

Table 4
Potential for Habitat at the Colusa ILA Site to Support Sensitive Species
Occurring in the Vicinity

Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is a California State Threatened species. They occur in open grassland, juniper and sage flats, and desert scrub habitat. Nests are often placed in a small cluster of trees or in a single isolated tree. The CNDDDB has 7 records of nesting Swainson's hawk in the project vicinity. Although Swainson's hawk is known to nest in urban areas in ornamental trees, no trees are present on the proposed ILA site.

The large ornamental walnut trees that surround the site and trees growing in Memorial Park across the street, are considered to have low potential for nesting Swainson's hawk because of the high level of ambient disturbance.

White-faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) is a federal and California State species of concern. White-faced ibis occur in shallow freshwater marshes and in rice-growing fields. The CNDDDB has one record from the vicinity at the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge approximately 5 miles east of the site. During the site visit, white-faced ibis were observed shortly after leaving the site, while driving past the refuge.

No suitable habitat for this species occurs on the site.

Alutian Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis leucoparia*) is a federally threatened waterbird that occurs on lakes and inland prairies. The CNDDDB has 4 records for this species from the project vicinity.

No suitable habitat for this species occurs on the site.

The western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) is a California State Endangered bird. This bird is strongly associated with riparian forests that have declined drastically in California over the last 150 years. The CNDDDB has records in the project vicinity along the Sacramento River.

There is no suitable habitat on the site for this rare species.

The willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) is a California State Endangered species. It nests in dense thickets of willow, russian olive, and tamarisk. Nests sites are often surrounded by wet marshy ground. The CNDDDB has one sight record from 1973 in the project vicinity.

There is no potential nesting habitat on the site and this species is not likely to occur, except as a transient during migration.

The bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) is a California State Threatened species. Nesting habitat requirements include vertical cliffs or banks with fine textured sandy soils, usually by streams, rivers, lakes, or ocean margins. The CNDDDB has 4 records of nesting bank swallow from the project vicinity but all sites are located on the Sacramento River.

No suitable nesting habitat is present at the Colusa ILA site.

The tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) is a California State and federal species of concern. It requires open water with protected nesting areas of dense vegetation, such as cattails, tules, or blackberries. The CNDDDB has 11 records from the vicinity, but all are more than two miles from the ILA site.

No suitable habitat for this species is present at the Colusa ILA site.

San Joaquin pocket mouse (*Perognathus inornatus inornatus*) is a federal species of concern. This mouse is typically found in grasslands and blue oak savanna where friable soils allow them to excavate underground burrows. The CNDDDB has one record from the project vicinity.

No suitable habitat for this species is present at the Colusa ILA site.

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Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) is a federally threatened species that occurs only in the Central Valley of California. It is closely associated with its host plant, elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), where the beetle deposits its eggs. Elderberry bushes are often associated with riparian areas but may occur in upland habitat far from any water source.

Although elderberry bushes occur throughout the vicinity of the project, none were observed during a field survey of the site.

Coulter's goldfields (*Lastenia glabarata* ssp. *coulteri*) is small annual wildflower listed as a federal species of concern and CNPS List 1B. Coulter's goldfield occurs in coastal salt marshes, playas, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. It usually grows in alkaline soils. The CNDDDB has one record from the project vicinity, 3 miles west of Colusa.

No suitable habitat for this species is present at the Colusa ILA site.

Brittlescale (*Atriplex depressa*) is a CNPS List 1B plant. It occurs in chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. The CNDDDB has one record from the project vicinity made at the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge, west of the site.

There is no suitable habitat at the Colusa ILA site for this species.

Ferris's milk vetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *ferrisiae*) is a small herb listed as a federal species of concern and CNPS list 1B. The type specimen for this species was collected from a site 3 miles west of Colusa in 1990. Ferris's milk vetch occurs in meadows and valley and foothill grassland habitat especially on subalkaline flats or on dry adobe soil.

There is no suitable habitat at the Colusa ILA site for this species.

Rose-mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*) is a CNPS List 2 species. It occurs in freshwater marshes and swamps, along riverbanks, and throughout the San Francisco Bay Delta on peat islands along sloughs. The CNDDDB has 4 records from the project vicinity.

There is no suitable habitat at the Colusa ILA site for this species.

Palmate-bracted bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus palmatus*) is a California State and federally endangered plant. In addition, it is a CNPS List 1B plant. It occurs in chenopod scrub and valley and foothill grasslands. The CNDDDB has 3 records from the project vicinity. These records are all located in the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge about 5 miles west of Colusa.

There is no suitable habitat at the Colusa ILA site for this species.

Source: California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), *Colusa and Meridian Quadrangles, California Natural Diversity Database*, September 1999.