

Nest Survey Report

Date: 03/22/2019

Biologist(s): Amy Trexler

Survey Area/Location/Structures:

Pole location: CC MM PP

Proposed Construction within Survey Area:

Proposed construction activities include grading for erosion repair and replacement of base material around the tower pad. Work is associated with the new overhead 230kV line.

No:

Is Vegetation Clearing Required? Yes: ⊠ No: A small amount of annual weeds will be removed during grading of access road. Was Complete Survey Coverage Achieved? Yes: ⊠

Details of modifications to the survey area if complete coverage was not achieved: N/A

Survey Conditions:

	Start	End
Time	8:15 am	10:00 am
Temperature (°F):	56 °	60 °
Wind Speed (mph):	0-5 mph	0-5 mph
Cloud Cover (%):	25%	25%
Precipitation Type (if any) and duration:	n/a	n/a

Habitat(s) and Vegetation Description within Survey Area:

- Southern coast live oak riparian forest
- Southern willow riparian forest 0
- Coastal sage scrub
- Ornamental
- Disturbed

Description of Survey Methodology:

The biologists conducted active and passive surveys within a survey buffer of 0.25 mile for white tailed kite, 500 feet for raptors, coastal California gnatcatcher, and least Bell's vireo, 250 feet for passerine birds in open space, and 150 feet for common passerines in residential, commercial and industrial areas. Active survey methods included walking meandering transects through the habitats while observing bird behavior with the aid of binoculars and directly searching in vegetation, the ground, the towers/poles, and other potential nest substrates. Passive survey methods included stationary observation periods from select vantage points that provided maximum visibility of the survey areas, using binoculars as necessary. If potential nesting behavior was observed within the survey buffers, specific shrubs were directly searched for nests in the areas where birds may have been observed exhibiting higher levels of activity or potential breeding behavior. All potential raptor nesting areas within the survey buffers were searched directly and/or with the aid of binoculars. Visibility, access, time of year and weather conditions were all conducive to collecting comprehensive breeding data, and ample time was spent surveying all potential nest sites.



Suitable Raptor Nesting Habitat:	Yes: 🖂	No:
Suitable CAGN Nesting Habitat:	Yes: 🖂	No:
Suitable LBV Nesting Habitat:	Yes: 🛛	No:
Survey Results		
Nest(s) Located (complete table below if yes) *:	Yes: ⊠	No:
(Include previously located nests and current status)		

Nest ID¹	Species ²	Listing Status ³	Nest Stage ⁴	Observation Notes ⁵	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)
03222019_ACT_01	Bushtit (BUSH)	Common	Building	3/22- Multiple trips to the nest were made with building material. Nest is approximately 75% complete.	32.89055	-117.20387
03222019_ACT_02	American Crow (AMCR)	Common	Incubating	3/22- Female observed sitting in nest incubating.	32.88988	-117.20312

- 1 Date (mmddyyy)_Biologist Initials (ABC)_Number ID (01)
- 2 Include common name and four letter AOU species code
- 3-3 Federally Endangered (FE), Federally Threatened (FT), State Endangered (SE), State Threatened (ST), Species of Special Concern (SSC), Watch List (WL), Common
- 4 Building, Incubating, Nestling, Fledged, Complete/Inactive
- 5 Observation Notes: Item Carry (IC- nest material, food items, fecal sacs that indicate nesting in progress), Agitated/Territorial Behavior (ATB indicating potential nest sites or an intent to nest), Courtship Behavior (CB copulation, chasing flights, displays, etc.), Pair in Suitable Habitat (PSH utilizing all or portions of the buffer zone), Other

Avian Species Observed (complete common name):

American crow (AMCR), Anna's hummingbird (ANHU), black phoebe (BLPH), bushtit (BUSH), California towhee (CALT), European starling (EUST), house finch (HOFI), lesser goldfinch (LEGO), mourning dove (MODO), song sparrow (SOSP), spotted towhee (SPTO), western kingbird (WEKI), white-throated swift (WTSW), and wrentit (WREN).

<u>Additional Notes (see Avian Species Observed and Observation Notes for definition of abbreviations):</u>

Song sparrow: Pairs observed in suitable habitat displaying territorial behavior.

Nesting WTKI within 0.25 miles:	Yes:	No: 🖂
Nesting Raptor, CAGN, or LBV within 500 feet:	Yes:	No: 🖂
Nesting Passerine within 250 feet (open space only):	Yes:	No:
Nesting Passerine within 150 feet (residential,	Yes:	No: 🖂
commercial, residential areas):		

Establishment of Nest Buffer and Justification:

03222019_ACT_01: Bushtit – 250-foot buffer required within work area (work within area would require a buffer reduction request). Observed adults make multiple trips to the nest with building material. Nest is located approximately 7 feet high in a eucalyptus tree and is approximately 75% complete. The nest is located in an area



with heavy traffic and airplane noise. The adults engaged in normal, non-distressed behavior (building) during the biologist's presence and while a restoration crew was performing weed control in the area.

03222019_ACT_02: American Crow – **250-foot buffer required within work area (work within area would require a buffer reduction request).** Observed the female sitting in the nest incubating. Nest is located approximately 120 feet high in the steel monopole tower. The nest is located in an area with heavy traffic and airplane noise. The adult engaged in normal, non-distressed behavior (incubating) during the biologist's presence and while a restoration crew was performing weed control in the area.