

memorandum

date June 7, 2021

to John Forsythe, AICP

cc Cory Barringhaus (ESA), Eric Zigas (ESA)

from Sharon Dulava (ESA)

subject MPWSP – Carmel Valley Pump Station Project Weekly Report (5/31/2021 – 6/04/2021)

Construction Activities

Construction activities observed during the week of 5/31/2021 – 6/04/2021 included roof installation for the newly constructed pump station.

Compliance Activities

Denise Duffy & Associates (CalAm monitors) were on site for compliance inspections on 5/28/2021 and 6/02/2021. ESA was onsite for a compliance inspection on 6/02/2021. Exclusionary fencing was in acceptable condition to prevent special-status amphibians from entering the work area (**Mitigation Measure 4.6-1c** and **Mitigation Measure 4.6-1o**). Smaller pipes in the work area were observed capped (**Mitigation Measure 4.6-1o**). Larger pipes in the work area were not capped and should be inspected for special-status species prior installation.

Due to a lapse in construction activities between 5/11/2021 and 6/1/2021, CalAm monitors conducted a nesting bird survey on 5/28/2021 prior to the re-initiation of construction activities. One active chestnut-backed chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*) nest was identified outside of the exclusion fencing approximately 30 feet from the project staging area and 130 feet from the construction area around the pump station. A 50-foot no-disturbance buffer was established around the nest to prevent construction activities from disturbing the nest. Additional details are provided in the Nesting Bird Survey and Monitoring Report in **Appendix A**.

Additional information about compliance activities is included in the weekly CalAm report included in **Appendix B** and ESA inspection log in **Appendix C**.

Compliance Issues and Resolutions

No compliance issues were observed during the 6/02/2021 site visit.

APPENDIX A

Nesting Bird Survey and Monitoring Report

MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

CARMEL VALLEY PUMP STATION PROJECT

RE-INITIATION OF CONSTRUCTION NESTING BIRD SURVEY AND MONITORING REPORT

JUNE 2021

Prepared For

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Prepared By

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1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Re-Initiation of Construction Nesting Bird Survey and Monitoring Report (Report) is to provide a summary of the nesting bird survey effort and results conducted for the of the re-initiation of construction for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP), specific to the Carmel Valley Pump Station (CVPS) Project (Project) component. Construction at the CVPS was paused due to the contractor’s schedule for a period of more than 10 days. In accordance with Mitigation Measure 4.6-1i a lapse of greater than 10 days in construction activity triggers the need for additional nesting bird surveys. CVPS construction was inactive from May 11 to June 1, 2021

2 NESTING BIRD SPECIES MITITGATION REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Survey Requirements

The following survey requirements were determined to be applicable to the re-initiation of construction phase of the Project:

- Nesting Bird Species Pre-Construction Clearance Survey – MM 4.6-1i.

3 NESTING BIRD SPECIES MITITGATION SURVEY METHODS

3.1 Nesting Bird Species

In accordance with MM 4.6-1i biological monitors conducted avian nesting surveys in all accessible areas of suitable habitat within the proposed impact area and a 500-foot buffer, hereafter referred to as the nesting bird survey area (**Figure 1. Nesting Bird Survey Area**). The surveys were conducted by actively searching and passively assessing (“birding by ear”) all trees and all appropriate habitats within the nesting bird survey area. Transects of the nesting bird survey area were spaced close enough to ensure 100% visual coverage. Nikon 10 X 42 binoculars and an Eagle Optics 70mm spotting scope were used to search for birds and/or nests. Upon arrival to the nesting bird survey area, the biologist surveyed passively for approximately 15 minutes before slowly walking through the nesting bird survey area to visually scan for the presence of nests, nesting habitat, and/or nesting behavior. Particular attention and survey effort were provided for any sounds or behavior suggesting the presence of a nearby nest. The following behaviors are indicators that an active nest may be present:

1. Carrying material to build nests within the survey area
2. Copulations
3. Carrying food or feeding young
4. Carrying fecal sacks away from nest
5. Mate-feeding; repeated “bee-line” flying to likely nest site
6. Observation of nest
7. Observation of chicks
8. Females giving call or chip notes alerting their mate that they are off the nest
9. Auditory evidence of chicks

4 PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 Nesting Bird Species

Pre-construction nesting bird species surveys were conducted within the nesting bird survey area for the Project on May 28, 2021. An active chestnut-backed chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*) nest was identified inside of a bird box approximately 30 feet from the CVPS staging area and 130 feet from the CVPS active construction zone (**Figure 2. Nesting Bird Survey Results**).

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Survey Requirements

Pre-construction biological surveys were conducted in accordance with all relevant environmental documentation for the CVPS. DD&A compliance monitors documented an active nest outside of the exclusion fencing. Given that most of the active construction is associated with the pump station, which is approximately 130 feet north of the active nest, it was determined that construction could resume. A construction-free buffer zone of approximately 50 feet surrounding the active nest was established and the Project Contractor was informed of the nest location. DD&A compliance monitors will continue to observe the nest, once it has been determined that the nest is no longer occupied and that the young are no longer reliant upon it for survival, the construction-free buffer zone will be discontinued. These surveys and documentation detail compliance with MM 4.6-1i.



Nesting Bird Survey Area
 Construction Footprint

Nesting Bird Survey Area

Date: 6/14/2021
 Scale: 1:3,500
 Project: 2016-64



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 Environmental Consultants Resource Planners
 947 Cass Street, Suite 5
 Monterey, CA 93940
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Figure
1



Path: C:\GIS\Projects\2016_64_MPWSP\CVPS\CVPS.aprx

Nesting Bird Survey Results

Date: 6/14/2021
 Scale: 1:1,000
 Project: 2016-64

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Figure
2

APPENDIX B

CalAm Weekly Report



DATE: June 7, 2021

TO: Cory Barringhaus, Environmental Science Associates (ESA)

FROM: Matthew Johnson, Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. (DD&A)

CC: Even Holmboe, ESA
 Sharon Dulava, ESA
 Tyler Potter, DD&A
 Tim O'Halloran, CalAm

Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc. (DD&A) is contracted with AECOM to provide biological monitoring support for the California American Water Company (CalAm) Carmel Valley Pump Station (CVPS) component of the larger Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). Biological monitoring includes providing environmental guidance to construction personnel and ensuring the project remains in compliance with the Mitigation, Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

This report summarizes the results of monitoring for the week of May 24 through June 4, 2021.

Project/Component: Carmel Valley Pump Station	Work Location: Carmel Valley Road & Rancho San Carlos Road
Monitoring Period: 5/24/2021 – 6/4/2021	Project Completion Status: Ongoing
Construction Contractors/Personnel: Monterey Peninsula Engineering	Biological Lead: M. Johnson
Biological Monitor: P. Krabacher	Days on Site: 5/28/21, 6/2/21

Biological Surveys: N/A	WEAT Training: No
New Sensitive Resources: No	SWPPP Corrective Actions/Maintenance: No
Encountered Special-Status Species: No	Hazardous Spills: No
Relocated Plants or Wildlife: No	Compliance Issues: No

Summary of Construction Activities

This section is intended to provide a brief summary of daily construction progress.

5/28/2021

- No construction on this date.

6/2/2021

- Roof installation.

Summary of Monitoring Activities

5/28/2021

- DD&A compliance monitor conducted a nesting bird survey in compliance with Mitigation Measure 4.6-1i. Due to a lapse in construction of more than 10 days an additional survey effort was required to re-initiate construction. DD&A compliance monitor documented an active chesnut-backed chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*) nest within a bird box located outside the exclusion fencing, approximately 40 feet away from the staging area and approximately 130 feet away from the pump station. DD&A compliance monitors determined that this active nest was located far enough from the active construction site that it would not be disturbed by the re-initiation of construction activities. DD&A compliance monitors will monitor the active nest until the young have fledged and are no longer reliant on the nest for survival.
- DD&A compliance monitor inspected the status of exclusionary fencing and proper trash disposal in accordance with Mitigation Measure 4.6-1c.
- Photographed project site conditions.

6/4/2021

- DD&A compliance monitor inspected the status of exclusionary fencing and proper trash disposal in accordance with Mitigation Measure 4.6-1c.
- DD&A performed ongoing monitoring in accordance with Mitigation Measure 4.6-1a.
- Photographed project site conditions.
- Inspected exclusion fence repairs, wattle removal, and spoils pile dispersion.
- Conducted weekly site inspection with CPUC representative.

Compliance Checklist

Compliance Question	Compliance Level	Note
MM 4.6-1b - WEAT		
4.6-1b. Construction Worker Environmental Awareness Training and Education		
4.6-1b. 1. All workers attend WEAT training and have sticker on hardhat?	Yes	
MM 4.6-1c - GENERAL		
4.6-1c. General Avoidance and Minimization Measures		
4.6-1c. 1. Construction footprint, staging areas, equipment access routes, and disposal or temporary placement of spoils, delineated with stakes and flagging prior to construction to avoid natural resources outside of the project area?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 2. Construction vehicles within the delineated construction work area boundary or local road network?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 3. Vehicles and equipment in project area maintaining 15 miles per hour or less speed limit?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 4. Excavated soils stockpiled in disturbed areas lacking native vegetation and marked to define the limits?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 5. Standard best management practices employed to prevent loss of habitat due to erosion caused by project related impacts?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 6. Fueling of construction equipment within existing paved areas and at least 50 feet from drainages and native habitats?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 7. Introduction of exotic plant species avoided through physical or chemical removal and prevention?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 8. Use of herbicides as vegetation control measures used only when mechanical means have been deemed ineffective?	N/A	
4.6-1c. 9. Prior to construction at any site where special-status amphibians, reptiles and mammals have a moderate or high potential to occur, the construction work area boundary was fenced with a temporary exclusion fence to prevent special-status wildlife from entering the site during construction?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 10. If special-status wildlife species were found on the site immediately prior to construction or during project construction, construction activities ceased in the vicinity of the animal until the animal moved on its own outside of the project area?	N/A	
4.6-1c. 11. Immediately prior to conducting vegetation removal or grading activities inside fenced exclusion areas, qualified biologist(s) surveyed within the exclusion area to ensure that no special-status species were present?	N/A	
4.6-1c. 12. All excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep were inspected for trapped animals and covered with plywood or similar materials at the close of each work day, or escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks positioned within the excavations to allow special-status wildlife to escape on their own?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 13. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods and with a diameter of 4 inches or more were inspected for special-status wildlife before the pipe was subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 14. All vertical tubes used in project construction, such as chain link fencing poles or signage mounts, were temporarily or permanently capped at the time they are installed to avoid the entrapment and death of special status birds?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 15. Water used for dust abatement was minimized in an effort to avoid the formation of puddles that could attract common ravens and other predators to the construction work areas?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 16. Parked vehicles or equipment in the project area were inspected underneath for wildlife prior to moving?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 17. All vehicles and equipment were in proper working condition to ensure that there was no potential for fugitive emissions of motor oil, antifreeze, hydraulic fluid, grease, or other hazardous materials?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 18. Trash and food items were contained in closed containers and removed from the construction site daily to reduce the attractiveness to opportunistic predators such as common ravens, coyotes, and feral dogs?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 19. Workers did not feed wildlife and bring pets and firearms to the construction work areas?	Yes	
4.6-1c. 20. Workers did not intentionally kill or collect wildlife species, including special-status species in the project area and surrounding areas?	Yes	
MM 4.6-1e - SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS		

Compliance Question	Compliance Level	Note
4.6-1e. Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Special-status Plants		
4.6-1e. 3. Special-status plants located within temporary construction areas were fenced or flagged for avoidance (if feasible) prior to construction?	N/A	
MM 4.6-1i - NESTING BIRDS		
4.6-1i. Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Nesting Birds		
4.6-1i. 1. If a break of 10 days or more in construction activities during the breeding season, a new nesting bird survey was conducted before re-initiating construction?	Yes	Nesting bird survey conducted 5/28/2021. Active nest located, buffer zone established.
4.6-1i. 3. Surveys covered all potential nesting sites within 500 feet of the project area for raptors and within 300 feet for other birds?	Yes	
4.6-1i. 2. For all construction activities scheduled during the nesting season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist conducted a pre-construction avian nesting survey no more than 10 days prior to the start of staging, site clearing, and/or ground disturbance?	Yes	
4.6-1i. 4. Clearance surveys were performed prior to work activities and impacts avoided?	Yes	
4.6-1i. 5. If special-status bird species were observed, was date, time, species, location, and behavior noted?	N/A	
MM 4.6-1k - WOODRAT		
4.6-1k. Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Monterey Dusky-Footed Woodrat		
4.6-1k. 5. Clearance surveys were performed prior to work activities and impacts avoided?	Yes	
4.6-1k. 6. If woodrat was observed, was date, time, species, location, and behavior noted?	N/A	
4.6-1k. 7. If relocation was necessary, were the guidelines in the relocation plan followed?	N/A	
MM 4.6-1o - CRLF & CTS		
4.6-1o. Avoidance and Minimization Measures for California Red-Legged Frog and California Tiger Salamander		
4.6-1o. 1. If California Red-legged Frog and California Tiger Salamander was observed, were the guidelines in the relocation plan followed and authorization from USFWS and CDFW obtained?	N/A	
4.6-1k. 2. If California Red-legged Frog and California Tiger Salamander was observed, was date, time, species, location, and behavior noted?	N/A	
MM 4.6-1p - INVASIVE PLANTS		
4.6-1p. Control Measures for Spread of Invasive Plants		
4.6-1p. 1. Driving or operating equipment was avoided in weed-infested areas outside of fenced work areas and travel was restricted to established roads?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 2. Leaving exposed soil or construction materials in areas with the potential for invasive plants (e.g., in staging areas) was avoided?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 3. Tools, equipment, and vehicles were clean before transporting materials and before entering and leaving worksites (e.g., wheel washing stations at Project site access points)?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 4. Vehicles and equipment were inspected for weed seeds and/or propagules stuck in tire treads or mud on the vehicle to minimize the risk of carrying them to unaffected areas?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 5. Vehicles and equipment inspected prior to project initiation at applicable work areas for weed seeds and plant fragments that could colonize within the site or be transported to other sites?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 6. At project initiation, all construction vehicles were cleaned to remove soil and plant fragments at designated locations, and vehicles or equipment that were not clean were rejected until clear of weed seed and plant fragments?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 7. All equipment and tools involved in soil disturbance at applicable work areas were disinfected using a 10% bleach or 70% isopropyl alcohol solution prior to initial use or prior to returning to applicable work areas if used on another project site?	Yes	
4.6-1p. 8. Only certified, weed-free, plastic-free imported erosion control materials (or rice straw in upland areas) were used for the project?	Yes	

Photos



05/28/2021 - Site conditions.



05/28/2021 - Site conditions.



05/28/2021 - Site conditions.



05/28/2021 - Active nest adjacent to located outside of exclusion fencing.



05/28/2021 - Active nest outside of exclusion fencing.



06/02/2021 - Site conditions.



06/02/2021 - Confirmed active nest still intact and undisturbed by project activities.



06/02/2021 - Site conditions.

APPENDIX C

CPUC Inspection Logs

Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP)

Daily Monitoring Log

Date: 6/02/2021**Time:** 12:00 – 12:40**Report Code:** MPWSP_20210602_sd**Project Site:** Carmel Valley Pump Station**Compliance Level:**Acceptable Level 0: Unanticipated Event Level 1: Minor Incident
Level 2: Moderate Incident Level 3: Major Incident **Compliance Advisory or Non-Compliance form attached** Yes
No **Photo Documentation** Yes
No **Type of Monitoring:**Full-time Spot-check SWPPP inspection
Biological Re-inspection **Construction Activity(s) Being Monitored:**

- Pump station roof installation.

General Summary of Mitigation Compliance and Site Conditions:

- CalAm monitor onsite to conduct weekly site inspection.
- Pipes in work area were capped as required by Mitigation Measure 4.6-1o.
- No leaking equipment or hazardous materials storage issues observed.
- CalAm monitors continue to observe an active chestnut-backed chickadee nest that is located in a nest box outside of the exclusion fencing. ESA observed that the nest was still active during the June 2, 2021 site inspection.
- No compliance issues observed.

Sharon Dulava
ESA Monitor

6/02/2021
Date



Photo 1. General site conditions.



Photo 2. Exclusion fencing in acceptable condition.



Photo 3. Equipment parked within approved project boundary and exclusion fence.