

Environmental Minor Project Refinement Form



Project Name: West of Devers Upgrade Project **Request Prepared By:** Sylvia Granados

Date Approval Required: 9/18/2020 **Variance Request No.:** 40

Date Submitted: 9/15/2020 **Locations:** South of Grand Terrace Material Yard in the City of Grand Terrace, San Bernardino County; West of 2N11 in the City of Loma Linda, San Bernardino County; South of 2N07 in the City of Loma Linda, San Bernardino County; East of 3X65 in the City of Loma Linda, San Bernardino County; East of 4X56 in the City of Calimesa, Riverside County (see *Description of Change and Justification* section below and figures attached).

Landowners and Associated Parcel Numbers:

| Proposed Work Area | Property Owner | Assessor's Parcel Number |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2-GrandTerrace-Hydrant-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 1) | CITY OF GRAND TERRACE | NA |
| MAC-2-SE-2N12-1-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 2) | BEUS, LEO R | 0284-181-25 |
| MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 3) | BEUS, LEO R | 0284-192-64 |
| MAC-3-3X65-3-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 4) | CITY OF LOMA LINDA | 0294-011-30 |
| MAC-3-3X65-2-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 4) | CITY OF LOMA LINDA | 0294-011-30 |
| MAC-3-3X65-1-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 4) | CITY OF LOMA LINDA | 0294-011-30 |
| WSS-4-4X56-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 5) | RIVERS AND LANDS CONSERVANCY | 413-290-011 413-460-041 |

Current Vegetative Cover/Land Use: Developed/Disturbed, Chaparral

Existing Sensitive Resource? NO YES Specify: Critical Habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher

Modifying (check as many as apply): MITIGATION MEASURE PLAN/PROCEDURE SPECIFICATION
 DRAWING PERMIT CONDITION OTHER

Specify Source (e.g., Mitigation Measure B.5): NTP #4 Work Areas/Conditions

Description of Change and Justification (Attach additional sheets if needed.)

Attachments:

CONSTRUCTION DRAWING ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS CORRESPONDENCE OTHER: _____

2-GrandTerrace-Hydrant-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 1)

Rubber tired water trucks will park along the concrete curb of the paved, public road immediately south of the Grand Terrace Material Yard to access the potable water hydrant shown on Figure 1, page 1. Only occasional short-term filling of water trucks will occur at the location, while allowing continued access to local land uses. No ground disturbance will occur at the water source location. All Water Districts/Agencies listed in the FEIR were contacted to determine the availability of non-potable water as an alternative water source, however no non-potable water service exists in this vicinity of Segment 2.

The total temporary disturbance area associated with the new work area, previously approved for use in TEWS #27, consists of approximately .03-acre of previously disturbed/developed street/sidewalk and the hydrant owned and operated by the Riverside Highland Water Company in City of Grand Terrace.

MAC-2-SE-2N12-1-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 2)

The location of MAC-2-SE-2N12-1 has been redesigned and relocated to the east, as shown in Figure 1, page 2, to better capture and divert rain flow off the access road and discharge flows downstream to uplands. The relocation of the McCarthy drain will not result in additional project impacts, because the original location will not be constructed, and will therefore offset disturbance impacts for the new McCarthy drain location, as shown on Figure 1, page 2.

The new McCarthy drain location is located within the SCE transmission line right-of-way, along an approved utility access road in the City of Loma Linda, in San Bernardino County, and consists of approximately 0.01-acre of coastal sage scrub and 0.01-acre of grassland/forbland.

MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 3)

The location of MAC-2-S-2N07-2 has been redesigned and relocated to the west, as shown in Figure 1, page 3, to better capture and divert rain flow off the access road and discharge flows downstream to uplands. The relocation of the McCarthy drain will not result in additional project impacts, because the original location will not be constructed, and will therefore offset disturbance impacts for the new McCarthy drain location, as shown on Figure 1, page 3.

The new McCarthy drain location is located along an approved utility access road in the City of Loma Linda, in San Bernardino County, and consists of approximately 0.01-acre of developed/disturbed land and 0.02-acre of grassland/forbland.

MAC-3-3X65-1-MPR-40, MAC-3-3X65-2-MPR-40, and MAC-3-3X65-3-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 4)

The locations of MAC-3-3X65-1, MAC-3-3X65-2, and MAC-3-3X65-3 have been redesigned and relocated, as shown in Figure 1, page 4, to better capture and divert rain flow off the access road and tower pad to discharge flows downstream to uplands. The relocation of the McCarthy drains will not result in additional project impacts, because the original locations will not be constructed, and will therefore offset disturbance impacts for the new McCarthy drain locations.

The new McCarthy drain locations are all located within the SCE transmission line right-of-way, along an approved utility access road, inside a previously approved construction work area (Supersite 3X65), in the City of Loma Linda, in San Bernardino County.

WSS-4-4X56-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 5)

A new temporary 0.20-acre work area east of 4X56 along the east side of the approved access road is required to safely stage material and equipment needed to facilitate wire stringing activities associated with towers 4N55 and 4N56. The area may be cleared and leveled prior to use.

The new work area, shown on Figure 1, page 5, is located within the existing SCE transmission line right-of-way and consists of approximately 0.2-acres of chaparral in the City of Calimesa, Riverside County.

Environmental Analysis

No impacts to regulated trees, jurisdictional waters, biological, or cultural resources are anticipated during the use of the new work areas.

Biological Resources

A desktop analysis was conducted for the new work areas using aerial imagery, publicly available data, and project biological data. The new work areas were covered during previous surveys, including FRED Preconstruction Survey IDs 000049; 000132; 000131; 000060; 00041.

Desert Tortoise (DETO) – The new work areas are not located within the range of desert tortoise, therefore no impacts to DETO are anticipated.

Special-status Terrestrial Herpetofauna – No special-status terrestrial herpetofauna have been observed within the new work areas during project-related surveys. However, many species have the potential to occur throughout the project area. For instance, a Red Diamond Rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*) was observed approximately 650 feet northwest of MAC-2-SE-2N12-1-MPR-40 on August 25, 2020 (FRED Species Event 000586), as shown on Figure 1, page 2. A second Red Diamond Rattlesnake was observed approximately 580 feet west of MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40 on February 24, 2020 (FRED Species Event 000407), as shown on Figure 1, page 3. A preconstruction survey of the new work areas will be conducted prior to use. With implementation of mitigation measures and biological monitoring during construction, no significant impacts to special-status terrestrial herpetofauna are anticipated.

Burrowing Owl – Burrowing owl (BUOW) habitat in the form of annual and perennial grasslands and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation is present throughout the project area. No occupied burrows or associated buffers currently intersect the proposed work areas.

Active owl burrows observed during preconstruction surveys and during construction would be mitigated in accordance with the Burrowing Owl Management and Passive Relocation Plan. With implementation of mitigation measures, including appropriate avoidance buffers and biological monitoring during construction, no impacts to burrowing owls are anticipated.

Nesting Birds – Suitable substrates for nesting birds protected by the California Fish and Game Code and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, including trees, shrubs, man-made structures, and the ground surface, can be found throughout the project area. None of the new work areas currently intersect nesting bird buffers. As shown on Figure 1, pages 2, 4, and 5 observations of special-status bird species (Cooper's Hawk and White-tailed Kite) have been made in the vicinity of the new work areas. However, the observations were ephemeral and are not associated with active nests.

Preconstruction surveys, including surveys for nesting birds during the avian breeding season (Jan 1 – Aug 31) will be conducted prior to the initiation of construction in the new work areas. If active nests are identified, avoidance buffers will be established in accordance with the Nesting Bird Management Plan. With implementation of mitigation measures, including appropriate avoidance buffers and biological monitoring during construction, no impacts to nesting birds are anticipated.

Listed Riparian Birds – No suitable habitat for the listed riparian birds (least Bell's vireo [LBVI]/Southwestern willow flycatcher [SWFL]) occurs within 500 feet of the new work areas. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher [CAGN] – MAC-2-SE-2N12-1-MPR-40 and MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40 are located within USFWS-designated Critical Habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher. See Figure 1, pages 2 and 3. Suitable CAGN habitat is located approximately 150 feet west and southwest of MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40. Focused surveys for CAGN were conducted in March and April 2018. No CAGN were detected in Segment 2. Due to a history of subsequently negative CAGN survey results in the area, no impacts to CAGN are anticipated.

To offset additional impacts to Critical Habitat subject to mitigation, the originally planned McCarthy drain locations (totaling 0.06-acre) will not be constructed and will therefore offset the new McCarthy drain locations (totaling 0.05-acre), as shown on Figure 1, pages 2 and 3. The original McCarthy drain locations will be removed from the project data upon approval of this MPR.

No suitable habitat for CAGN occurs within 500 feet of the other new work areas. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Golden Eagle – Based on aerial habitat assessments and protocol surveys conducted for the project, no suitable nesting habitat for golden eagles is located within 2 miles of the new work areas. Protocol aerial surveys conducted for the project in 2019 also showed no golden eagle nests within 2 miles of the new work areas. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat – None of the new work areas intersect suitable SKR habitat, however suitable SKR habitat is mapped along access roads associated with tower 3N65 and overlaps the 3X65 work area immediately west of MAC-3-3X65-3-MPR-40 (see Figure 1, page 4). Therefore, these impacts to SKR habitat are accounted for. A habitat assessment, pedestrian surveys, and several consecutive years of trapping surveys have been conducted within the SKR suitable habitat areas of the Project. No Stephens' kangaroo rat were captured during trapping. Based on a lack of historic data, habitat conditions, and negative results over several years of surveys, Stephens' kangaroo rat are not expected in the project area. With implementation of mitigation measures and biological monitoring during construction, no impacts to SKR are anticipated.

Special-status Bats – No suitable bat roosting habitat or buffers occur within the new work areas; therefore, no impacts to special-status bats are anticipated.

Special-status Small Mammals – Special-status small mammals such as the pallid San Diego pocket mouse, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse, American badger, desert kit fox, San Diego desert woodrat, and/or San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit can occur in many parts of the project area, however Ringtail and Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel are not anticipated to occur within the project area.

No special-status small mammals have been observed within the new work areas. With implementation of the mitigation measures, biological monitoring during construction, and the Small Mammals Avoidance and Minimization Plan, no impacts to special-status small mammals are anticipated.

Special-status Plants – Plummer's mariposa lily (*Calochortus plummerae*; CRPR 4.2) populations were observed in the area between 4S55 and the Palmer Ave construction entrance during focused plant surveys in 2017, approximately 600-feet east of WSS-4-4X56-MPR-40 (Figure 1, page 5). No sign of the target species was observed in either area during subsequent preconstruction surveys of the areas. No special-status plants have been observed in the vicinity of the other new work areas.

If special-status plants are later identified during preconstruction surveys/clearance sweeps/monitoring, they will be avoided to the extent feasible.

Regulated Trees – No tree trimming or tree removal is required for construction activities within the new work areas. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Jurisdictional Waters

Wetland and non-wetland jurisdictional features are located throughout the project area. No jurisdictional features intersect the new work areas. ESA signs will be established at the edges of jurisdictional waters located outside the work areas and BMPs will be implemented in accordance with the SWPPP. No negative impacts to jurisdictional features are expected to result from use of the new work areas.

Cultural Resources

The new work areas were covered within the record search data that was conducted during previous WOD surveys and studies. The record search and survey results for the new work areas were negative for cultural resources. *Williams, Audry. 2016. Cultural Resources Management Plan for Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Transmission Line Upgrade Project, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, California. Prepared by Southern California Edison.*

Paleontological Resources

The WOD Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (PRMMP) requires full-time, qualified paleontological construction monitoring in areas determined to have moderate (PFYC 3) to very high (PFYC 5) sensitivity. Sediments of unknown (PFYC U) sensitivity shall be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor on a part-time basis and geologic units with very low (PFYC 1) or low (PFYC 2) sensitivity may be spot checked to confirm paleontological sensitivity.

Per the PRMMP, *the types of construction activities that require monitoring or spot-checking include:*

- *Grading*
- *Drilling (if drill bit is greater than two feet in diameter)*
- *Excavation for retaining walls*
- *Excavation of construction areas*

Types of construction activities that will not require monitoring or spot-checking, regardless of paleontological sensitivity include:

- *Small diameter drill holes (less than two feet in diameter)*
- *Pile driving*
- *Project activities that do not involve ground disturbance*

The following work area is located within an area of moderate PFYC 3 paleontological sensitivity, therefore, the site requires full-time qualified paleontological construction monitoring if grading is required:

- WSS-4-4X56-MPR-40

The following work areas are located within areas of very high PFYC 5 paleontological sensitivity, therefore, the sites require full-time, qualified paleontological construction monitoring if holes larger than 2-feet in diameter are drilled or if excavation is required:

- MAC-2-S-2N07-2-MPR-40
- MAC-2-SE-2N12-1-MPR-40
- MAC-3-3X65-3-MPR-40
- MAC-3-3X65-2-MPR-40
- MAC-3-3X65-1-MPR-40

Resources:

Biological NO SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT N/A

New Survey Report Attached: YES NO

If No, Previous Biological Survey Reference: A preconstruction survey will be conducted prior to initiating work in the new work areas. The new work areas were covered during active FRED Preconstruction Survey IDs 000049; 000132; 000131; 000060; 00041.

Cultural : NO RESOURCES PRESENT RESOURCES PRESENT WITH PROJECT APE: YES NO
 (PAVED/GRAVEL AREA AND NO GROUND DISTURBANCE)

If in APE, Previous Cultural Survey Reference:

If not in APE, attach new survey report.

The new work areas were covered within the record search data that was conducted during previous WOD surveys and studies. The record search and survey results for the work areas were negative for cultural resources. Williams, Audry. 2016. Cultural Resources Management Plan for Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Transmission Line Upgrade Project, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, California.

Other Potential Impacts: (Check any potential changes to permitted impacts and provide details below. Attach additional sheets if needed.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIR QUALITY | <input type="checkbox"/> LAND USE | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> NOISE | <input type="checkbox"/> VISUAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAMINATED SOILS | <input type="checkbox"/> PALEO RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> WATER RESOURCES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CULTURAL RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIOECONOMIC | <input type="checkbox"/> WETLANDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HAZARDOUS MATERIALS | <input type="checkbox"/> STORM WATER (SWPPP) | |

NA

CEQA and Permitting: (Provide details for any "Yes" answer and attach additional information if needed.)

1. Will modification involve substantial changes that will require major changes to the CEQA document?
 YES NO
2. Will modification result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified impacts?
 YES NO
3. Additional agency notifications and/or permit modifications required? YES NO

Conditions of Approval or Reasons for Denial: (Attach additional information if needed.)



Required Signatures: (Attached email approvals may be used in lieu of signatures.)

Chief Construction Inspector or Foreman: VARIANCE MODIFICATION IS NEEDED FOR SAFE AND EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION

Name: Jeff Miller Signature: JM Date: 9/15/2020

Environmental Inspector: FIELD REVIEW COMPLETE

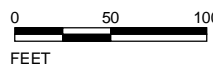
Name: Lisa Amador Signature: Lisa Amador Date: 9/15/2020

Land Agent: CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING RIGHTS NEW RIGHTS OBTAINED

Name: James Spence Signature: JS Date: 9/15/2020

Environmental Compliance Lead: APPROVED APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS (SEE CONDITIONS ABOVE) DENIED

Name: Sylvia Granados Signature: Sylvia Granados Date: 9/15/2020



FEET

SCE, ESRI World Imagery

LEGEND


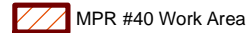




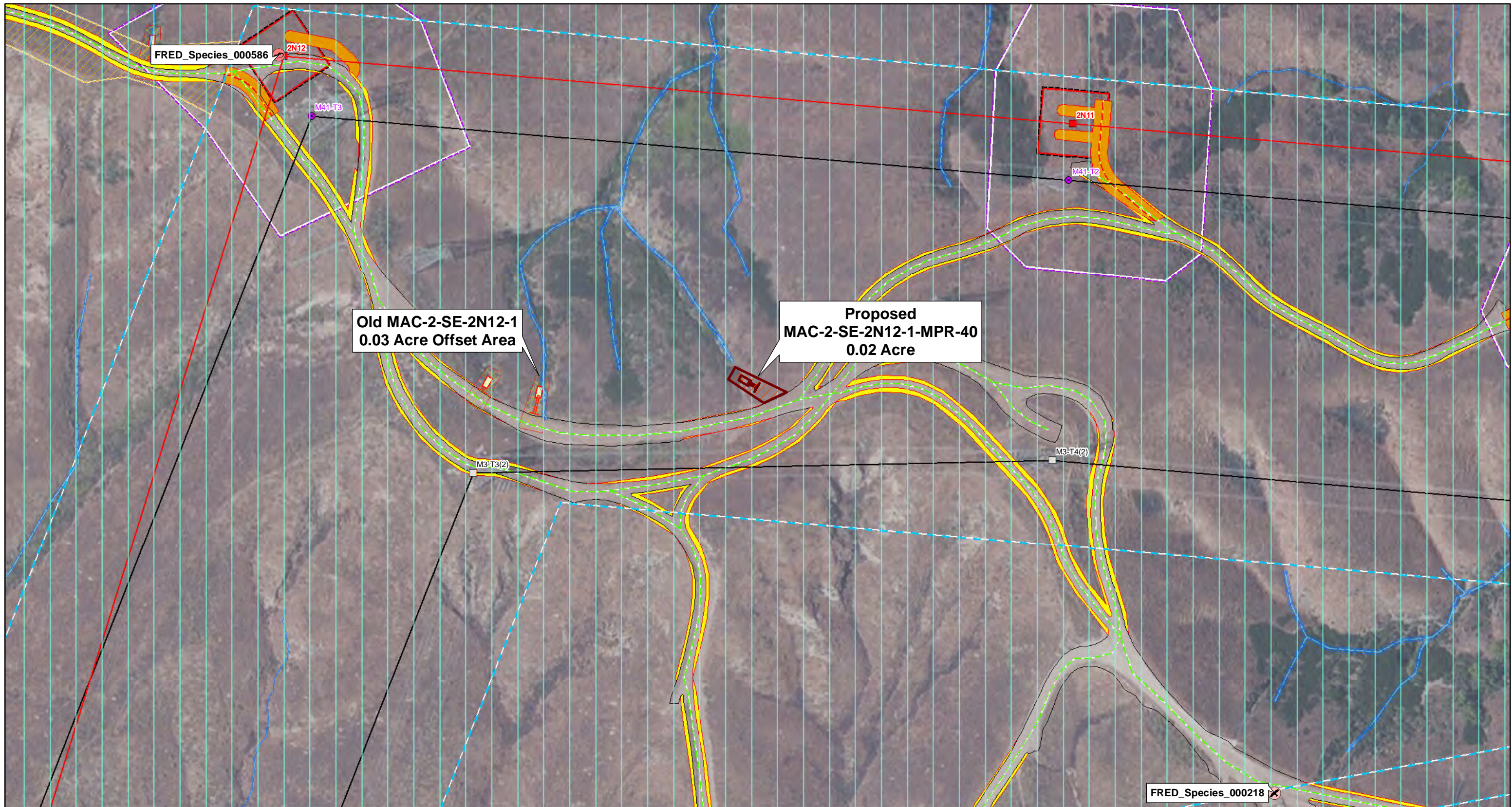
-  Potable Water Hydrant
-  MPR #40 Work Area
- Major Trans Structure**
-  Existing
- Major Trans Line**
-  Existing
-  Existing ROW
-  Material Storage Yards (MSY)



FIGURE 1

Southern California Edison
West of Devers Upgrade Project
Proposed Work Areas

MPR #40



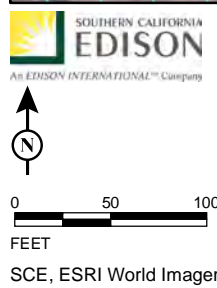
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FEET
SCE, ESRI World Imagery

LEGEND

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPR #40 Work Area MPR #40 Work Area Coastal California Gnatcatcher Critical Habitat Coastal California Gnatcatcher Critical Habitat FRED Species Event ● Cooper's Hawk ● Red Diamond Rattlesnake Non-wetland Waters CDFW Jurisdiction CDFW Jurisdiction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction Major Trans Structure ■ Proposed ● Remove Existing Existing Major Trans Line — Proposed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Existing Civil Access Roads Lines — New Access Road — Existing Access Road Civil Access Road Areas Existing Road Edge Existing Road Edge Designed Road Boundary Designed Road Boundary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential Road Widening Potential Road Widening Existing ROW Existing ROW Construction Areas O&M Tower Area O&M Tower Area Structure Work Area Structure Work Area Wire Setup Wire Setup | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Civil Drainage Area Permanent, New, Gabion Permanent, New, Gabion Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single Civil Disturbance Area Temporary, Civil Work Limits Temporary, Civil Work Limits |
|---|--|--|---|---|

Map Index

FIGURE 1



SCE, ESRI World Imagery

LEGEND

- MPR #40 Work Area
- Coastal California Gnatcatcher Suitable Habitat
- Coastal California Gnatcatcher Critical Habitat

- FRED Species Event**
- Red Diamond Rattlesnake

Non-wetland Waters

- CDFW Jurisdiction
- USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction

Major Trans Structure

- Existing
- Existing

Civil Access Roads Lines

- Existing Access Road

Civil Access Road Areas

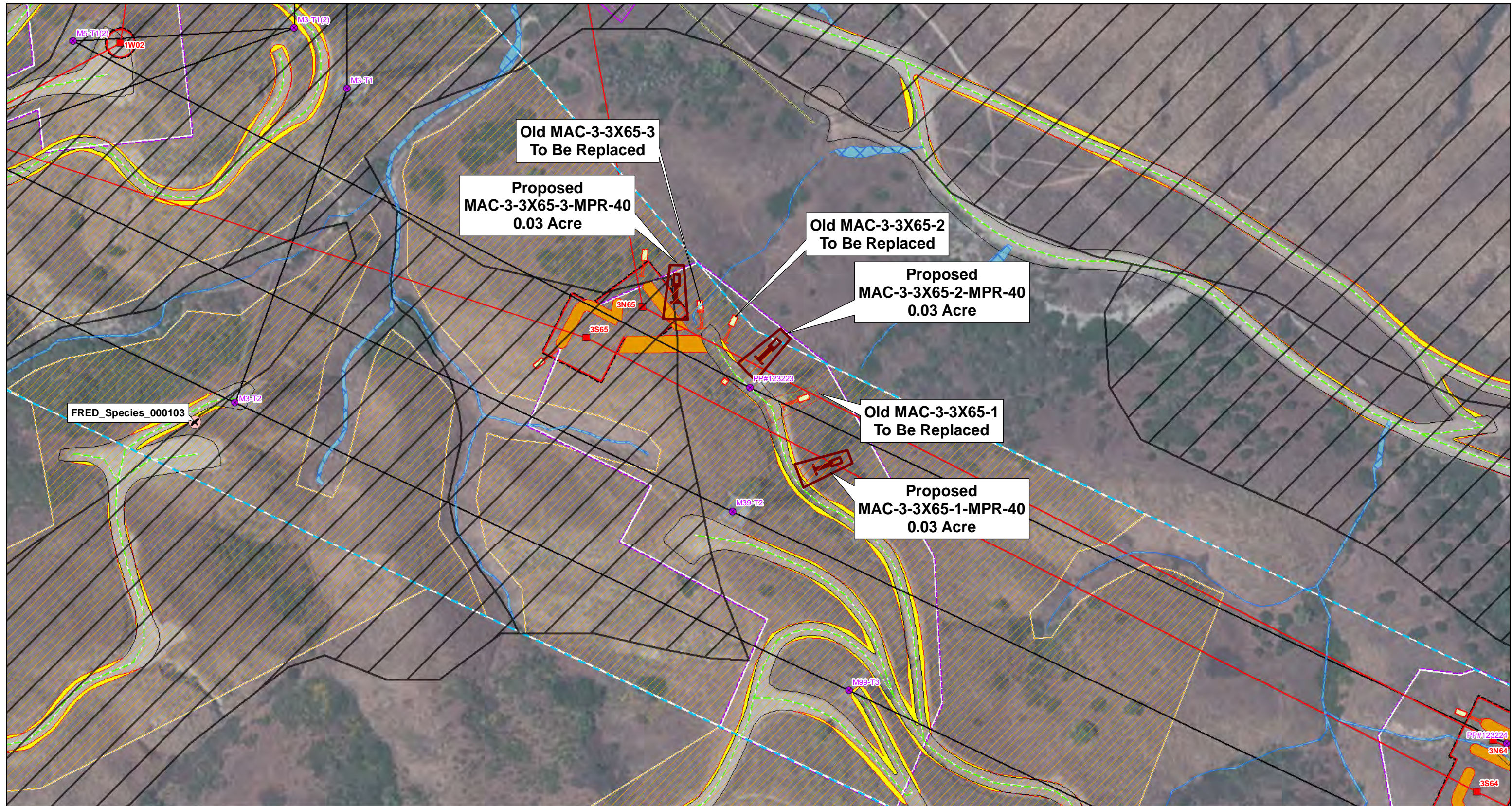
- Existing Road Edge
- Potential Road Widening
- Existing ROW

Construction Areas

- Structure Work Area
- Proposed Civil Drainage Area**
- Permanent, New, Gabion
- Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single
- Civil Disturbance Area**
- Temporary, Civil Work Limits



FIGURE 1



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
An EDISON INTERNATIONAL Company

LEGEND

- MPR #40 Work Area
- Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Suitable Habitat
- FRED Species Event
 - Cooper's Hawk
- Non-wetland Waters
 - CDFW Jurisdiction
 - USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction

- Major Trans Structure**
 - Proposed
 - Remove
- Major Trans Line**
 - Proposed
 - Existing
- Subtransmission Lines**
 - Modify, OH
- Civil Access Roads Lines**
 - Existing Access Road
- Civil Access Road Areas**
 - Existing Road Edge
 - Designed Road Boundary

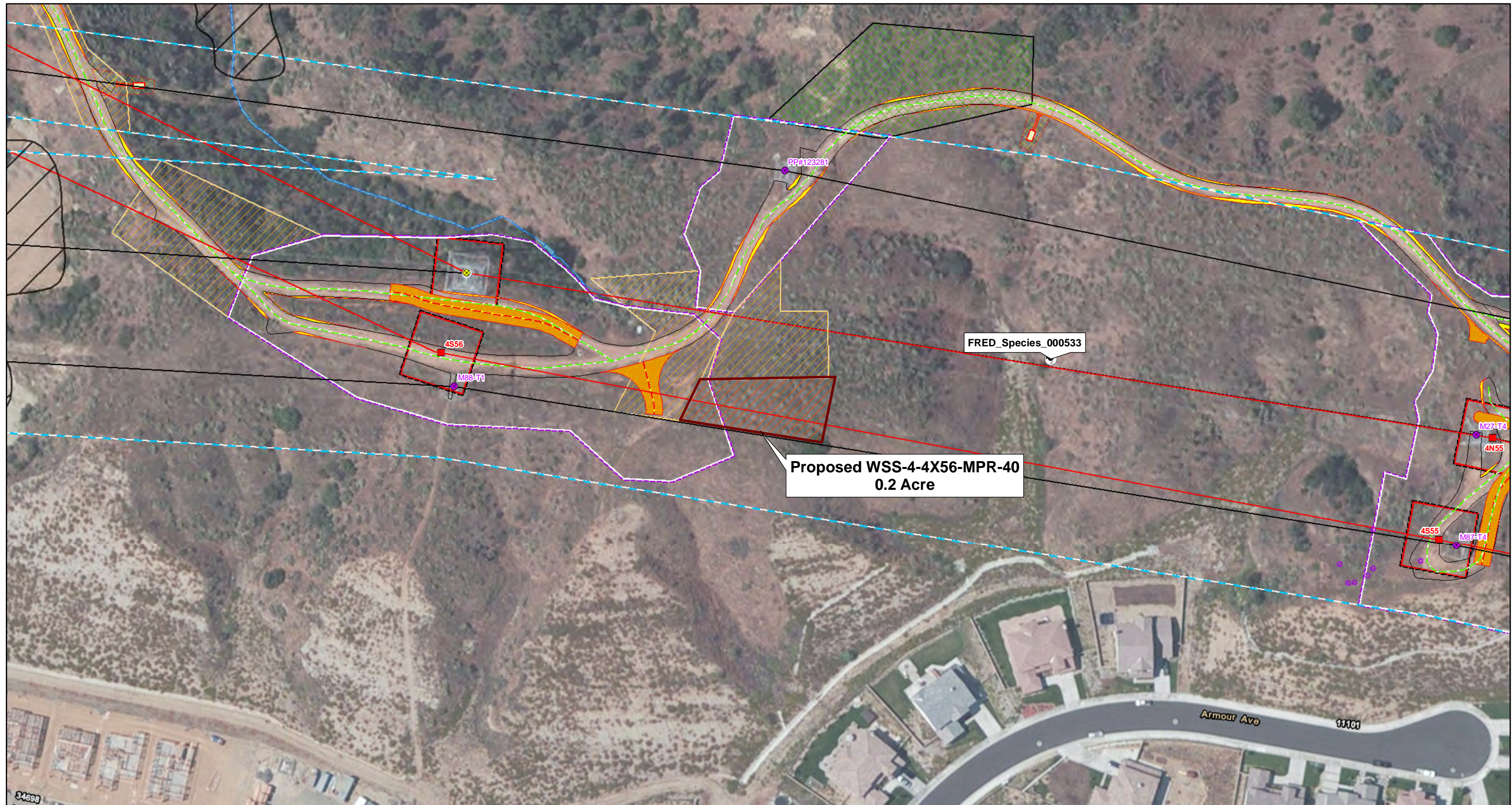
- Potential Road Widening**
 - Existing ROW
- Construction Areas**
 - Guard Pole
 - O&M Tower Area
 - Structure Work Area
 - Wire Setup

- Proposed Civil Drainage Area**
 - Permanent, New, Gabion
 - Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single
- Civil Disturbance Area**
 - Temporary, Civil Work Limits



FIGURE 1
Page 4 of 5

Southern California Edison
West of Devers Upgrade Project
Proposed Work Areas
MPR #40



| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|------------------|
| <p>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON An EDISON INTERNATIONAL Company</p> <p>0 50 100 FEET</p> <p>SCE, ESRI World Imagery</p> | <p>LEGEND</p> <p> MPR #40 Work Area</p> <p> Plummer's Mariposa Lily</p> <p> Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Suitable Habitat</p> <p>FRED Species Event</p> <p> White-tailed Kite</p> <p>Non-wetland Waters</p> <p> CDFW Jurisdiction</p> | <p> USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction</p> <p>Major Trans Structure</p> <p> Proposed</p> <p> Modify</p> <p> Remove</p> <p>Major Trans Line</p> <p> Proposed</p> | <p> Existing</p> <p>Civil Access Roads Lines</p> <p> New Access Road</p> <p> Existing Access Road</p> <p>Civil Access Road Areas</p> <p> Existing Road Edge</p> <p> Designed Road Boundary</p> | <p> Potential Road Widening</p> <p> Existing ROW</p> <p>Construction Areas</p> <p> Construction Work Site</p> <p> O&M Tower Area</p> <p> Structure Work Area</p> <p> Wire Setup</p> | <p>Proposed Civil Drainage Area</p> <p> Permanent, New, Gabion</p> <p> Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single</p> <p>Civil Disturbance Area</p> <p> Temporary, Civil Work Limits</p> | <p>Map Index</p> |
| | <p> N</p> | <p> Existing</p> <p>Civil Access Roads Lines</p> <p> New Access Road</p> <p> Existing Access Road</p> <p>Civil Access Road Areas</p> <p> Existing Road Edge</p> <p> Designed Road Boundary</p> | <p> Potential Road Widening</p> <p> Existing ROW</p> <p>Construction Areas</p> <p> Construction Work Site</p> <p> O&M Tower Area</p> <p> Structure Work Area</p> <p> Wire Setup</p> | <p>Proposed Civil Drainage Area</p> <p> Permanent, New, Gabion</p> <p> Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single</p> <p>Civil Disturbance Area</p> <p> Temporary, Civil Work Limits</p> | | |
| | <p> Existing</p> <p>Civil Access Roads Lines</p> <p> New Access Road</p> <p> Existing Access Road</p> <p>Civil Access Road Areas</p> <p> Existing Road Edge</p> <p> Designed Road Boundary</p> | <p> Potential Road Widening</p> <p> Existing ROW</p> <p>Construction Areas</p> <p> Construction Work Site</p> <p> O&M Tower Area</p> <p> Structure Work Area</p> <p> Wire Setup</p> | <p>Proposed Civil Drainage Area</p> <p> Permanent, New, Gabion</p> <p> Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single</p> <p>Civil Disturbance Area</p> <p> Temporary, Civil Work Limits</p> | | | |
| | <p>Proposed Civil Drainage Area</p> <p> Permanent, New, Gabion</p> <p> Permanent, New, Mac Drain Single</p> <p>Civil Disturbance Area</p> <p> Temporary, Civil Work Limits</p> | | | | | |

FIGURE 1

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