow	Amphispiza belli belli
	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis
	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia
	White-crowned Sparrow	Zonotrichia leucophrys
Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies Cardinalidae	Black-headed Grosbeak	Pheucticus melanocephalus
	Blue Grosbeak	Passerina caerulea
	Lazuli Bunting	Passerina amoena
Blackbirds and Allies Icteridae	Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus
	Western Meadowlark	Sturnella neglecta
	Brewer's Blackbird	Euphagus cyanocephalus
	Great-tailed Grackle	Quiscalus mexicanus
	Hooded Oriole	Icterus cucullatus
	Bullock's Oriole	Icterus bullockii
<b>Finches</b> Fringillidae	House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus
	Lesser Goldfinch	Carduelis psaltria
	Lawrence's Goldfinch	Carduelis lawrencei
	American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis
Old World Sparrows Passeridae	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
	MAMMALS-MAMMALIA	
Rabbits and Hares Leporidae	Desert Cottontail	Sylvilagus audubonii
<b>Squirrels, Chipmunks, and Marmots</b> Sciuridae	California Ground Squirrel	Spermophilus beecheyi
<b>Pocket Gophers</b> Geomyidae	Botta's Pocket Gopher (mounds)	Thomomys bottae

Family	Common Name	Scientific Name		
Pocket Mice and Kangaroo Rats Heteromyidae	Kangaroo Rat (burrows)	Dipodomys sp. (likely stephensi)		
<b>Mice and Rats</b> Muridae	Dusky-footed Woodrat (nest)	Neotoma fuscipes		
	California Vole	Microtus californicus		
Raccoons and Relatives Procyonidae	Raccoon (tracks)	Procyon lotor		
Foxes, Wolves and Coyotes Canidae	Coyote (scat)	Canis latrans		
Deer, Elk, and Relatives Cervidae	Black-tailed (Mule) Deer (tracks)	Odocoileus hemionus		
lotes: Western Spadefoot larvae were observed in ephemeral pools on Pacific Clay Property				

Notes: Western Spadefoot larvae were observed in ephemeral pools on Pacific Clay Property Bell's Sage Sparrows were observed on Segment K Southern California Rufous-crowned Sparrows were observed on Segments K and M

# APPENDIX E

# **Vegetation Communities**

### Appendix E Vegetation Communities

#### **Coastal Sage Scrub**

In western Riverside County, coastal sage scrub is found both in large contiguous blocks scattered throughout the County as well as integrated with chaparral and grasslands. Coastal sage scrub is dominated by a characteristic suite of low-statured, aromatic, drought-deciduous shrubs, and subshrub species. Composition varies substantially depending on physical circumstances and the successional status of the vegetation community; however, characteristic species include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), California encelia (*Encelia californica*), and several species of sage (e.g., *Salvia mellifera*, *S. apiana*). Other common species include brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), lemonadeberry (*Rhus integrifolia*), sugarbush (*R. ovata*), yellow bush penstemon (*Keckiella antirrhinoides*), Mexican elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), sweetbush (*Bebbia juncea*), boxthorn (*Lycium* spp.), shore cactus (*Opuntia littoralis*), coastal cholla (*O. prolifera*), tall prickly-pear (*O. oricola*), and species of Dudleya (*Dudleya* spp).

A subcategory of this vegetation type includes Riversidean Sage Scrub. This habitat type is the most xeric expression of the coastal sage scrub habitat. It includes the species listed above however, occurs in much drier conditions.

#### Grasslands

Two general types of grasslands occur in western Riverside County: (1) non-native dominated, primarily annual grassland (non-native grassland); and (2) native dominated perennial grassland (valley and foothill grassland).

Valley and foothill grasslands typically contain the perennial bunch grasses purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*) and foothill needlegrass (*N. lepida*). Lesser amounts of other native grasses, such as onion grass (*Melica* spp.), wild rye (*Leymus* spp.), Muhly (*Muhlenbergia* spp.), and cane bluestem (*Bothriochloa barbinodis*), may also be present. In addition, non-native grasses or forbs may be present to varying degrees. Native herbaceous plants commonly found within valley and foothill grasslands include yellow fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii*), common calyptridium (*Calyptridium monardum*), suncup (*Camissonia* spp.), Chinese houses (*Collinsia heterophylla*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), tarweed (*Hemizonia* spp.), coast goldfields (*Lasthenia californica*), common tidy-tips (*Layia platyglossa*), lupine (*Lupinus* spp.), popcornflower (*Plagiobothrys* spp.), blue dicks (*Dichelostemma capitata*), muilla (*Muilla* spp.), blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*), and dudleya (*Dudleya* spp.) (County of Riverside 2003).

Non-native grasslands are likely to be dominated by several species of grasses that have evolved to persist in concert with human agricultural practices: slender oat (*Avena barbata*), wild oat (*Avena fatua*), fox tail chess (*Bromus madritensis*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), barley (*Hordeum* spp.), rye grass (*Lolium* 

*multiflorum*), English ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), rat-tail fescue (*Vulpia myuros*), and Mediterranean schismus (*Schismus barbatus*) (County of Riverside 2003).

### Agriculture

Agricultural lands within the MSHCP boundary include areas occupied by dairies and livestock feed yards or areas that have been tilled for use as croplands or groves/orchards (County of Riverside 2003).

### **Developed or Disturbed Land**

Developed or disturbed lands consist of areas that have been disced, cleared, or otherwise altered. Developed lands may include roadways, existing buildings, and structures. Disturbed lands may include ornamental plantings for landscaping, escaped exotics, or ruderal vegetation dominated by non-native, weedy species such as mustard (*Brassica* sp.), fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) (County of Riverside 2003).

### Woodlands and Forest

Woodland and forest vegetation communities in western Riverside County are dominated by Engelmann oak (*Quercus engelmannii*), coast live oak (*Q. agrifolia*), canyon live oak (*Q. chrysolepis*), interior live oak (*Q. wislizenii*), and black oak (*Q. kelloggii*) in the canopy, which may be continuous to intermittent or savannah-like. Fourneedle pinyon (*Pinus quadrifolia*), single-leaf pinyon pine (*Pinus monophylla*) and California juniper (*Juniperus californica*) are the canopy species of peninsular juniper woodland which most commonly occur in Southern California, forming a scattered canopy from 3 to 15 m tall (County of Riverside 2003).

Many understory plants in oak woodlands are shade tolerant and include wild blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos mollis*), California walnut (*Juglans californica*), California-lilac (*Ceanothus* spp.), lemonadeberry (*Rhus integrifolia*), sugar bush (*Rhus ovata*), currant (*Ribes* spp.), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), Engelmann oak, manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.), laurel sumac, poison-oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) and herbaceous plants including bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), polypody fern (*Polypodium californicum*), fiesta flower (*Pholistorma auritum*) and miner's lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata*). This vegetation community can occur on all aspects, on stream sides, canyon bottoms and flat to very steep topography (County of Riverside 2003).

### Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub

Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub occurs throughout many drainages within western Riverside County. Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub is a Mediterranean shrubland type that occurs in washes and on gently sloping alluvial fans. Alluvial scrub is made up predominantly of drought-deciduous soft-leaved shrubs, but with significant cover of larger perennial species typically found in chaparral. Scalebroom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*) generally is regarded as an indicator of Riversidean alluvial scrub. In addition to scalebroom, alluvial scrub typically is composed of white sage (*Salvia* 

apiana), redberry (*Rhamnus crocea*), California buckwheat, Spanish bayonet (*Yucca whipplei*), California croton (*Croton californicus*), cholla (*Opuntia* spp.), tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculus*), yerba santa (*Eriodictyon* spp.), mule fat (*Baccharis sarothroides*), and mountain-mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*). Annual species composition has not been studied but is probably similar to that found in understories of neighboring shrubland vegetation. Two sensitive annual species, slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) and Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*) are endemic to alluvial scrub vegetation in western Riverside County (County of Riverside 2003).

#### **Riparian Forest, Woodland, and Scrub**

Riparian vegetation, including forest, woodland, and scrub subtypes, is distributed in waterways and drainages throughout much of western Riverside County. Depending on community type, a riparian community may be dominated by any of several trees/shrubs, including box elder (*Acer negundo*), bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), coast live oak, white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), Fremont's cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), California walnut, Mexican elderberry, wild grape (*Vitis girdiana*), giant reed (*Arundo donax*), mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.), or any of several species of willow (*Salix* spp.). In addition, various understory herbs may be present, such as saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*), wild cucumber (*Marah macrocarpus*), mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and poison-oak (County of Riverside 2003). Subcategories of these habitat types within the project area include Mule Fat Scrub, Southern Cottonwood/Willow Riparian, and Southern Sycamore/Alder Riparian Woodland.

#### **Meadows and Marshes**

Meadow and marsh vegetation communities occur in both flowing and still water. This vegetation community includes cattails (*Typha* spp.), bulrushes (*Scirpus* spp.), sedges (*Carex* spp.), spike rushes, flatsedges (*Cyperus* spp.), smartweed (*Polygonum* spp.), watercress (*Rorippa* spp.), yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*) and also contains perennial and biennial herbs (e.g., *Oenothera* spp., *Polygonum* spp., *Lupinus* spp., *Potentilla* spp., and *Sidalcea* spp.) and grasses (e.g. *Agrostis* spp., Deschampsia spp., and *Muhlenbergia* spp.). Rooted aquatic plant species with floating stems and leaves also may be present, such as pennywort (*Hydrocotyle* spp.), water smartweed (*Polygonum* amphibium), pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.), and water-parsley (*Oenanthe* sarmentosa) (County of Riverside 2003).

#### **Open Water**

Open water habitat typically is unvegetated due to a lack of light penetration. However, open water may contain suspended organisms such as filamentous green algae, phytoplankton (including diatoms), and desmids. Floating plants such as duckweed (*Lemna* spp.), water buttercup (*Ranunculus aquatilis*), and mosquito fern (*Azolla filiculoides*) also may be present. Open water includes inland depressions, ponds, lakes, reservoirs, and stream channels containing standing water and often occur in conjunction with riparian and upland vegetation communities. Depth may vary from hundreds of feet to a few inches (County of Riverside 2003).