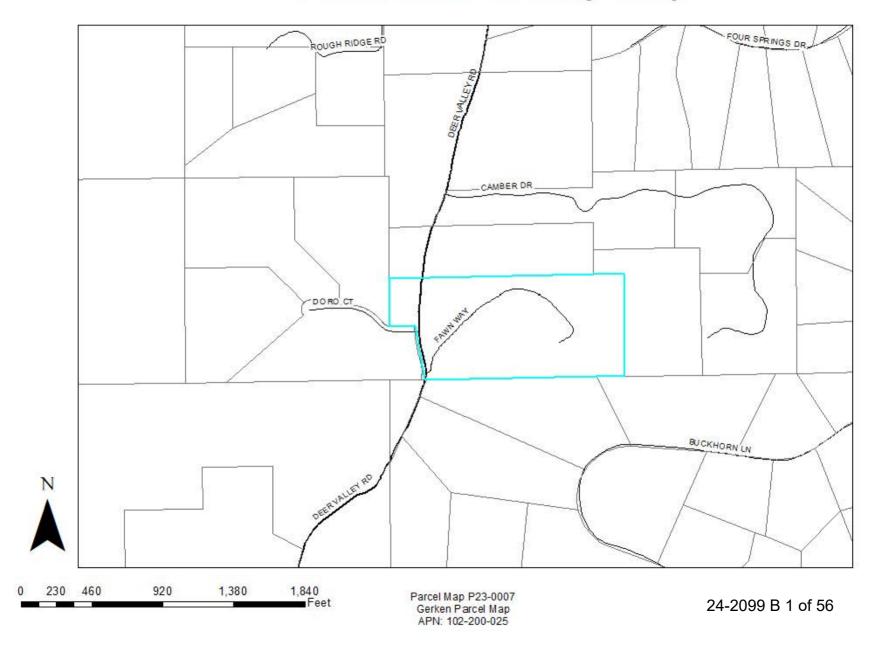
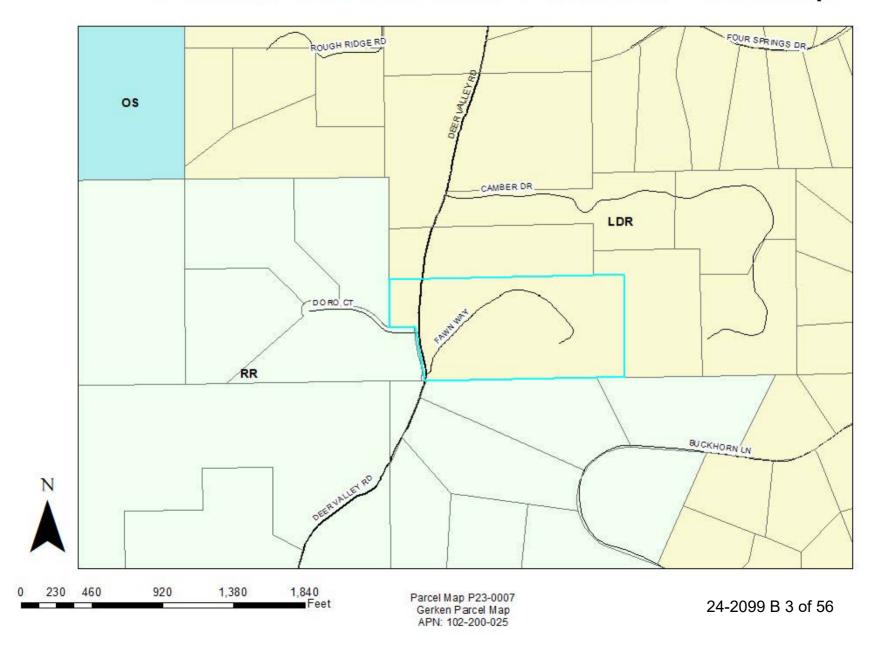
# Exhibit A: Vicinity Map



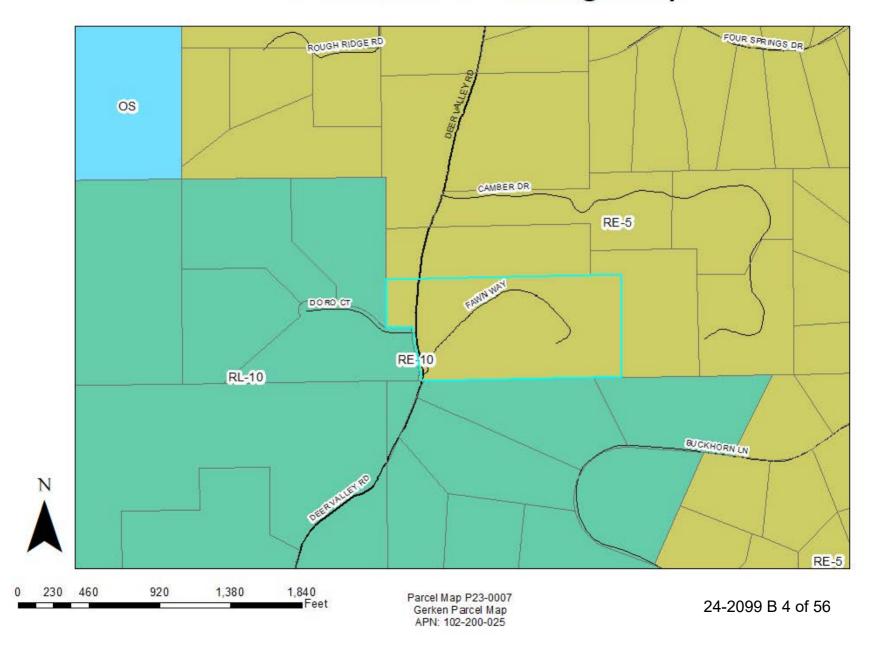
# Exhibit B: Aerial Map

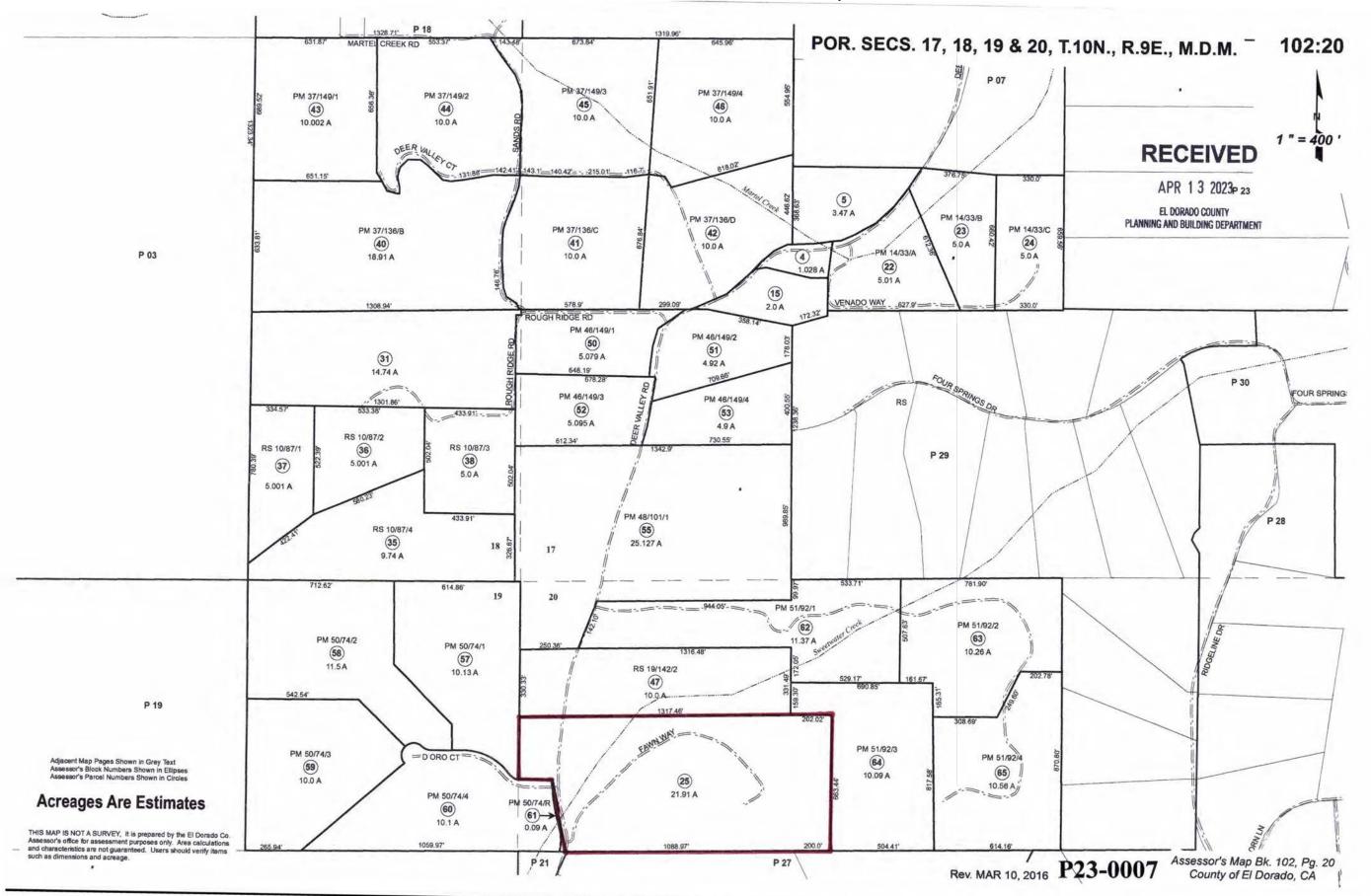


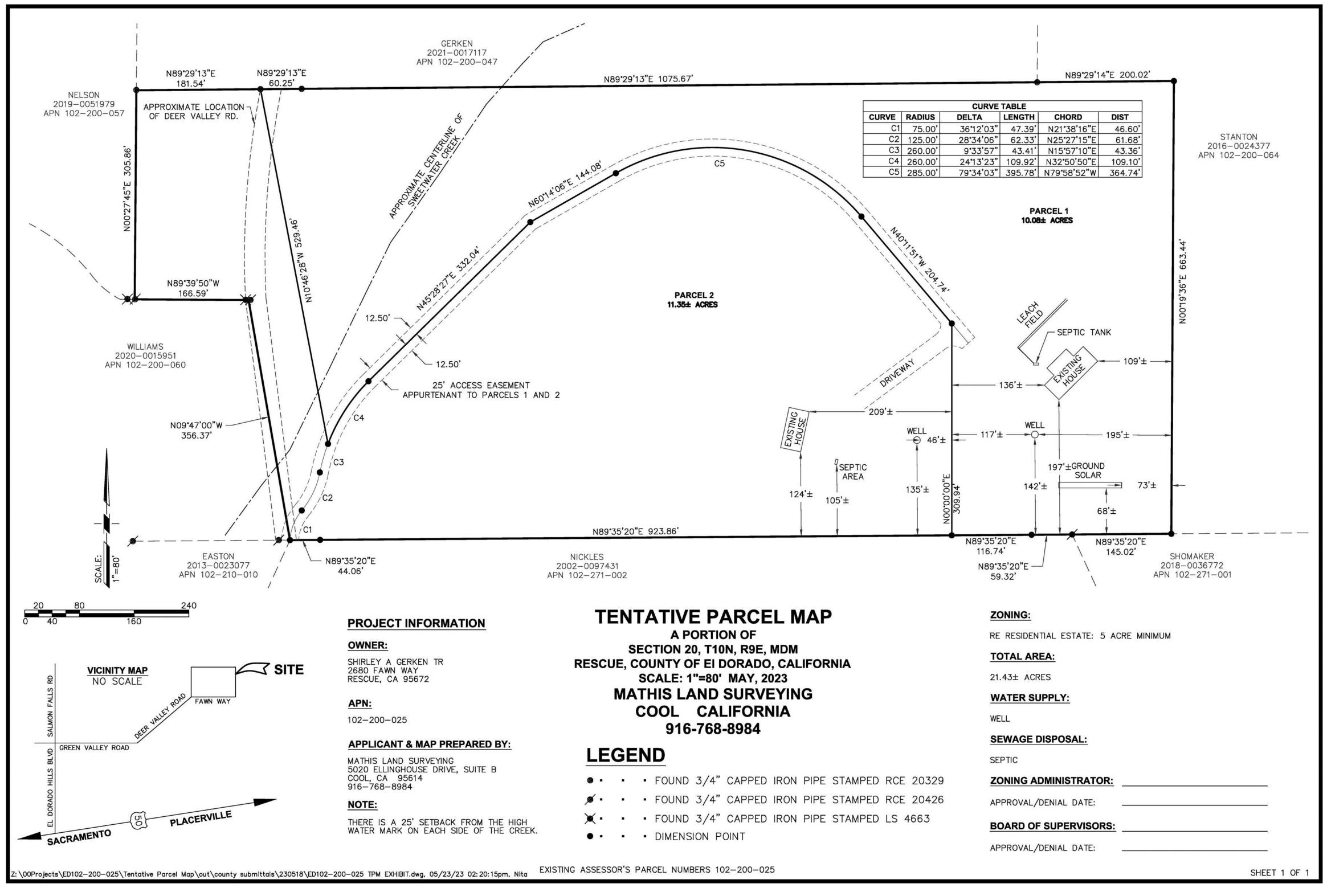
# Exhibit C: General Plan Land Use Map



# Exhibit D: Zoning Map







# BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT AND BOTANICAL SURVEY FOR PROPOSED PARCEL SUBDIVISION AT 2680/2682 FAWN WAY, RESCUE, CALIFORNIA

March 30, 2023

Prepared by:



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

A biological resources assessment and protocol botanical survey was conducted on a 21.91-acre property (APN 102-200-025-100) at 2680/2682 Fawn Way, Rescue, El Dorado County, California (see Exhibits). The proposed action is a parcel split / tentative map that would result in two new 10-acre parcels. Development plans have not been provided at this time.

For this assessment, the Study Area was defined as the entire 22-acre property. For purposes of the Placer County Conservation Program, the Area of Effect was also defined as the entire 22-acre property.

### 1.2. REGULATORY SETTING

The following section summarizes some applicable regulations of biological resources on real property in California.

## 1.2.1. Special-status Species Regulations

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service implement the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) (16 USC §1531 et seq.). Threatened and endangered species on the federal list (50 CFR §17.11, 17.12) are protected from "take" (direct or indirect harm), unless a FESA Section 10 Permit is granted or a FESA Section 7 Biological Opinion with incidental take provisions is rendered. Pursuant to the requirements of FESA, an agency reviewing a proposed project within its jurisdiction must determine whether any federally listed species may be present in the project area and determine whether the proposed project will have a potentially significant impact upon such species. Under FESA, habitat loss is considered to be an impact to the species. In addition, the agency is required to determine whether the project is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any species proposed to be listed under FESA or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat proposed to be designated for such species (16 USC §1536[3], [4]). Therefore, project-related impacts to these species or their habitats would be considered significant and would require mitigation. Species that are candidates for listing are not protected under FESA; however, USFWS advises that a candidate species could be elevated to listed status at any time, and therefore, applicants should regard these species with special consideration.

The California Endangered Species Act of 1970 (CESA) (California Fish and Game Code §2050 *et seq.*, and CCR Title 14, §670.2, 670.51) prohibits "take" (defined as hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill) of species listed under CESA. A CESA permit must be obtained if a project will result in take of listed species, either during construction or over the life of the project. Section 2081 establishes an incidental take permit program for state-listed species. Under CESA, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has the responsibility for maintaining a list of threatened and endangered species designated under state law (CFG Code 2070). CDFW also maintains lists of species of special concern, which serve as "watch lists." Pursuant to requirements of CESA, an agency reviewing proposed projects within its jurisdiction must determine whether any state-listed species may be present in the Study Area and determine whether the proposed project will have a potentially significant impact upon such species. Project-related impacts to species on the CESA list would be considered significant and would require mitigation.

California Fish and Game Code Sections 4700, 5050, and 5515 designates certain mammal, amphibian, and reptile species "fully protected", making it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy these species except under issuance of a specific permit. The California Native Plant Protection Act of 1977 (CFG Code §1900 et seq.) requires CDFW to establish criteria for determining if a species or variety of native plant is endangered or rare. Section 19131 of the code requires that landowners notify CDFW at least 10 days prior to initiating activities that will destroy a listed plant to allow the salvage of plant material.

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Many bird species, especially those that are breeding, migratory, or of limited distribution, are protected under federal and state regulations. Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 USC §703-711), migratory bird species and their nests and eggs that are on the federal list (50 CFR §10.13) are protected from injury or death, and project-related disturbances must be reduced or eliminated during the nesting cycle. California Fish and Game Code (§3503, 3503.5, and 3800) prohibits the possession, incidental take, or needless destruction of any bird nests or eggs. Fish and Game Code §3511 designates certain bird species "fully protected", making it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy these species except under issuance of a specific permit. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 USC §668) specifically protects bald and golden eagles from harm or trade in parts of these species.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §15380) defines "rare" in a broader sense than the definitions of threatened, endangered, or fully protected. Under the CEQA definition, CDFW can request additional consideration of species not otherwise protected. CEQA requires that the impacts of a project upon environmental resources must be analyzed and assessed using criteria determined by the lead agency. Sensitive species that would qualify for listing but are not currently listed may be afforded protection under CEQA. The CEQA Guidelines (§15065) require that a substantial reduction in numbers of a rare or endangered species be considered a significant effect. CEQA Guidelines (§15380) provide for assessment of unlisted species as rare or endangered under CEQA if the species can be shown to meet the criteria for listing. Plant species on the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Lists 1A, 1B, or 2 are typically considered rare under CEQA. California "Species of Special Concern" is a category conferred by CDFW on those species that are indicators of regional habitat changes or are considered potential future protected species. While they do not have statutory protection, Species of Special Concern are typically considered rare under CEQA and thereby warrant specific protection measures.

#### 1.2.2. Water Resource Protection

Real property that contains water resources are subject to various federal and state regulations and activities occurring in these water resources may require permits, licenses, variances, or similar authorization from federal, state, and local agencies, as described next.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (as amended), commonly known as the Clean Water Act (CWA), established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into "waters of the United States". Waters of the US includes essentially all surface waters, all interstate waters and their tributaries, all impoundments of these waters, and all wetlands adjacent to these waters. CWA Section 404 requires approval prior to dredging or discharging fill material into any waters of the US, especially wetlands. The permitting program is designed to minimize impacts to waters of the US, and when impacts cannot be avoided, requires compensatory mitigation. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for administering Section 404 regulations. Substantial impacts to jurisdictional wetlands may require an Individual Permit. Small-scale projects may require only a Nationwide Permit, which typically has an expedited process compared to the Individual Permit process. Mitigation of wetland impacts is required as a condition of the CWA Section 404 Permit and may include on-site preservation, restoration, or enhancement and/or off-site restoration or enhancement. The characteristics of the restored or enhanced wetlands must be equal to or better than those of the affected wetlands to achieve no net loss of wetlands.

Under CWA Section 401, every applicant for a federal permit or license for any activity which may result in a discharge to a water body must obtain State Water Quality Certification that the proposed activity will comply with State water quality standards. The California State Water Resources Control Board is responsible for administering CWA Section 401 regulations.

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Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 requires approval from USACE prior to the commencement of any work in or over navigable Waters of the US, or which affects the course, location, condition, or capacity of such waters. Navigable waters of the United States are defined as waters that have been used in the past, are now used, or are susceptible to use, as a means to transport interstate or foreign commerce up to the head of navigation. Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 permits are required for construction activities in these waters.

California Fish and Game Code (§1601 - 1607) protects fishery resources by regulating "any activity that may substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake." CDFW requires notification prior to commencement, and issuance of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement, if a proposed project will result in the alteration or degradation of "waters of the State." The limit of CDFW jurisdiction is subject to the judgment of the Department; currently, this jurisdiction is interpreted to be the "stream zone", defined as "that portion of the stream channel that restricts lateral movement of water" and delineated at "the top of the bank or the outer edge of any riparian vegetation, whichever is more landward". CDFW reviews the proposed actions and, if necessary, submits to the applicant a proposal for measures to protect affected fish and wildlife resources. The final proposal that is mutually agreed upon by the CDFW and the applicant is the Streambed Alteration Agreement. Projects that require a Streambed Alteration Agreement may also require a CWA 404 Section Permit and/or CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

For construction projects that disturb one or more acres of soil, the landowner or developer must obtain coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit, 2009-0009-DWQ).

# 2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Study Area is located within the Sacramento Valley geographic subregion, which is contained within the Great Valley geographic subdivision of the larger California Floristic Province (Baldwin et al. 2012). This region has a Mediterranean-type climate, characterized by distinct seasons of hot, dry summers and wet, moderately-cold winters. The Study Area and vicinity is in Climate Zone 9 – Thermal Belts of California's Central Valley, defined by hot summers and mild but pronounced winters without severe winter cold or high humidity (Sunset, 2022). The topography of the Study Area ranges from gently rolling hills in the north to nearly flat in the south. The elevation ranges from approximately 1,050 to 1,290 feet above mean sea level. Drainage runs generally to the west, and eventually flows into Sweetwater Creek. The land use is rural residential and open space. The USDA soil types are as follows:

- RfD: Rescue very stony sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes,
- RgE2: Rescue extremely stony sandy loam, 3 to 50 percent slopes, eroded
- RfC: Rescue very stony sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes

# 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. PRELIMINARY DATA GATHERING AND RESEARCH

Prior to conducting the field survey, the following information sources were reviewed:

- Any readily-available previous biological resource studies pertaining to the Study Area or vicinity
- Aerial photography of the Study Area (current and historical)
- United States Geologic Service 7.5 degree-minute topographic quadrangles of the Study Area and vicinity
- USFWS National Wetland Inventory
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service soil survey maps
- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), electronically updated monthly by subscription
- USFWS species list (IPaC Trust Resources Report).

#### 3.2. FIELD SURVEY

Consulting biologist/botanist Tim Nosal, M.S., conducted a wildlife survey and botanical survey on March 26, 2022. Weather conditions were warm and sunny. A variable-intensity pedestrian survey was performed, and modified to account for differences in terrain, vegetation density, and visibility. All visible fauna and flora observed were recorded in a field notebook and identified to the lowest possible taxon. Survey efforts emphasized the search for any special-status species that had documented occurrences in the CNDDB within the vicinity of the Study Area and those species on the USFWS species list (Appendix 1).

When a specimen could not be identified in the field, a photograph or voucher specimen (depending upon permit requirements) was taken and identified in the laboratory using a dissecting scope where necessary. Dr. Graening holds the following scientific collection permits: CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit No. SC-006802; and CDFW Plant Voucher Specimen Permit 09004. Tim Nosal holds CDFW Plant Voucher Specimen Permit 2081(a)-16-102-V. Taxonomic determinations were facilitated by referencing museum specimens or by various texts, including the following: Powell and Hogue (1979); Pavlik (1991); (1993); Brenzel (2012); Stuart and Sawyer (2001); Lanner (2002); Sibley (2003); Baldwin et al. (2012); Calflora (2022); CDFW (2022b,c); NatureServe 2022; and University of California at Berkeley (2022a,b).

The locations of any special-status species sighted were marked on aerial photographs and/or georeferenced with a geographic positioning system (GPS) receiver. Habitat types occurring in the Study Area were mapped on aerial photographs, and information on habitat conditions and the suitability of the habitats to support special-status species was also recorded. The Study Area was also informally assessed for the presence of potentially-jurisdictional water features, including riparian zones, isolated wetlands and vernal pools, and other biologically-sensitive aquatic habitats.

The botanical survey methodology followed the following protocols:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2018. Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1996. Guidelines for conducting and reporting botanical inventories for federally listed, proposed and candidate plants. Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, Sacramento, California. 2 pp.
- California Native Plant Society. 2001. CNPS botanical survey guidelines.

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#### 3.3. MAPPING AND OTHER ANALYSES

Locations of species' occurrences and habitat boundaries within the Study Area were digitized to produce the final habitat maps. The boundaries of potentially jurisdictional water resources within the Study Area were identified and measured in the field, and similarly digitized to calculate acreage and to produce informal delineation maps. Geographic analyses were performed using geographical information system software (ArcGIS 10, ESRI, Inc.). Vegetation communities (assemblages of plant species growing in an area of similar biological and environmental factors), were classified by Vegetation Series (distinctive associations of plants, described by dominant species and particular environmental setting) using the CNPS Vegetation Classification system (Sawyer and Keeler-Wolf, 1995). Informal wetland delineation methods consisted of an abbreviated, visual assessment of the three requisite wetland parameters (hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, hydrologic regime) defined in the US Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory, 1987). Wildlife habitats were classified according to the CDFW's California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System (CDFW, 2022c). Species' habitat requirements and life histories were identified using the following sources: Baldwin et al. (2012); CNPS (2022), Calflora (2022); CDFW (2022a,b,c); and University of California at Berkeley (2022a,b).

# 4. RESULTS

#### 4.1. INVENTORY OF FLORA AND FAUNA FROM FIELD SURVEY

All plants detected during the field survey of the Study Area are listed in Appendix 2. The following animals were detected within the Study Area during the field survey:

Botta's pocket gopher (Thomomys bottae); Columbian black-tailed deer (Odocoileus hemionus columbianus); coyote (Canis latrans); goat (Capra aegagrus hircus); acorn woodpecker (Melanerpes formicivorus); American robin (Turdus migratorius); Anna's hummingbird (Calypte anna); bandtailed pigeon (Patagioenas fasciata); Bewick's wren (Thryomanes bewickii); California quail (Callipepla californica); California scrub jay (Aphelocoma californica); cedar waxwing (Bombycilla cedrorum); common raven (Corvus corax); dark-eyed junco (Junco hyemalis); European starling (Sturnus vulgaris); house finch (Haemorhous mexicanus); house sparrow (Passer domesticus); house wren (Troglodytes aedon); killdeer (Charadrius vociferus); lesser goldfinch (Spinus psaltria); mourning dove (Zenaida macroura); northern flicker (Colaptes auratus); Nuttall's woodpecker (Picoides nuttallii); oak titmouse (Baeolophus inornatus); orangecrowned warbler (Vermivora celata); red-shouldered hawk (Buteo lineatus); red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis); ruby crowned kinglet (Regulus calendula); savannah sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis); song sparrow (Melospiza melodia); spotted towhee (Pipilo maculatus); turkey vulture (Cathartes aura); western bluebird (Sialia mexicanus); white-breasted nuthatch (Sitta carolinensis); wild turkey (Meleagris gallopavo); wrentit (Chamaea fasciata); and yellow-rumped warbler (Setophaga coronata).

#### 4.2. VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND WILDLIFE HABITAT TYPES

# 4.2.1. Terrestrial Vegetation Communities

General vegetation communities occurring in the Study Area were mapped (see Exhibits). More specifically, the following terrestrial natural communities occur in the Study Area (as categorized by CDFW 2022):

- 11.000.000 Disturbed (1.29 acres)
  - o 11.300.00 Disturbed Habitat
  - o 12.000.00 Urban/Developed
- 71.000.00 Oak Woodlands and Forests (20.25 acres)
  - o 71.020.00 Blue oak woodland and forest
  - 71.100.00 Mixed oak woodland and forest
- 37.000.00 Chaparral (0.37 acre)
  - o 37.100.00 Chamise Chaparral [Adenostoma fasciculatum]
  - o 37.200.00 Chaparral with Ceanothus as principal indicator

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## 4.2.2. Wildlife Habitat Types

Wildlife habitat types were classified using CDFW's Wildlife Habitat Relationship System. The Study Area contains the following wildlife habitat types: Blue Oak Woodland; Mixed Chaparral; Valley Foothill Riparian; Riverine.

# 4.2.3. Critical Habitat and Special-status Habitat

No critical habitat for any federally-listed species occurs within the Study Area. The nearest Critical Habitat is for Sacramento Orcutt grass, approximately 11 miles southwest of the Study Area. The CNDDB reported no special-status habitats within the Study Area. The CNDDB reported the following special-status habitats in a 10-mile radius outside of the Study Area: Valley Needlegrass Grassland; Central Valley Drainage Hardhead/Squawfish Stream; Northern Volcanic Mud Flow Vernal Pool; and Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool.

No special-status habitats were detected within the Study Area, although the intermittent channel can be considered special status.

#### 4.2.4. Habitat Plans and Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife movement corridors link remaining areas of functional wildlife habitat that are separated primarily by human disturbance, but natural barriers such as rugged terrain and abrupt changes in vegetation cover are also possible. Wilderness and open lands have been fragmented by urbanization, which can disrupt migratory species and separate interbreeding populations. Corridors allow migratory movements and act as links between these separated populations.

The Study Area is part of a mapped "Essential Connectivity Areas" – as identified in the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project (CDFW 2021d). The intermittent channel on the western edge of the Study Area—Sweetwater Creek—is a limited fisheries resource because the flow is not perennial and because downstream barriers exist in the form of impoundments and urbanization. The Study Area is not located within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan area.

#### 4.3. LISTED SPECIES AND OTHER SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES

For the purposes of this assessment, "special status" is defined to be species that are of management concern to state or federal natural resource agencies, and include those species that are:

- Listed as endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act;
- Listed as endangered, threatened, rare, or proposed for listing, under the California Endangered Species Act of 1970;
- Designated as endangered or rare, pursuant to California Fish and Game Code (§1901);
- Designated as fully protected, pursuant to California Fish and Game Code (§3511, §4700, or §5050);
- Designated as a species of special concern by CDFW;
- Plants considered to be rare, threatened or endangered in California by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS); this consists of species on Lists 1A, 1B, and 2 of the CNPS Ranking System; or
- Plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act.

#### 4.3.1. Reported Occurrences of Listed Species and Other Special-status Species

A list of special-status plant and animal species that have occurred within the Study Area and vicinity was compiled based upon the following:

- Any previous and readily-available biological resource studies pertaining to the Study Area;
- Informal consultation with USFWS by generating an electronic Species List (Information for Planning and Conservation website at https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/); and
- A spatial query of the CNDDB using the standard 9 quadrangle boundary

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 A query of the California Native Plant Society's database Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition).

The CNDDB was queried, and any reported occurrences of special-status species were plotted in relation to the Study Area boundary using GIS software (see exhibits). The CNDDB has mapped an occurrence of EI Dorado County mule ears (Wyethia reticulata) within the Study Area. However, the exact location of this occurrence is unclear and the accuracy is an 80 meter radius of uncertainty. The location description of this occurrence is specified by CNDDB as:

"SOUTHEAST SIDE OF SWEETWATER CREEK, APPROXIMATELY 1.5 AIR MILES WSW OF SUMMIT OF PINE HILL.... MAPPED BY CNDDB ACCORDING TO MAP DETAIL PROVIDED BY HUGHES & FORBES IN 2007. A 1986 WILSON MAP PLACES THE PLANTS ~0.1 MI NE OF THE CURRENTLY MAPPED AREA; HOWEVER, HUGHES & FORBES DID NOT FIND ANY PLANTS THERE....COLONY IS UNDER OAK CANOPY BUT IN AREA WITH LITTLE SHRUB COVER.....UNKNOWN NUMBER OF PLANTS OBSERVED IN 1986....APPROXIMATELY 1426 PLANTS OBSERVED IN 2007."

Within a 10-mile buffer of the Study Area boundary, the CNDDB reported several special-status species occurrences, summarized in the table in the Appendix along with any additional CNPS species.

A USFWS species list was generated online using the USFWS' IPaC Trust Resource Report System (see Appendix 1). This list is generated using a regional and/or watershed approach and does not necessarily indicate that the Study Area provides suitable habitat. The following listed species should be considered in the impact assessment:

- California Red-legged Frog (Rana draytonii) Threatened
- California Tiger Salamander (Ambystoma californiense Central CA DPS) Threatened
- Monarch Butterfly (Danaus plexippus) Candidate
- Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp (Branchinecta lynchii) Threatened
- Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp (Lepidurus packardi) Endangered
- El Dorado Bedstraw (Galium californicum ssp. sierrae) Endangered
- Layne's Butterweed (Senecio layneae) Threatened
- Pine Hill Ceanothus (Ceanothus roderickii) Endangered
- Pine Hill Flannelbush (Fremontodendron californicum ssp. decumbens) Endangered
- Stebbins' Morning-glory (Calystegia stebbinsii) Endangered

# 4.3.2. Listed Species or Special-status Species Observed During Field Survey

During the field survey, no listed species or special-status species were detected within the Study Area.

# 4.3.3. Potential for Listed Species or Special-status Species to Occur in the Study Area

See the Appendix for a complete table of Special-status Species and their potential to occur in the Study Area.

#### **Plants**

The oak woodland habitat and chaparral habitats within the Study Area have a potential for harboring various special-status plant species due to the presence of intact natural vegetation community structure and Rescue series (gabbro) soil. These special-status species consist of:

- Stebbins' morning-glory (Calystegia stebbinsii)
- Chaparral sedge (Carex xerophila)
- Fresno ceanothus (Ceanothus fresnensis)

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- Pine Hill ceanothus (Ceanothus roderickii)
- Red Hills soaproot (Chlorogalum grandiflorum)
- Brandegee's clarkia (Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeeae)
- Streambank spring beauty (Claytonia parviflora ssp. grandiflora)
- Bisbee Peak rush-rose (*Crocanthemum suffrutescens*)
- Pine Hill flannelbush (Fremontodendron decumbens)
- El Dorado bedstraw (Galium californicum ssp. sierrae)
- Humboldt lily (Lilium humboldtii ssp. humboldtii)
- Layne's ragwort (Packera layneae)
- El Dorado County mule ears (Wyethia reticulata)

#### El Dorado County mule ears (Wyethia reticulata)

An occurrence of El Dorado mule's ears is mapped by the CNDDB in the eastern portion of the Study Area, although the exact location is not known. This species was not observed during the site visit, although two other species of *Wyethia* were observed during the survey (*Wyethia angustifolia* and *Wyethia bolanderi*); these species of *Wyethia* are not rare and are not listed species or special status. The *Wyethia angustifolia* was relatively common in the northeastern portion of the Study Area. One individual *Wyethia bolanderi* was detected (at coordinates 38.71262, -121.01750). The CNDDB-mapped location is in an area that is rural residential with mowing and goat grazing, which may have either obscured or eliminated this rare population, or the population exists to the east, beyond the Study Area's parcel boundaries.

#### <u>Animals</u>

Various special-status animals have a moderate potential to occur in the oak woodland/forest habitats, and a higher potential to occur in the Sweetwater Creek corridor, because such a water supply is an attractant to wildlife and is a movement corridor. Oak woodland/forest habitats may provide suitable habitat for special status animals such as:

- Crotch bumble bee (Bombus crotchii)
- Western bumble bee (Bombus occidentalis)
- Foothill yellow-legged frog (Rana boylii)
- Coast horned lizard (Phrynosoma blainvillii)
- Merlin (Falco columbarius)
- Purple martin (*Progne subis*)
- Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii)
- North American porcupine (Erethizon dorsatum)
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*)
- Silver-haired bat (Lasionycteris noctivagans)

#### 4.4. POTENTIALLY-JURISDICTIONAL WATER RESOURCES

The USFWS National Wetland Inventory reported one Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland within the Study Area, which corresponds to the Sweetwater Creek corridor (see Exhibits). An assessment for the presence of potentially-jurisdictional water resources within the Study Area was also conducted during the field survey. The field survey determined that the Study Area has one unnamed intermittent channel (Sweetwater Creek), but no distinct riverine wetlands. There are no vernal pools or other isolated wetlands in the Study Area.

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# 5. IMPACT ANALYSES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This section establishes the impact criteria, then analyzes potential Project-related impacts upon the known biological resources within the Study Area, and then suggests mitigation measures to reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level.

#### 5.1. IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

The significance of impacts to biological resources depends upon the proximity and quality of vegetation communities and wildlife habitats, the presence or absence of special-status species, and the effectiveness of measures implemented to protect these resources from Project-related impacts. As defined by CEQA, the Project would be considered to have a significant adverse impact on biological resources if it would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by USFWS or CDFW
- Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by USFWS or CDFW
- Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means
- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species
  or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife
  nursery sites
- Conflict with any county or municipal policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance
- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved governmental habitat conservation plan.

#### 5.2. IMPACT ANALYSIS

## 5.2.1. Potential Direct / Indirect Adverse Effects Upon Special-status Species

 Will the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

#### <u>Plants</u>

The oak woodland and chaparral habitat within the Study Area has a moderate potential for harboring various special-status plant species due to the presence of intact oak woodland habitat and Rescue series (gabbro) soil. An occurrence of El Dorado mule's ears is mapped by the CNDDB in the eastern portion of the Study Area, although the exact location is not known. This species was not observed during the site visit, although two other species of *Wyethia* were observed during the survey. No listed plants or special-status plants were observed within the Study Area during the botanical survey.

The proposed parcel subdivision will have no impact upon listed plant species or special-status plant species.

If the land is developed in the future, such as construction of a new residence, ground disturbance and habitat conversion could impact listed plants or special-status plants. This is a potentially significant impact before mitigation.

Bio. Assessment & Botanical Survey

#### **Animals**

Various special-status animals have a moderate potential to occur in the oak woodland/forest habitats, and a higher potential to occur in the Sweetwater Creek corridor, because such a water supply is an attractant to wildlife and is a movement corridor. No listed or special-status animals were observed within the Study Area. No direct impacts to special-status animals will occur from proposed parcel subdivision.

The proposed parcel subdivision will have no impact upon listed animal species or special-status animal species.

If the land is developed in the future, such as construction of a new residence, ground disturbance and habitat conversion could impact listed animals or special-status animals. Listed or special-status species could migrate into the Study Area between the time that the field survey was completed and the start of construction. This is a potentially significant impact before mitigation.

Special-status bird species were reported in databases (CNDDB and USFWS) in the vicinity of the Study Area. The Study Area contains suitable nesting habitat for various bird species. If construction activities are conducted during the nesting season, nesting birds could be directly impacted by tree removal and indirectly impacted by noise, vibration, and other construction-related disturbance. Therefore, future construction is considered a potentially significant adverse impact to nesting birds.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

The proposed parcel subdivision does not require any mitigation measures because no impacts will occur.

If new land development occurs in the future, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

• An additional, pre-construction botanical survey is recommended because our botanical survey may not have detected all listed or special-status plant populations. If listed or special-status plant species are detected, it is recommended that these plants be avoided. Avoidance measures consist of shifting the cultivation compound boundaries to locations outside of the rare plant population boundaries or the creation of preserve islands within the compound boundaries. Populations should be demarcated with exclusion fencing and signage. Where avoidance is not possible, a rare plant mitigation program should be implemented. Project activities shall be delayed long enough for a qualified biologist to prepare and implement the rare plant mitigation program. An overview of the mitigation program is summarized next.

If the impacted rare plants are annuals (annual life history strategy), the mitigation program shall consist of the following: collection of seeds; sowing of the seeds in the Fall/Winter in all suitable habitats on the Property or in a specified preserve area on the Property; and covering with a weed-free mulch, such as sterile (pasteurized) wheat straw.

If the impacted rare plants are perennials (perennial life history strategy), the mitigation program shall consist of the following: careful excavation of the entire rare plant, including the majority of the root ball; placement in containers and performing health maintenance activities; transplantation in the Fall/Winter to various suitable habitats on the Property or in a specified preserve area on the Property; covering with a weed-free mulch, such as sterile (pasteurized) wheat straw; and supplemental irrigation (as needed) for a minimum of 2 years.

Note that if the plant species are federally-listed, consultation with USFWS must occur before construction, and a take permit may be necessary and specific mitigation implemented.

With the implementation of avoidance measures and a rare plant mitigation program, potential impacts to special-status plant species from future development can be reduced to a less than significant level.

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- Because special-status animal species that occur in the vicinity could migrate onto the Study Area
  between the time that the field survey was completed and the start of construction, a pre-construction
  survey for special-status species should be performed by a qualified biologist to ensure that specialstatus species are not present. If any listed species are detected, construction should be delayed,
  and the appropriate wildlife agency (CDFW and/or USFWS) should be consulted and project impacts
  and mitigation reassessed.
  - With the implementation of this mitigation measure, adverse impacts upon special-status species would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.
- If construction activities would occur during the nesting season (typically February through August), a pre-construction survey for the presence of special-status bird species or any nesting bird species should be conducted by a qualified biologist within 500 feet of proposed construction areas. If active nests are identified in these areas, CDFW and/or USFWS should be consulted to develop measures to avoid "take" of active nests prior to the initiation of any construction activities. Avoidance measures may include establishment of a buffer zone using construction fencing or the postponement of vegetation removal until after the nesting season, or until after a qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged and are independent of the nest site. With the implementation of this mitigation measure, adverse impacts upon special-status bird species and nesting birds would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

# 5.2.2. Potential Direct / Indirect Adverse Effects Upon Special-status Habitats or Natural Communities or Corridors

• Will the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The Study Area is not within any designated listed species' critical habitat. The Study Area does not contain special-status habitats although an intermittent channel is present; aquatic resources are discussed in the next section.

The proposed parcel subdivision will have no impact upon listed special-status habitats.

If the land is developed in the future, such as construction of a new residence, ground disturbance and habitat conversion will have no impact upon listed special-status habitats; aquatic resource impacts are discussed in the next section.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

No mitigation is necessary.

# 5.2.3. Potential Direct / Indirect Adverse Effects on Jurisdictional Water Resources

• Will the project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

There is one water resource in the Study Area: Sweetwater Creek. The proposed parcel subdivision will have no impact upon listed water resources because ground disturbance is not necessary.

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If the land is developed in the future, such as construction of a new residence, ground disturbance and habitat conversion could impact water resources. Potential direct impacts to water resources could occur during construction by modification or destruction of stream banks. Potential indirect impacts to water resources could occur during construction by increased erosion and sedimentation in receiving water bodies due to soil disturbance.

## **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

The proposed parcel subdivision does not require any mitigation measures because no impacts will occur.

If new land development occurs in the future near Sweetwater Creek, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- If future construction will disturb 1 or more acres of land, the landowner must enroll under the State Water Quality Control Board's Construction General Permit prior to the initiation of construction. In conjunction with enrollment under this Permit, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and a Hazardous Materials Management/Spill Response Plan must be created and implemented during construction to avoid or minimize the potential for erosion, sedimentation, or accidental release of hazardous materials. Implementation of these measures mandated by law would reduce potential construction-related impacts to water quality to a less-than-significant level.
- It is recommended that a formal delineation of jurisdictional waters be performed before construction work, or ground disturbance, is performed within 50 feet of any wetland or channel. This delineation should also include an assessment of potential waters of the State. If the USACE determines that the water features are subject to their jurisdiction, a CWA 404 permit must be obtained and mitigation performed before any channels or wetlands are modified or filled. If waters of the State are present, a Streambed Alteration Agreement may be needed before ground disturbance is initiated at the channel or wetland. CWA 401 water quality certification will also be necessary. Avoidance and minimization measures, as well as compensatory mitigation for loss of jurisdictional waters, is required by federal and state permits to maintain the policy of "No Net Loss" of wetlands and other protected water resources. Compensatory mitigation would consist of any combination of in-lieu fee payment to a mitigation bank, stream enhancement, or land dedication, at mitigation ratios determined by USACE.

#### 5.2.4. Potential Impacts to Wildlife Movement, Corridors, etc.

 Will the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

A mapped wildlife corridor (a California Essential Habitat Connectivity Area) exists within or near the Study Area, and the open space and the stream corridor in the Study Area facilitate animal movement and migrations. While the Study Area may be used by wildlife for movement or migration, the act of parcel subdivision would not impact this corridor because it would not block movement and the majority of the open space in the Study Area would still be available.

If new land development occurs in the future, impacts may occur if barriers (new fences, roads) are created or if large areas are developed.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

The proposed parcel subdivision does not require any mitigation measures because no impacts will occur.

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If new land development occurs in the future, the project should be designed to avoid the Sweetwater Creek corridor and retain open space that allows wildlife to move between parcels.

# 5.2.5. Potential Conflicts with Ordinances, Habitat Conservation Plans, etc.

- Will the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- Will the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

Parcel subdivision will not require the removal of mature trees or conflict with any habitat conservation plans because parcel subdivision does not require ground disturbance.

If the land is developed in the future, such as construction of a new residence, tree removal and ground disturbance will likely be necessary. This is a potentially significant impact before mitigation.

# **Recommended Mitigation Measures**

The proposed parcel subdivision does not require any mitigation measures because no impacts will occur.

If new land development occurs in the future, and mature trees need to be removed, various ordinances and laws must be addressed and permits obtained.

El Dorado County's Oak Conservation Ordinance requires mitigation for the removal of oak trees and oak woodlands. Protected trees include valley oak trees, valley oak woodlands, and Heritage Trees (live native oak tree with a single main trunk measuring 36 inches or greater, or with a multiple trunk with an aggregate trunk measuring 36 inches or greater). If protected trees are to be removed, an Oak Tree or Oak Woodland Removal Permit may be required. This requires preparation of an Oak Resources Technical Report and a code compliance certificate verifying that no protected oak trees have been impacted within two years prior to the permit application.

Mitigation is required for impacts to oak woodland as well as to individual trees. Impacts to oak woodlands are typically mitigated through in-lieu fee payment to the County's Oak Woodland Conservation Fund. Alternative mitigation may be used such as replacement planting or oak woodlands conservation (either on-site or off-site through fee title or conservation easement). Methods of mitigation can also be combined. Mitigation ratios depend on the percentage of woodlands impacted on a development site and range from 1:1 for impacts less than 50 percent and 2:1 for impacts over 75 percent.

Impacts to individual trees, including Heritage Trees, typically mitigated through in-lieu fee payment to the County's Oak Woodland Conservation Fund. The per inch of trunk diameter (at breast height) fee is calculated, with Heritage Trees requiring a 3:1 mitigation ratio. Alternative mitigation such as replacement planting may be identified (either on-site or off-site and protected through deed restriction or conservation easement).

If replacement plantings are used to mitigation, the plantings must follow the guidelines of the County's Oak Resources Management Plan, which specifies the planting ratios according to type (acorn, tree size) and maintenance requirements.

Bio. Assessment & Botanical Survey

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**EXHIBITS** 

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Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment

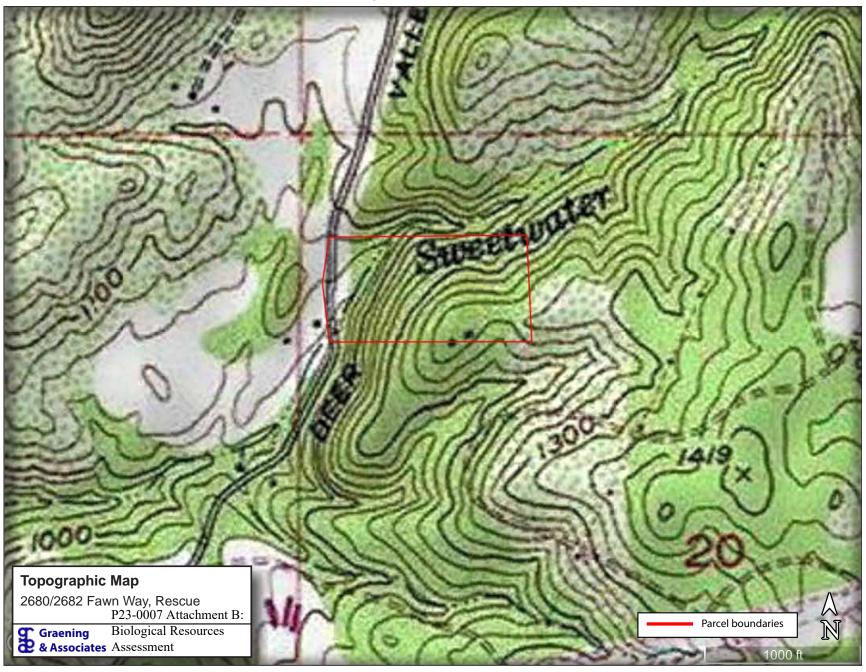


Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment

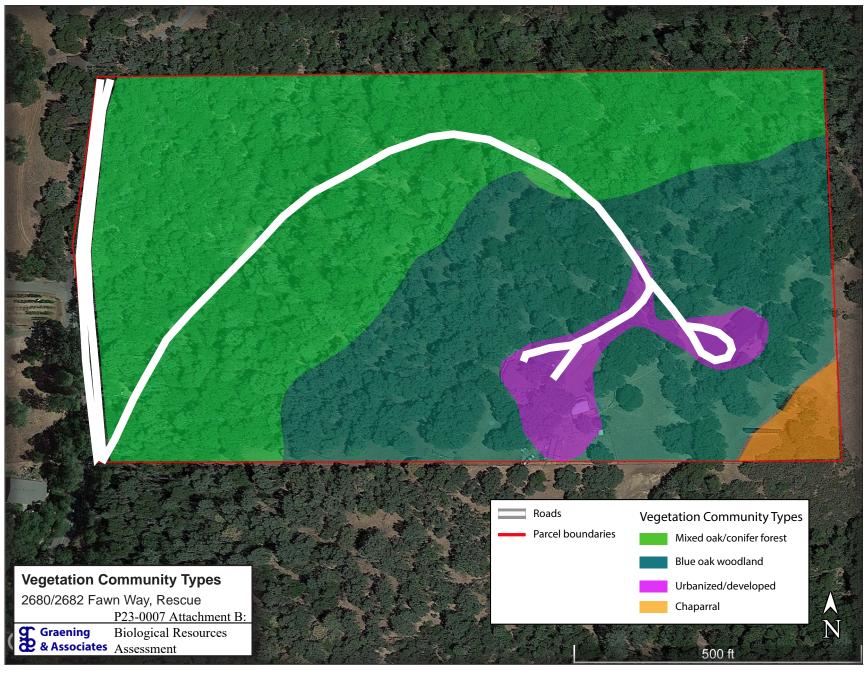


Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment Layne's ragwort Layne's ragwort Layne's ragwort El Dorado County mule ears Pine Hill flannelbush El Dorado County mule ears Pine Hill flannelbush El Dorado bedstraw Bunzie Rd Bisbee Peak rush-rose Pine Hill ceanothus El Dorado County mule ears Layne's ragwort life Ct El Dorado County mule ears El Dorado bedstraw Layne's ragwort Pine Hill flannelbush Red Hills soaproot Pine Hill flannelbush Red Hills soaproot Pine Hill ceanothus Layne's ragwort El Dorado County mule ears coast horned lizard El Dorado County mule ears e Rd Venado Way Pine Hill flannelbush Layne's ragwort Layne's ragwort Layne's ragwort COUNT Springs Dr Red Hills soaproot Pine Hill ceanothus Sanford Or 5 Pine Hill ceanothus Layne's ragwort El Dorado County mule ears El Dorado County mule ears Camber Dr. El Dorado County mule ears Red Hills soaproot Layne's ragwort El Dorado County mule ears Buckhorn Ln El Dorado County mule ears Layne's ragwort Pine Hill ceanothus chaparral sedge Swinstwater Great Pine Hill flannelbush Winchester Dr El Dorado County mule ears Royce DY **CNDDB Mapped Species Data** 2680/2682 Fawn Way, Rescue P23-0007 Attachment B: Parcel boundary courmaline Way Biological Resources Special-status species Graening & Associat & Associates, LLC Assessment occurrence records

Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment

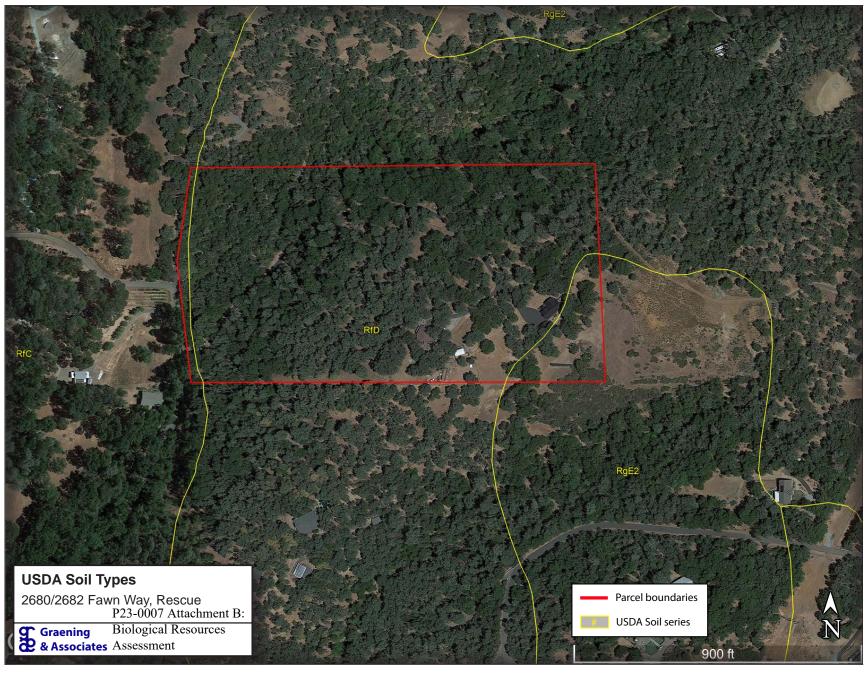


Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment

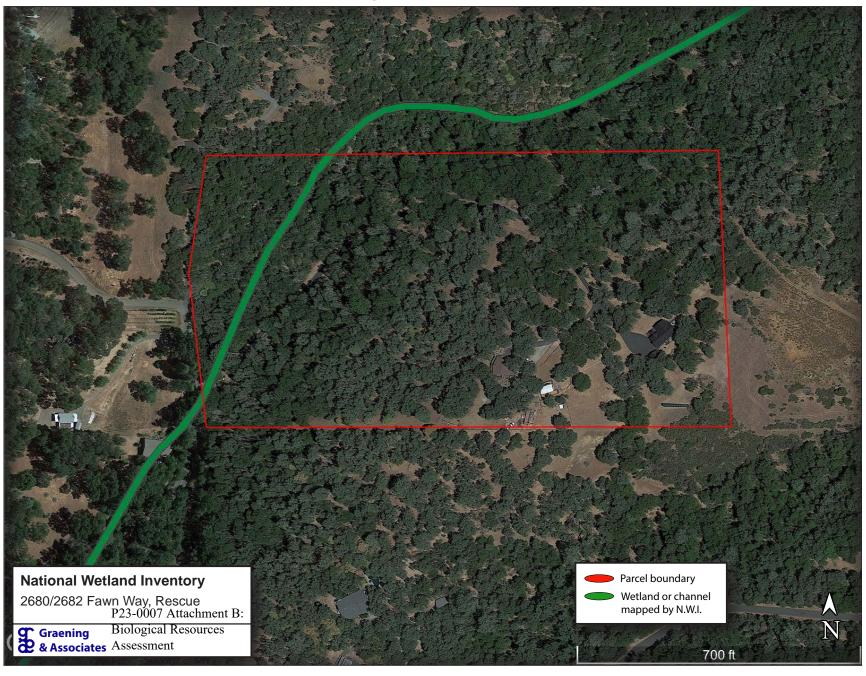
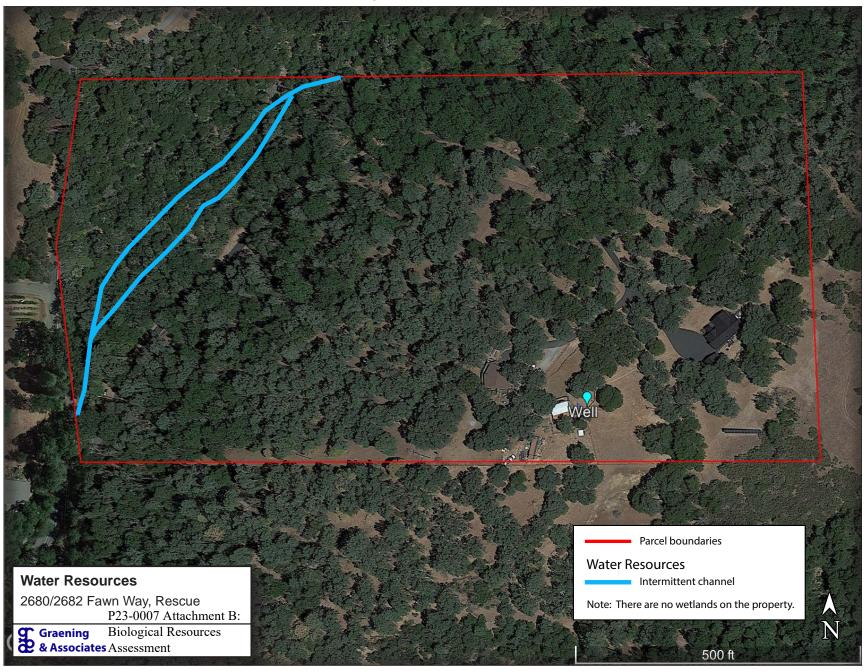


Exhibit G: Biological Resources Assessment



Bio. Assessment & Botanical Survey

**APPENDIX 1: USFWS SPECIES LIST** 

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# United States Department of the Interior

# FISH A WILDLIFE SERVICE

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office Federal Building 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605 Sacramento, CA 95825-1846 Phone: (916) 414-6600 Fax: (916) 414-6713

In Reply Refer To: March 23, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0059321 Project Name: Parcel Subdivision

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location or may be affected by your proposed project

# To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)

Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025

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(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

**Migratory Birds**: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

03/23/2023

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Official Species List

03/23/2023

# **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office Federal Building 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605 Sacramento, CA 95825-1846 (916) 414-6600 03/23/2023 2

# **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project Code: 2023-0059321
Project Name: Parcel Subdivision
Project Type: Residential Construction

Project Description: Division of a 20-acre parcel into two 10-acre parcels. Requires

environmental review.

**Project Location:** 

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@38.71204455">https://www.google.com/maps/@38.71204455</a>,-121.01855528326226,14z



Counties: El Dorado County, California

03/23/2023

### **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES**

There is a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

#### **AMPHIBIANS**

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog Rana draytonii	Threatened
There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.	
Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891</a>	
California Tiger Salamander Ambystoma californiense	Threatened
Dopulation: LLS A (Control CA DDS)	

Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS)

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076</a>

#### **INSECTS**

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Candidate

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>

Parcel Map P23-0007

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### **CRUSTACEANS**

NAME STATUS

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp Branchinecta lynchi

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498</a>

Vernal Pool Tadpole Shrimp *Lepidurus packardi* 

Endangered

Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2246

#### FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME STATUS

El Dorado Bedstraw Galium californicum ssp. sierrae

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5209">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5209</a>

Layne's Butterweed Senecio layneae Threatened

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4062">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4062</a>

Pine Hill Ceanothus *Ceanothus roderickii* Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3293">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3293</a>

Pine Hill Flannelbush Fremontodendron californicum ssp. decumbens Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4818">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4818</a>

Stebbins' Morning-glory *Calystegia stebbinsii* Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3991">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3991</a>

#### CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

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### **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Graening and Associates, LLC

Name: G.O. Graening Address: 520 Wallingford Lane

City: Folsom State: CA Zip: 95630

Email ggraening@gmail.com

Phone: 9164525442

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# APPENDIX 2: CHECKLIST OF PLANTS DETECTED IN THE STUDY AREA

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Plants Observed at 2680 Fawn Way, Rescue on March 26, 2023

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	
Deerweed	Acmispon glaber	
Chamise	Adenostoma fasciculatum	
Maidenhair fern	Adiantum jordanii	
California buckeye	Aesculus californicus	
Fiddleneck	Amsinckia sp.	
Pine dwarf mistletoe	Arceuthobium campylopodum	
Whiteleaf manzanita	Arctostaphylos viscida ssp. viscida	
California mugwort	Artemisia douglasiana	
Coyote brush	Baccharis pilularis	
Brodiaea	Brodiaea sp.	
Ripgut brome	Bromus diandrus	
Soft chess	Bromus hordeaceus	
California brome	Bromus sitchensis var. carinatus	
Calochortus	Calochortus sp.	
Western morning glory	Calystegia occidentalis	
Shepherd's purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	
Western bittercress	Cardamine oligosperma	
Italian thistle	Carduus pycnocephalus	
Wedge leaf ceanothus	Ceanothus cuneatus	
Western redbud	Cercis occidentalis	
Wavy leaf soap plant	Chlorogalum pomeridianum	
Clarkia	Clarkia sp.	
Narrow leaved miner's lettuce	Claytonia parviflora	
Miner's lettuce	Claytonia perfoliata	
Chinese houses	Collinsia heterophylla	
Pacific houndstooth	Cynoglossum grande	
Dogtail grass	Cynosurus echinatus	
Wild hyacinth	Dichelostemma sp.	
Blue dicks	Dipterostemon capitatus	
Sticky cinquefoil	Drymocallis glandulosa	
Medusa-head grass	Elymus caput-medusae	
Blue wildrye	Elymus glaucus	
Broad leaved filaree	Erodium botrys	
Red-stemmed filaree	Erodium cicutarium	
Rattail sixweeks grass	Festuca myuros	
Fescue	Festuca sp.	
Edible fig	Ficus carica	
Hoary coffeeberry	Frangula tomentosa	
Bedstraw	Galium aparine	
Climbing bedstraw	Galium porrigens	
Cutleaf geranium	Geranium dissectum	

Common Name	Scientific Name
Dove's foot geranium	Geranium molle
Great Valley gumplant	Grindelia camporum
Toyon	Heteromeles arbutifolia
Wall barley	Hordeum murinum
Iris	Iris sp.
Rush	Juncus sp.
Iris-leaved rush	Juncus xiphioides
Prickly lettuce	Lactuca serriola
Wild pea	Lathyrus sp.
Hawkbit	Leontodon saxatilis
Pitcher sage	Lepechinia calycina
Flax	Linum sp.
Pink honeysuckle	Lonicera hispidula
Chaparral honeysuckle	Lonicera interrupta
Silver bush lupine	Lupinus albifrons
Miniature lupine	Lupinus bicolor
Pacific woodrush	Luzula comosa
California man-root	Marah fabacea
Melic grass	Melica sp.
Spearmint	Mentha spicata
Coyote mint	Monardella villosa
Deer grass	Muhlenbergia rigens
Canyon nemophila	Nemophila heterophylla
Foothill penstemon	Penstemon heterophyllus
Goldback fern	Pentagramma triangularis
American mistletoe	Phoradendron leucarpum
Gray pine	Pinus sabiniana
English plantain	Plantago lanceolata
Licorice fern	Polypodium calirhiza
Henderson's shooting star	Primula hendersonii
Blue oak	Quercus douglasii
California black oak	Quercus kelloggii
Valley oak	Quercus lobata
Interior live oak	Quercus wislizeni var. wislizeni
Western buttercup	Ranunculus occidentalis
Hollyleaf redberry	Rhamnus ilicifolia
Rose	Rosa sp.
Himalayan blackberry	Rubus armeniacus
Red willow	Salix laevigata
Willow	Salix sp.
Poison sanicle	Sanicula bipinnata
Purple sanicle	Sanicula bipinnatifida
Pacific sanicle	Sanicula crassicaulis
Old man of spring	Senecio vulgare

Common Name	Scientific Name
Sidalcea	Sidalcea sp.
Milk thistle	Silybum marianum
Goldenrod	Solidago sp.
South American soliva	Soliva sessilis
Chickweed	Stellaria media
Smilo grass	Stipa miliacea
Purple needlegrass	Stipa pulchra
Creeping snowberry	Symphoricarpos mollis
Tall sock-destroyer	Torilis arvensis
Poison-oak	Toxicodendron diversilobum
Clover	Trifolium sp.
Triplet lily	Triteleia sp.
Spring vetch	Vicia sativa
Winter vetch	Vicia villosa
Periwinkle	Vinca major
Narrow leaf mule ears	Wyethia angustifolia
Bolander's mule ears	Wyethia bolanderi

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**APPENDIX 3: SITE PHOTOS** 

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Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025

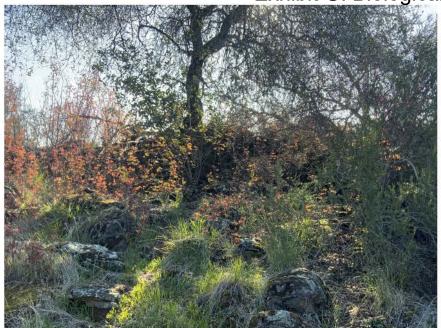








Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025









Parcel Map P23-0007 Gerken Parcel Map APN: 102-200-025

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# APPENDIX 4: SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES TABLE AND POTENTIAL TO OCCUR

COVER PAGE

## Special-status Species Reported by CNDDB and CNPS in the Vicinity of the Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status*	General Habitat**	Microhabitat**	Potential to Occur in Project Area
ANIMALS					
Cooper's hawk	Accipiter cooperii	CWL	Woodland, chiefly of open, interrupted or marginal type.	Nest sites mainly in riparian growths of deciduous trees, as in canyon bottoms on river flood-plains; also, live oaks.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor	CT	Highly colonial species, most numberous in central valley & vicinity. Largely endemic to california.	Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, & foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Grasshopper sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum	CSSC	Dense grasslands on rolling hills, lowland plains, in valleys & on hillsides on lower mountain slopes.	Favors native grasslands with a mix of grasses, forbs & scattered shrubs. Loosely colonial when nesting.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Blennosperma vernal pool andrenid bee	Andrena blennospermatis	CSSC	This bee is oligolectic on vernal pool blennosperma.	Bees nest in the uplands around vernal pools.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus	CSSC	Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands & forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting.	Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos	CFP/CWL	Rolling foothills, mountain areas, sage-juniper flats, & desert.	Cliff-walled canyons provide nesting habitat in most parts of range; also, large trees in open areas.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Great egret	Ardea alba	CSSC	Colonial nester in large trees.	Rookery sites located near marshes, tide-flats, irrigated pastures, and margins of rivers and lakes.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Great blue heron	Ardea herodias	CSSC	Colonial nester in tall trees, cliffsides, and sequestered spots on marshes.	Rookery sites in close proximity to foraging areas: marshes, lake margins, tide-flats, rivers and streams, wet meadows.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia	CSSC	Open, dry annual or perenial grasslands, deserts & scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation.	Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, most notably, the california ground squirrel.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Alabaster Cave harvestman	Banksula californica	CSSC	Known only from the type locality, alabaster cave, el dorado county.	The type locality has been partly destroyed by mining and the species may be extinct.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Crotch bumble bee	Bombus crotchii	CSSC			Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Western bumble bee	Bombus occidentalis	CSSC	Once common & widespread, species has declined precipitously from central ca to southern b.c., perhaps from disease.		Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	Branchinecta lynchi	FT	Endemic to the grasslands of the central valley, central coast mtns, and south coast mtns, in astatic rain-filled pools.	Inhabit small, clear-water sandstone-depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt-flow depression pools.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Midvalley fairy shrimp	Branchinecta mesovallensis	CSSC	Vernal pools in the central valley.		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Ferruginous hawk	Buteo regalis	CWL	Open grasslands, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, low foothills & fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats.	Eats mostly lagomorphs, ground squirrels, and mice. Population trends may follow lagomorph population cycles.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni	СТ	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, & agricultural or ranch lands	Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Cosumnes stripetail	Cosumnoperla hypocrena	CSSC	Known only an intermittent tributary of the cosumnes river in el dorado county.		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	Desmocerus californicus dimorphus	FT	Occurs only in the central valley of california, in association with blue elderberry (sambucus mexicana).	Prefers to lay eggs in elderberrries 2-8 inches in diameter; some preference shown for "stressed" elderberries.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Hairy water flea	Dumontia oregonensis	CSSC	Vernal pools. In california, known only from mather field.		Absent: No habitat onsite.
White-tailed kite	Elanus leucurus	FP	Rolling foothills and valley margins with scattered oaks & river bottomlands or marshes next to deciduous woodland.	Open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging close to isolated, dense-topped trees for nesting and perching.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Western pond turtle	Emys marmorata	CSSC	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams & irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, be	Need basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-layin	Absent: No habitat onsite.
North American porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum	CSSC			Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Merlin	Falco columbarius	CWL	Seacoast, tidal estuaries, open woodlands, savannahs, edges of grasslands & deserts, farms & ranches.	Clumps of trees or windbreaks are required for roosting in open country.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	CE	Ocean shore, lake margins, & rivers for both nesting & wintering. Most nests within 1 mi of water.	Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live tree w/open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Roosts communally in winte	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Ricksecker's water scavenger beetle	Hydrochara rickseckeri	CSSC	Aquatic.		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Silver-haired bat	Lasionycteris noctivagans	CSSC	Primarily a coastal & montane forest dweller feeding over streams, ponds & open brushy areas.	Roosts in hollow trees, beneath exfoliating bark, abandoned woodpecker holes & rarely under rocks. Needs drinking water.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.

California black rail	Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus	СТ	Inhabits freshwater marshes, wet meadows & shallow margins of saltwater marshes bordering larger bays.	Needs water depths of about 1 inch that does not fluctuate during the year & dense vegetation for nesting habitat.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Vernal pool tadpole shrimp	Lepidurus packardi	FE	Inhabits vernal pools and swales in the sacramento valley containing clear to highly turbid water.	Pools commonly found in grass bottomed swales of unplowed grasslands. Some pools are mud-bottomed & highly turbid.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
California linderiella	Linderiella occidentalis	CSSC	Seasonal pools in unplowed grasslands with old alluvial soils underlain by hardpan or in sandstone depressions.	Water in the pools has very low alkalinity, conductivity, and tds.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Double-crested cormorant	Nannopterum auritum	CWL	Colonial nester on coastal cliffs, offshore islands, & along lake margins in the interior of the state.	Nests along coast on sequestered islets, usually on ground with sloping surface, or in tall trees along lake margins.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Steelhead - Central Valley DPS	Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 11	FT	Populations in the sacramento and san joaquin rivers and their tributaries.		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	CWL	Ocean shore, bays, fresh-water lakes, and larger streams.	Large nests built in tree-tops within 15 miles of a good fish-producing body of water.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Fisher	Pekania pennanti	CSSC			Absent: No habitat onsite.
Coast horned lizard	Phrynosoma blainvillii	CSSC	Frequents a wide variety of habitats, most common in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered low bushes.	Open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, & abundant supply of ants & other insects.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Purple martin	Progne subis	CSSC	Inhabits woodlands, low elevation coniferous forest of douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, & monterey pine.	Nests in old woodpecker cavities mostly, also in human-made structures. Nest often located in tall, isolated tree/snag.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Foothill yellow-legged frog	Rana boylii	CE	Partly-shaded, shallow streams & riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats.	Need at least some cobble-sized substrate for egg-laying. Need at least 15 weeks to attain metamorphosis.	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
California red-legged frog	Rana draytonii	FT	Lowlands & foothills in or near permanent sources of deep water with dense, shrubby or emergent riparian vegetation.	Requires 11-20 weeks of permanent water for larval development. Must have access to estivation habitat.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Bank swallow	Riparia riparia	СТ	Colonial nester; nests primarily in riparian and other lowland habitats west of the desert.	Requires vertical banks/cliffs with fine-textured/sandy soils near streams, rivers, lakes, ocean to dig nesting hole.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Western spadefoot	Spea hammondii	CSSC	Occurs primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands.	Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg-laying.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
American badger	Taxidea taxus	CSSC	Most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils.	Needs sufficient food, friable soils & open, uncultivated ground. Preys on burrowing rodents. Digs burrows.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Giant gartersnake	Thamnophis gigas	FT/CT	Prefers freshwater marsh and low gradient streams. Has adapted to drainage canals & irrigation ditches.	This is the most aquatic of the garter snakes in california.	Absent: No habitat onsite.
PLANTS					
Jepson's onion	Allium jepsonii	1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Serpentinite, Volcanic	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Sanborn's onion	Allium sanbornii var. sanbornii	4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Gravelly, Serpentinite (usually)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Big-scale balsamroot	Balsamorhiza macrolepis	1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Valley and foothill grassland	Serpentinite (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Valley brodiaea	Brodiaea rosea ssp. vallicola	4.2	Valley and foothill grassland, Vernal pools	Alluvial Terraces, Gravelly, Sandy	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Brewer's calandrinia	Calandrinia breweri	4.2	Chaparral, Coastal scrub	Burned areas, Disturbed areas, Loam (sometimes), Sandy (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Stebbins' morning-glory	Calystegia stebbinsii	FE/CE/1B.1	Chaparral (openings), Cismontane woodland	Gabbroic (sometimes), Seeps (sometimes)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Chaparral sedge	Carex xerophila	1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Gabbroic, Serpentinite	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Fresno ceanothus	Ceanothus fresnensis	4.3	Cismontane woodland (openings), Lower montane coniferous forest		Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Pine Hill ceanothus	Ceanothus roderickii	FE/CR/1B.1	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland	Gabbroic (sometimes), Serpentinite (sometimes)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Red Hills soaproot	Chlorogalum grandiflorum	1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Gabbroic, Serpentinite	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Brandegee's clarkia	Clarkia biloba ssp. brandegeeae	4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Roadsides (often)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Streambank spring beauty	Claytonia parviflora ssp. grandiflora	4.2	Cismontane woodland	Rocky	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.

Bisbee Peak rush-rose	Crocanthemum suffrutescens	3.2	Chaparral	Burned areas (often), Disturbed areas (often), Gabbroic (often)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Dwarf downingia	Downingia pusilla	2B.2	Valley and foothill grassland (mesic), Vernal pools		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Tripod buckwheat	Eriogonum tripodum	4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland	Serpentinite (often)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Jepson's woolly sunflower	Eriophyllum jepsonii	4.3	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub	Serpentinite (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Tuolumne button-celery	Eryngium pinnatisectum	1B.2	Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Vernal pools	Mesic	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Pine Hill flannelbush	Fremontodendron decumbens	FE/CR/1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland	Gabbroic (sometimes), Rocky, Serpentinite (sometimes)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Stinkbells	Fritillaria agrestis	4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Pinyon and juniper woodland, Valley and foothill grassland	Clay, Serpentinite (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
El Dorado bedstraw	Galium californicum ssp. sierrae	FE/CR/1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Gabbroic	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Serpentine bluecup	Githopsis pulchella ssp. serpentinicola	4.3	Cismontane woodland (loam, serpentinite)		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop	Gratiola heterosepala	CE/1B.2	Marshes and swamps (lake margins), Vernal pools	Clay	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Hogwallow starfish	Hesperevax caulescens	4.2	Valley and foothill grassland (mesic clay), Vernal pools (shallow)	Alkaline (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Coast iris	Iris longipetala	4.2	Coastal prairie, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps	Mesic	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Ahart's dwarf rush	Juncus leiospermus var. ahartii	1B.2	Valley and foothill grassland (mesic)		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Legenere	Legenere limosa	1B.1	Vernal pools		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Serpentine leptosiphon	Leptosiphon ambiguus	4.2	Cismontane woodland, Coastal scrub, Valley and foothill grassland	Serpentinite (usually)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Humboldt lily	Lilium humboldtii ssp. humboldtii	4.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Openings	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Tehama navarretia	Navarretia heterandra	4.3	Valley and foothill grassland (mesic), Vernal pools		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Pincushion navarretia	Navarretia myersii ssp. myersii	1B.1	Vernal pools	Acidic (often)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Slender Orcutt grass	Orcuttia tenuis	FT/CE/1B.1	Vernal pools	Gravelly (often)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Sacramento Orcutt grass	Orcuttia viscida	FE/CE/1B.1	Vernal pools		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Layne's ragwort	Packera layneae	FT/CR/1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland	Gabbroic (sometimes), Rocky, Serpentinite (sometimes)	Potential to occur: Suitable habitat present.
Beautiful shootingstar	Primula pauciflora	4.2	Great Basin scrub, Meadows and seeps, Pinyon and juniper woodland	Mesic	Absent: No habitat onsite.
Sanford's arrowhead	Sagittaria sanfordii	1B.2	Marshes and swamps (shallow freshwater)		Absent: No habitat onsite.
Hernandez bluecurls	Trichostema rubisepalum	4.3	Broadleafed upland forest, Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Vernal pools	Gravelly, Serpentinite (sometimes), Volcanic (sometimes)	Absent: No habitat onsite.
El Dorado County mule ears	Wyethia reticulata	1B.2	Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest	Clay (sometimes), Gabbroic (sometimes)	Potential to occur: Species has been previously documented to occur within/near Study Area

\*Definitions of Status Codes: FE = Federally listed as endangered; FT = Federally proposed for listing as threatened; FC = Candidate for Federally listed as endangered; FT = Federally proposed for listing as endangered; FPT = Federally proposed for listing as threatened; FPE =

<sup>\*\*</sup>Copied verbatim from CNDDB, unless otherwise noted.