

TRC
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Memorandum

To: Abdullah Arakozie
PG&E

From: Molly Sandomire/TRC Solutions

Subject: Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project,
Sonoma County, CA

Date: December 9, 2015

CC: Nate Lishman, PG&E

This memorandum serves as an addendum to the July 2012 Biological Resources Technical Report prepared by Garcia and Associates (GANDA) for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Fulton-Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project (hereinafter referred to as the GANDA report). TRC biologist Mike Farmer conducted a reconnaissance-level field survey on March 31, 2015 and September 22, 2015 along the Fulton-Shiloh segment of the project and two additional areas along the Shiloh-Fitch segment of the project. The purpose of the field survey was to identify the existing land uses and vegetation communities within the survey area, map all aquatic resources, and determine the suitability of the survey area to support the special-status plant and wildlife species evaluated in the GANDA report.

The ±1.8-mile Fulton-Shiloh segment included in TRC's evaluation extends from the beginning of the 60 kV line at the south end of Sonoma County's Shiloh Regional Park and terminates at the Fulton Substation. In general, the alignment runs along or parallel to Faught Road, Old Redwood Highway, and Lavell Road. The two additional areas along the Shiloh-Fitch segment of the project that were evaluated included a potential laydown/staging area southeast of Brooks Road, and a small extension of the survey area at the far north end of the alignment on Minaglia Ranch (see Attachment 1: Biological Resources Map).

Methods

The background research and literature review conducted by GANDA covered a wide buffer well beyond the project alignment and encompassed the Fulton-Shiloh segment evaluated in this report; therefore, the same special-status species listed in the GANDA

report were evaluated for this report. Field survey and mapping methods, along with the description of the survey area, were similar to those described in the GANDA report; however, focused special-status plant surveys were not conducted.

Results

The findings from the March 31, 2015 and September 22, 2015 field survey are summarized below. In general, this report uses report headings similar to those in the GANDA report for consistency purposes and defers to the GANDA report for vegetation community descriptions and species accounts.

Vegetation Communities and Land Uses

The entire survey area amounts to 126.54 acres. Unlike the survey area assessed in the GANDA report, the survey area for this portion of the project is dominated by developed land, which includes residential developments, roadways, schools, urban parks, and the Fulton Substation. Given the developed nature of the vineyard/orchard land use and the fact that much of the grassland habitat is regularly mowed and maintained, roughly 90 percent of the survey area is of little biological value and lacks suitable habitat to support special-status plants and wildlife. The acreage for each vegetation community and land use type identified within the survey area is listed below in Table 1. Due to overlapping vegetation communities and water feature categories, the sum of the individual acreages exceeds the acreage of the survey area. The attached maps show the location of each category within the survey area. As mentioned above, descriptions for most of the categories can be found in the GANDA report. For those categories that differ slightly, a brief description is provided in the table.

Table 1 — Vegetation Communities and Land Use Types

Vegetation/Land Use	Description	Acreage
Developed	See text above and GANDA report.	71.93
Vineyard/Orchard	See GANDA report. An abandoned orchard and small maintained walnut orchard were included in this category.	22.06
Grassland	See GANDA report.	14.39
Agricultural Land	Comprised of land grazed by horses and fallow cropland on 3/31/15.	11.75
Mixed north slope cismontane woodland	See GANDA report.	1.12
Coast Live Oak Woodland	See GANDA report.	2.28

Wetlands and Water Features

Although the survey area is essentially developed and disturbed, a number of aquatic features intersect the survey area. Nearly all of the mapped features are seasonal

watercourses comprised of ephemeral drainages and man-made drainage ditches. Mark West Creek, a perennial watercourse, occurs in the central portion of the Fulton-Shiloh segment survey area. The creek supports relatively dense riparian woodland habitat. A summary of the features mapped during the field survey is provided below in Table 2 and the attached maps show their location within the survey area. Descriptions of the feature types are provided in the GANDA report.

Table 2 — Water Features with the Survey Area

Water Feature Type	Number of Occurrences	Acreage
Seasonal Watercourse (includes 3 drainage ditches at Fulton Substation)	7	1.03
Riparian Woodland (Mark West Creek)	1	3.76

Special-Status Species

As mentioned above, the same special-status species listed in the GANDA report were evaluated for this report; however, focused special-status plant surveys were not conducted. Due to the developed and disturbed nature of the survey area, no federal- or state-listed, or List 1 or List 2 plant species are expected to occur within the survey area.

Mark West Creek provides potential habitat for two special-status invertebrates (Navarro roach and California freshwater shrimp), four fish species (Russian River tule perch, hardhead, central California coast evolutionarily significant unit of coho salmon, and the central California coast distinct population segment of steelhead), and two amphibians (foothill yellow-legged frog and California red-legged frog). Since the creek is below a long span of the power line and no work activities are proposed within the banks of the creek, impacts to these species or their habitats are not anticipated. However, California red-legged frog is known to use upland dispersal habitat between suitable aquatic habitat areas, especially during periods of rainfall. Due to the amount of development within and surrounding the survey area, the likelihood of the project encountering and impacting California red-legged frog in this portion of the project is extremely low.

Construction work areas at Fulton substation and Mark West Creek are within an area designated in the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy as having low potential for California tiger salamander to occur. Some potentially suitable seasonally ponded breeding habitat is located near Fulton Substation, and the substation is within designated critical habitat for California tiger salamander. However, the substation and the work areas immediately surrounding it lack burrows and other features needed to

support the species. In addition, this area is surrounded by Highway 101, a county road and vineyard, which limit potential for this species to occur or disperse through the project area. Records for the species within 5 miles of the survey area are limited to a single occurrence within the Santa Rosa Plain approximately 1.7 miles from the southern end of the project. Based on the closest known occurrence, the lack of primary constituent elements for the species and the barriers to movement into the project area, it is unlikely that California tiger salamander would be found in the project area.

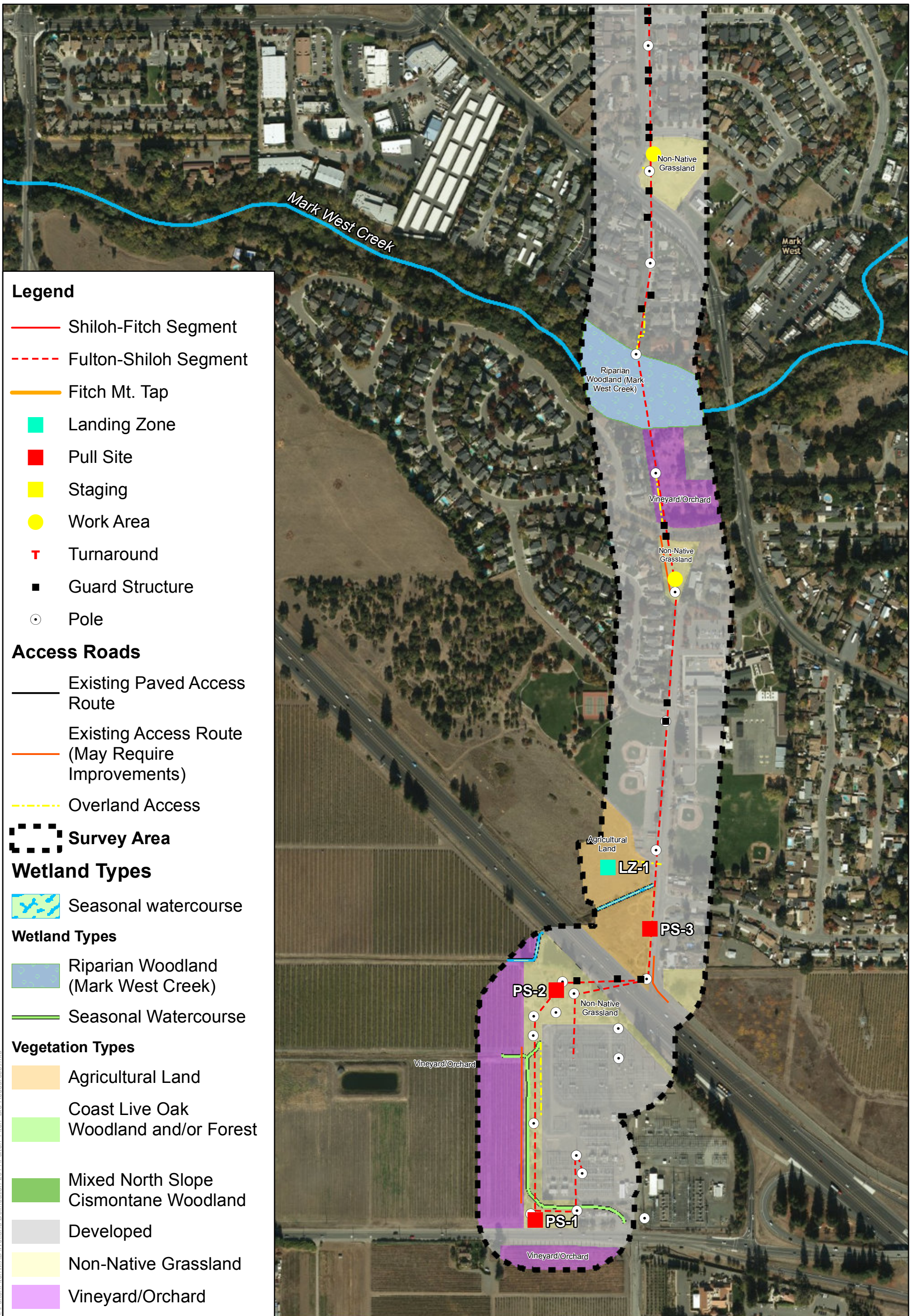
The vegetation and structures within and adjacent to the survey area provide suitable habitat for pallid bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, western red bat, and a variety of nesting birds.

Conclusions

As of the preparation of this addendum, none of the existing poles along the Fulton-Shiloh segment are proposed for replacement. Work areas will be limited to the 100- by 200-foot pull site work areas, the Landing Zones on the east side of Highway 101 and west of Faught Road. The work areas and Landing Zone east of Highway 101 will be located outside the boundaries of the mapped water features and will have no direct impact on these resources. The access road to the Landing Zone west of Faught Road will be spanned using either a temporary bridge or culvert. Implementation of the Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs) listed in the GANDA report will help avoid impacts to water quality within onsite and offsite aquatic features.

Although nearly all of the survey area is developed and disturbed and lacks suitable habitat to support the special-status species known to occur in the vicinity of the project, there is potential for project activities to adversely impact some wildlife species. The wildlife species with the potential to occur in this portion of the project are some of the same species identified in the GANDA report as having potential to occur along the Shiloh-Fitch segment of the project. Therefore, the AMMs prescribed in the GANDA report will help avoid project-related impacts to special-status species along the Fulton-Shiloh segment.

Attachment 1: Biological Resources Map



Legend

- Shiloh-Fitch Segment
- - - Fulton-Shiloh Segment
- Fitch Mt. Tap
- Landing Zone
- Pull Site
- Staging
- Work Area
- T Turnaround
- Guard Structure
- Pole

Access Roads

- Existing Paved Access Route
- - - Existing Access Route (May Require Improvements)
- - - Overland Access

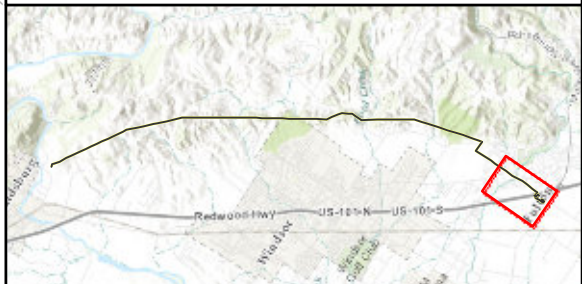
Survey Area

Wetland Types

- Seasonal watercourse
- Riparian Woodland (Mark West Creek)
- Seasonal Watercourse

Vegetation Types

- Agricultural Land
- Coast Live Oak Woodland and/or Forest
- Mixed North Slope Cismontane Woodland
- Developed
- Non-Native Grassland
- Vineyard/Orchard



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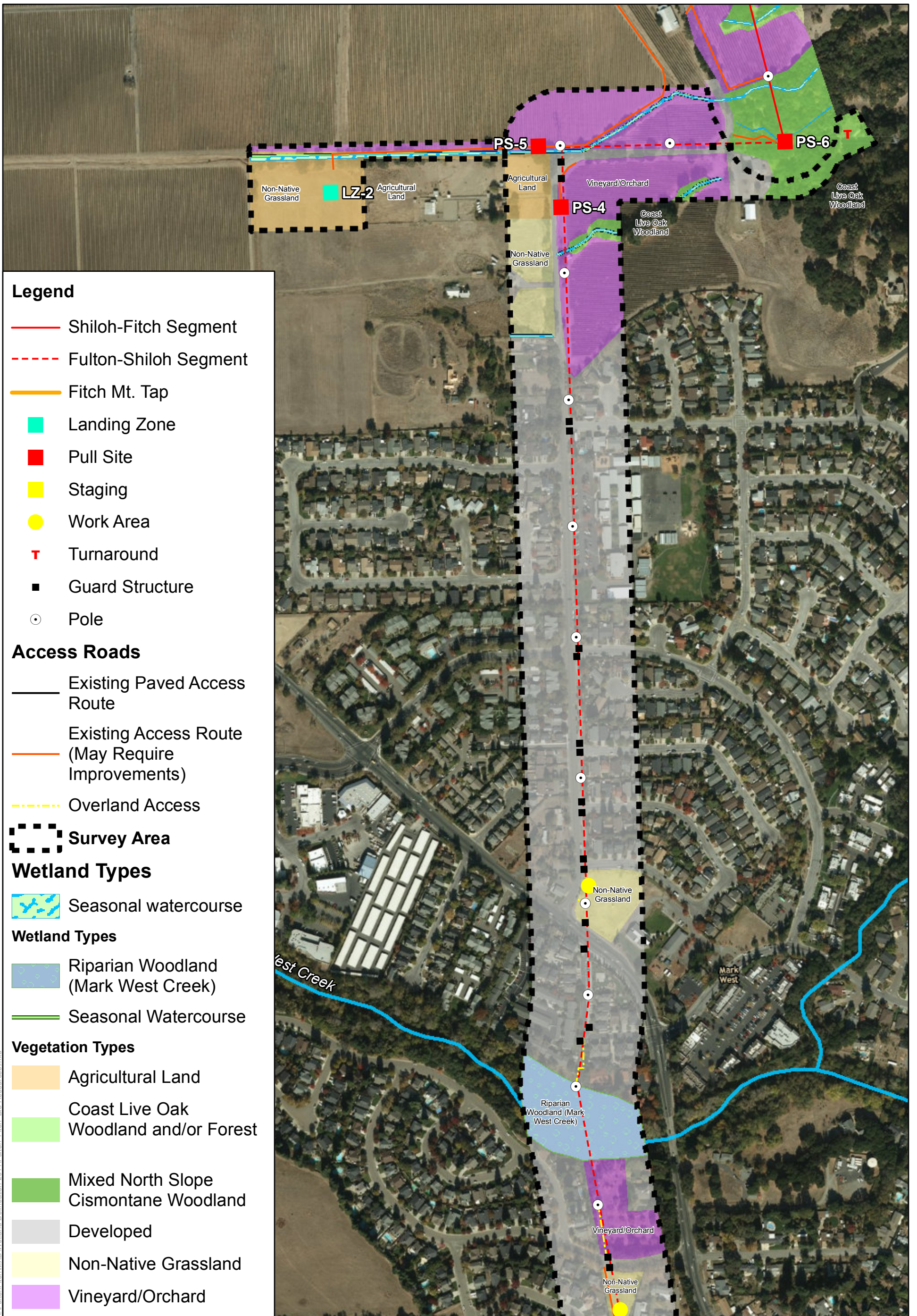
Project particulars are preliminary and subject to change.

Attachment 1 - Biological Resources Map
 Fulton - Fitch Mountain Reconductoring Project

December 2015

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Overland access routes are only provided to establish a survey corridor and are subject to change.



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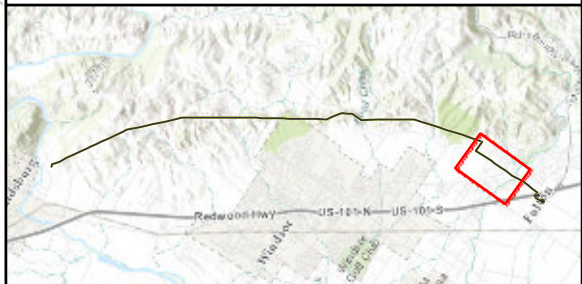
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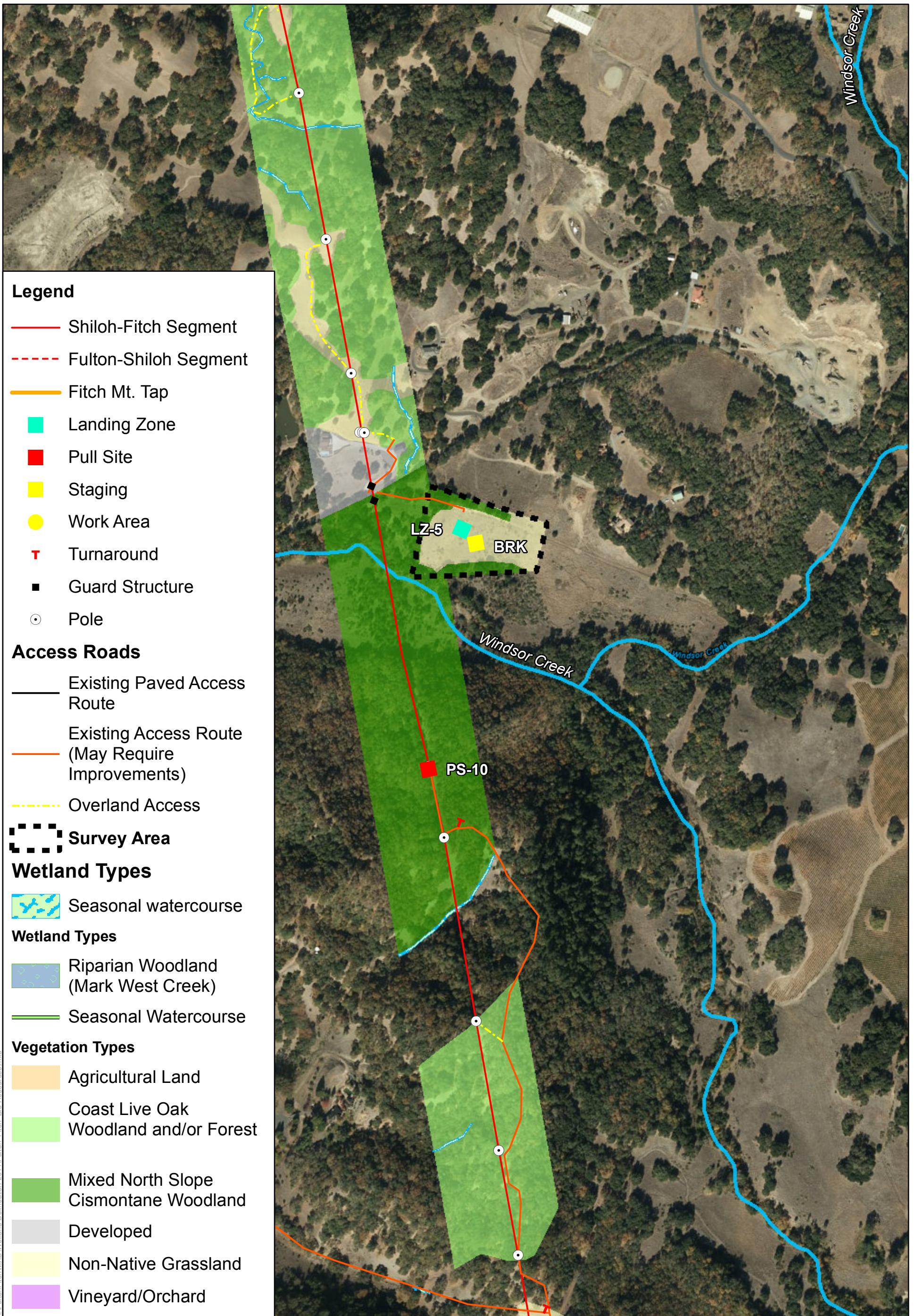
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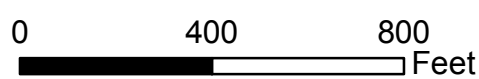
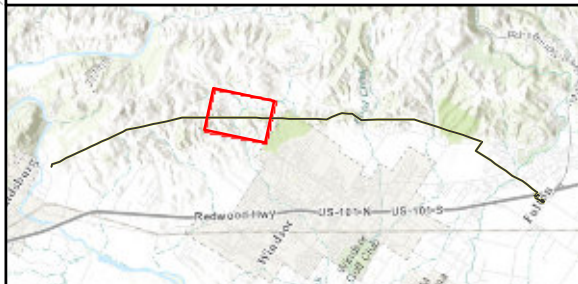
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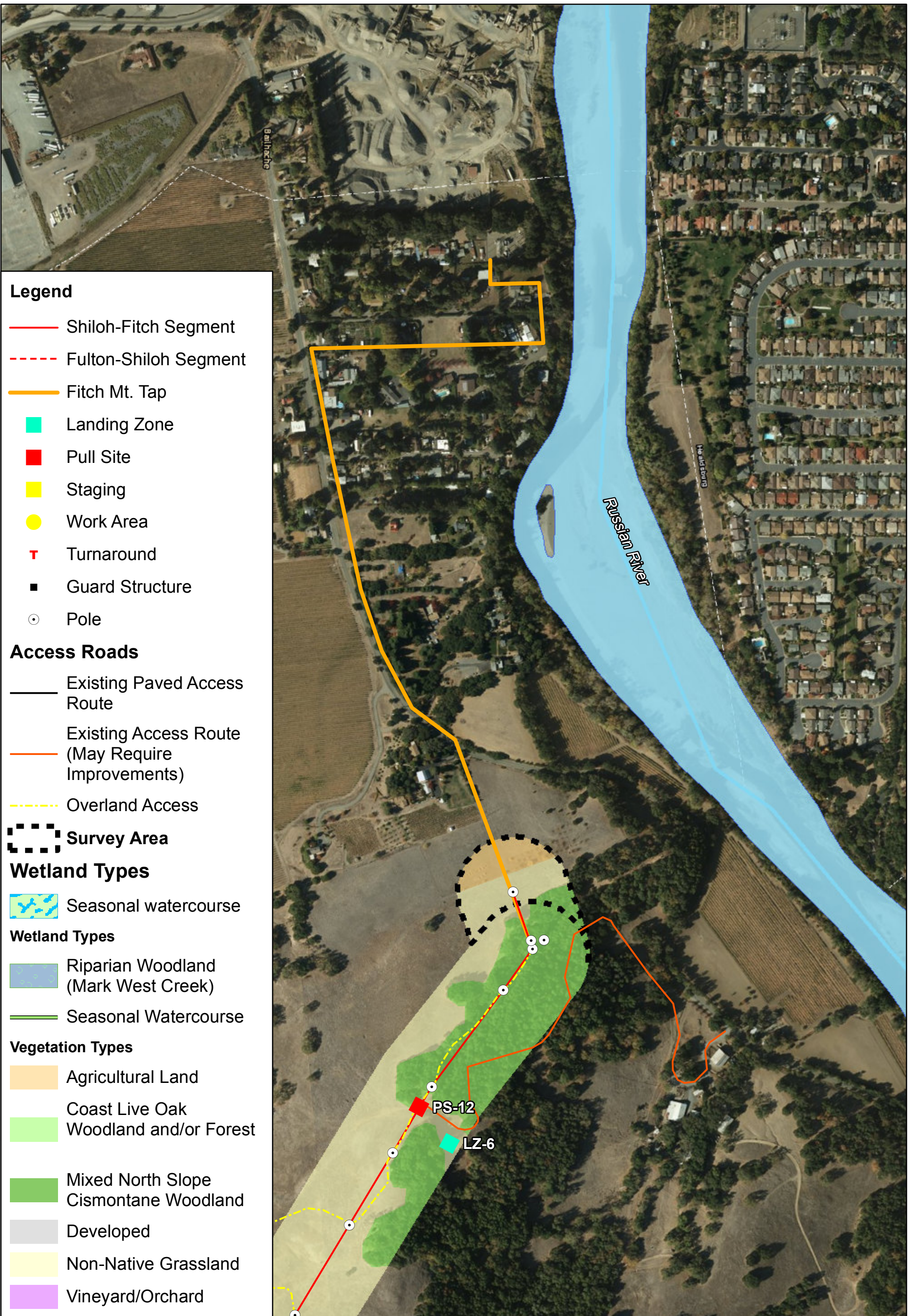


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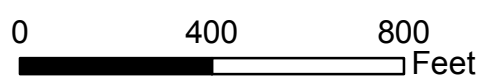
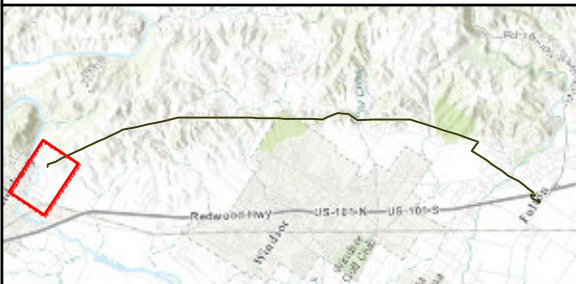
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