

APPENDIX B
Habitat Assessment

RIALTO METROLINK AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HABITAT ASSESSMENT

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December 2015

JN: 148971

RIALTO METROLINK AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

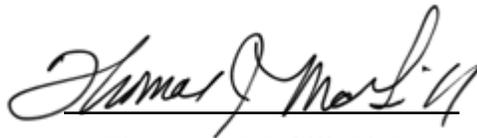
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HABITAT ASSESSMENT

The undersigned certify that the statements furnished in this report and exhibits present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and the facts, statements, and information presented is a complete and accurate account of the findings and conclusions to the best of our knowledge and beliefs.



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December 2015

JN: 148971

Executive Summary

Michael Baker International (Michael Baker) has prepared this Habitat Assessment and Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly Suitability Assessment for the Rialto Metrolink Affordable Housing Project (Project), located in the City of Rialto, San Bernardino County, California. The habitat assessment was conducted by Michael Baker biologist Ryan S. Winkleman on November 17, 2015 to characterize existing site conditions and assess the probability of occurrence for sensitive¹ flora and fauna that could pose a constraint to development of the proposed project site. Special attention was given to the suitability of the on-site habitat to support Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Raphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*, DSF), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), and several other sensitive species identified by the California Natural Diversity Database and other electronic databases as potentially occurring within the project site.

The project site is located on a small vacant lot in the City of Rialto, surrounded entirely by existing development except for a second vacant field to the south. The entire project site can be described as a non-native grassland, dominated primarily by Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) and goatshead (*Tribulus terrestris*).

No sensitive plant or animal species were identified within the project site during the November 17, 2015 habitat assessment. Based on the survey results, it was determined that all sensitive plant and animal species, including federally listed species, have a low potential to occur or are presumed absent from the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions. Of the two “focus” species, DSF is presumed absent due to lack of suitable habitat, and burrowing owl has a low potential to occur on the project site due to marginal habitat but (current) lack of any suitable burrows or a substantial prey base.

Because this project will receive funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), it is required to demonstrate compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) as part of HUD’s environmental review. This can be in the form of determining that a project will have no effect on federally listed species of Designated Critical Habitat, or in initiating the appropriate consultations under Section 7 of the FESA if there will be effects. Based on the results of the habitat assessment and the record search of the project site and surrounding area, there are no federally listed plant or animal species that would occur on the project site. The project site lacks any suitable habitat for federally listed plant and animal species, and, as such, there is also no Designated Critical Habitat on the project site. Therefore, development of the project site will have No Effect on federally listed species or

¹ As used in this report, “sensitive” refers to plant and wildlife species that are federally or State listed, proposed, or candidates; plant species that have been designated a California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Rank; and wildlife species that are designated by the CDFW as fully protected, species of special concern, or watch list species.

their habitat or on any Designated Critical Habitat. Consultation for impacts to endangered species or Designated Critical Habitat will not be required for development of this project site.

There are no drainage features located within the project site. A cement channel is located immediately to the west of the site, abutting its western boundary. This channel drains directly onto West Bonnie View Drive (the street abutting the site's southern boundary). It does not possess a surface hydrologic connection to any downstream waters of the U.S. or waters of the State and therefore would not be considered jurisdictional by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, or California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Table of Contents

Section 1 Introduction and Purpose	1
1.1 Project Location	1
1.2 Project Description.....	1
1.3 Purpose and Need	6
Section 2 Regulatory Background	7
2.1 Federal Regulations	7
2.2 State Regulations	10
2.3 Local Plans and Policies	12
Section 3 Methodology	13
3.1 Literature Review.....	13
3.2 Habitat Assessment and Field Investigation	13
3.3 Soil Series Assessment	14
3.4 Plant Communities.....	14
3.5 Plants.....	14
3.6 Wildlife	15
3.7 Jurisdictional Areas.....	15
Section 4 Existing Conditions	16
4.1 Local Climate.....	16
4.2 Topography and Soils	16
4.3 Surrounding Land Uses.....	16
Section 5 Discussion	18
5.1 Site Conditions.....	18
5.2 Vegetation.....	18
5.2.1 Non-Native Grassland.....	18
5.3 Wildlife	18
5.3.1 Fish.....	20
5.3.2 Amphibians	20
5.3.3 Reptiles	20
5.3.4 Birds.....	20
5.3.5 Mammals.....	20
5.4 Nesting Birds	21
5.5 Migratory Corridors and Linkages.....	21
5.6 Jurisdictional Areas.....	21
5.7 Sensitive Biological Resources.....	22
5.7.1 Sensitive Plants	22

5.7.2	Sensitive Wildlife.....	23
5.7.3	Sensitive Plant Communities	24
5.8	Critical Habitat.....	24
Section 6	Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly Suitability Assessment	26
Section 7	Conclusions and Recommendations	30
Section 8	References	32

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 Regional Vicinity..... 2
Exhibit 2 Site Vicinity 3
Exhibit 3 Project Site..... 4
Exhibit 4 Depiction of Proposed Project 5
Exhibit 5 Soils 17
Exhibit 6 Vegetation..... 19
Exhibit 7 Critical Habitat 25
Exhibit 8 DSF Recovery Units 28
Exhibit 9 DSF Habitat Suitability 29

APPENDIX

Appendix A Site Photographs
Appendix B Potentially Occurring Sensitive Biological Resources

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
Corps	United States Army Corps of Engineers
CWA	Clean Water Act
DSF	Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FR	Federal Register
GIS	Geographic Information System
ha	Hectare
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
I	Interstate
IS	Initial Study
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Michael Baker	Michael Baker International
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Regional Board	Regional Water Quality Control Board
USC	United States Government Code
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

Section 1 Introduction and Purpose

This report contains the findings of Michael Baker International’s (Michael Baker) Habitat Assessment for the Rialto Affordable Housing Project located in the City of Rialto in San Bernardino County, California. A habitat assessment/field investigation was conducted by Michael Baker biologist Ryan S. Winkleman on November 17, 2015 to characterize existing site conditions and assess the probability of occurrence for sensitive² flora and fauna that could pose a constraint to development. Special attention was given to the suitability of the on-site habitat to support Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*, DSF), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), and other sensitive species identified by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and other electronic databases as potentially occurring within the vicinity of the project site.

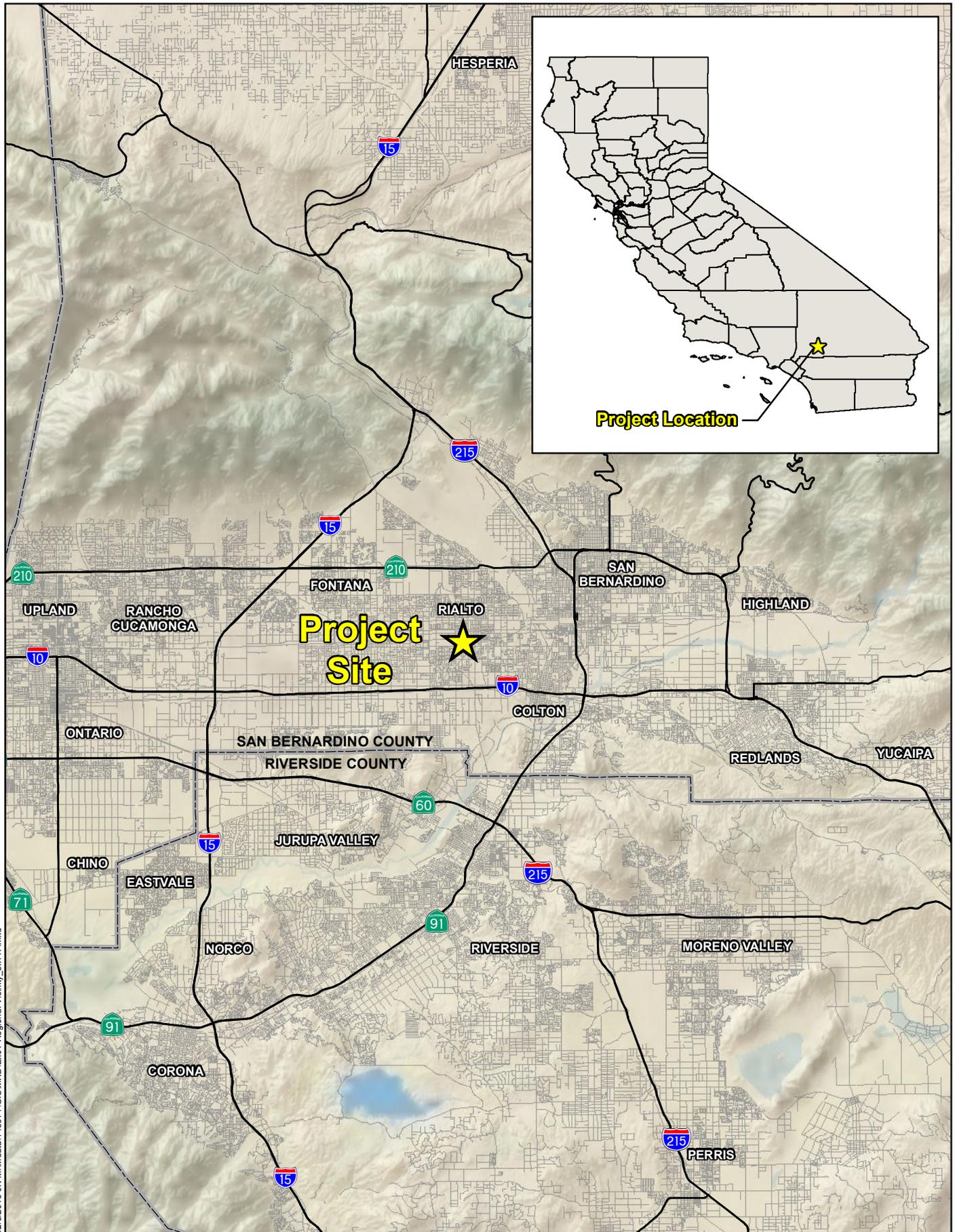
1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is generally located north of Interstate 10 (I-10), east of I-15, south of State Route 210, and west of I-215 in the City of Rialto, San Bernardino County, California (Exhibit 1, *Regional Vicinity*). The project site is depicted on the San Bernardino South quadrangle of the United States Geological Survey’s (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map series in Section 11 of Township 1 south, Range 5 west (Exhibit 2, *Site Vicinity*). Specifically, the project site is located north of West Bonnie View Drive, east of South Willow Avenue, south of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and associated Metrolink Station, and west of South Riverside Avenue (Exhibit 3, *Project Site*).

1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project involves a multi-family residential project comprised of 78 dwelling units and associated amenities for low and very low income households on a 2.6-acre site (Exhibit 4, *Depiction of Proposed Project*). The project would consist of two three-story apartment buildings in addition to one single-story common building. The dwelling units would be distributed within two buildings, each consisting of three floors with one, two, and three bedroom stacked flats. Associated amenities would include a 2,100-square foot community center and offices for the use of residents and property management, a 1,000-square foot fitness center with pool and spa facilities, a 400-square foot pavilion, a play area and community gardens. The Project also proposes a total of 124 parking spaces through tuck-under and carport parking, primarily along the perimeter of the site.

² As used in this report, “sensitive” refers to plant and wildlife species that are listed within the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s California Natural Diversity Database or within the California Native Plant Society’s Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.



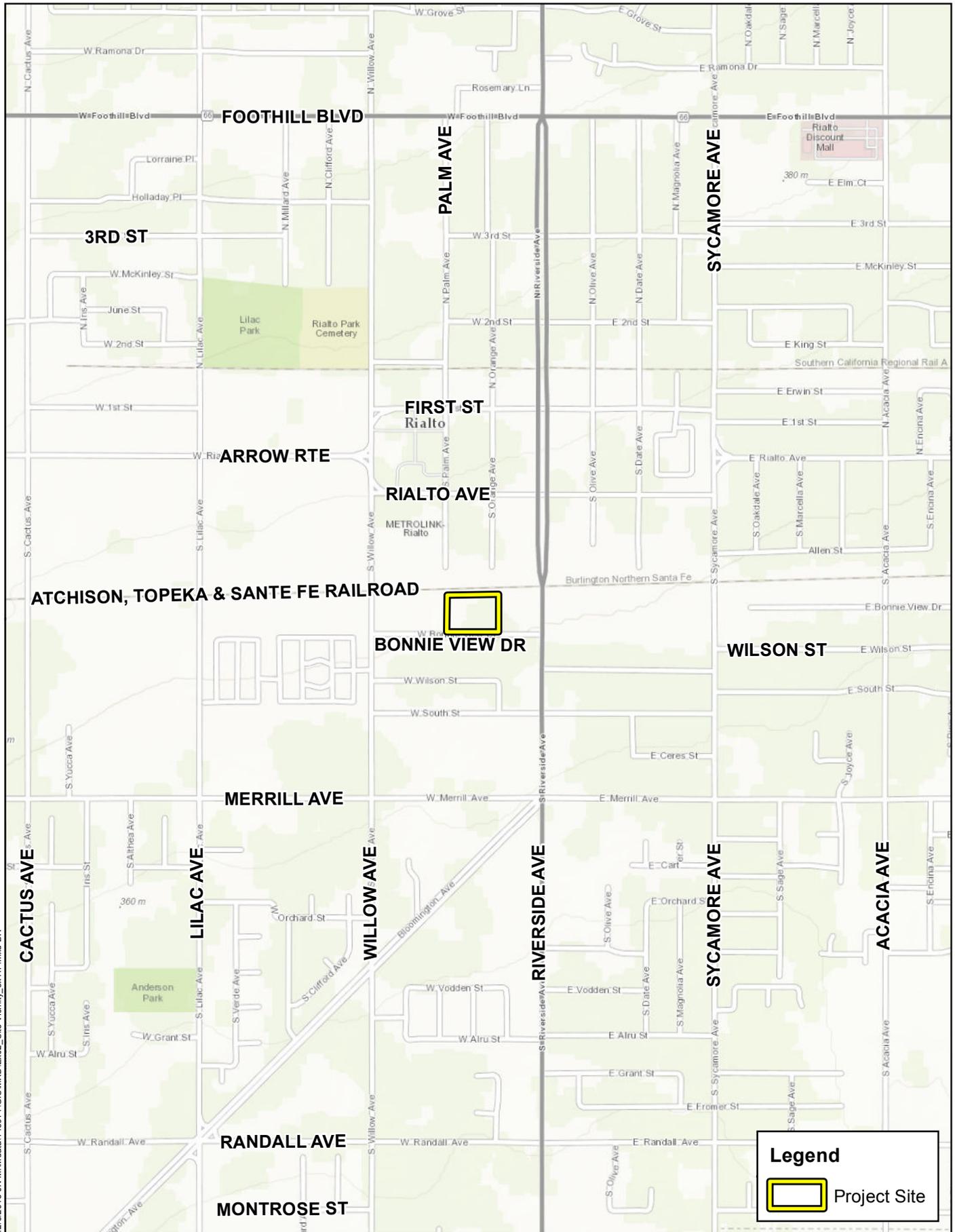
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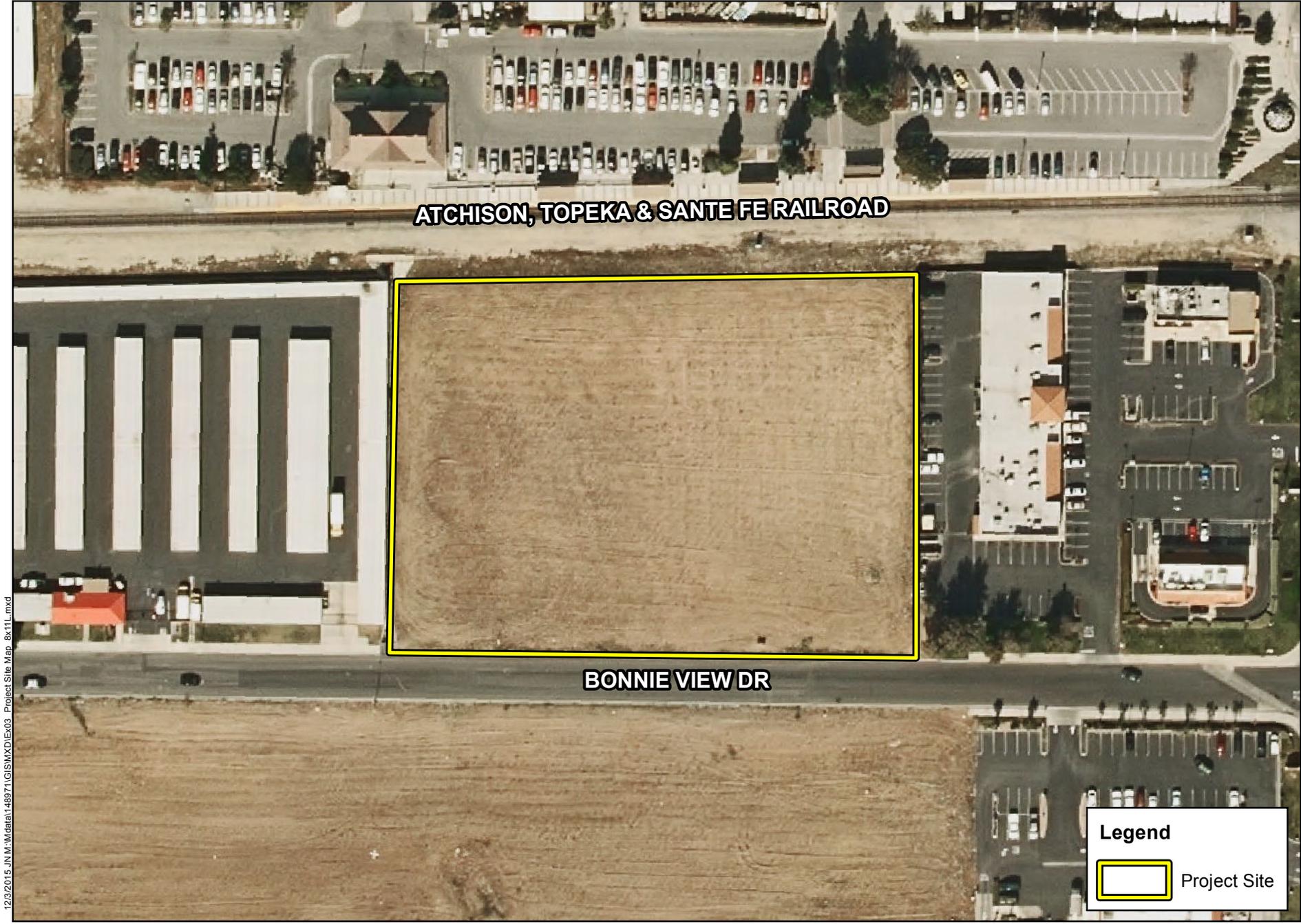
RIALTO METROLINK AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT
 HABITAT ASSESSMENT
Regional Vicinity



Source: ArcGIS Online

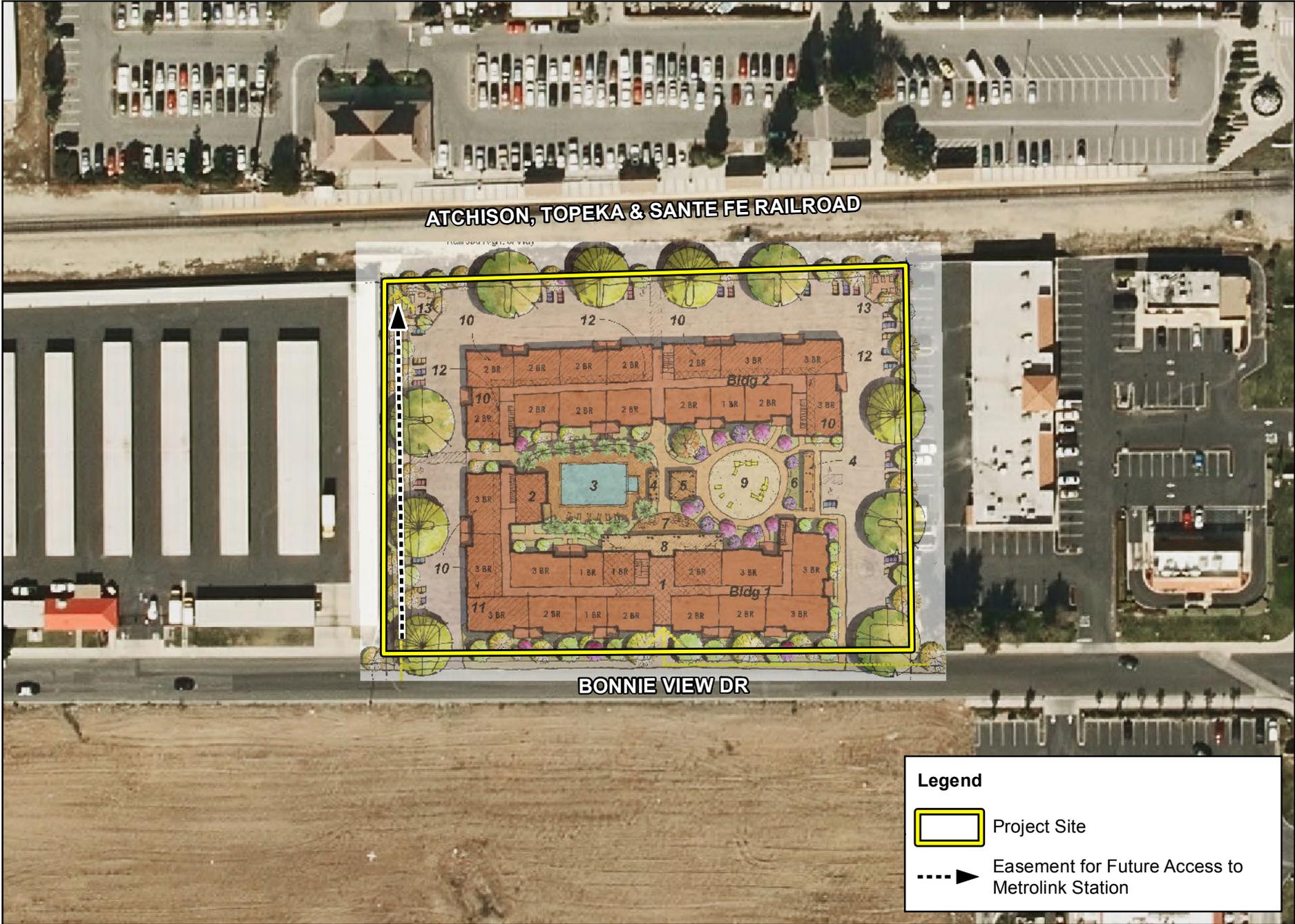
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Legend

-  Project Site
-  Easement for Future Access to Metrolink Station



Vehicular access to the Project would be along West Bonnie View Drive. The primary pedestrian access to the proposed buildings would be from West Bonnie View Drive into Building 1. There are additional pedestrian entries to the ground floor provided on the west, north and east sides of the Project site. In addition, the existing concrete-lined drainage on the western portion of the Project site would be converted into a pedestrian path providing access to the Rialto Metrolink Station via a future bridge over the railway tracks. The existing drainage would be converted to pipe/culvert beneath the pedestrian path.

1.3 PURPOSE AND NEED

The Rialto Metrolink Affordable Housing Project would construct a 78-unit multi-family affordable housing for low and very low-income households. The Project would assist the City of Rialto to meet its obligation to provide affordable housing pursuant to its Regional Housing Needs Allocation and further the Rialto General Plan (General Plan) Housing Element goals for the City, while promoting the production of safe, decent, and affordable housing for all within the community. The Project would be developed under the nine percent Tax Credit Allocation Committee Program administered by the State. The State administers this low-income housing tax credit program, which was authorized to encourage private investment in affordable rental housing for households meeting certain income requirements.

The Project would be developed by Related California/Rialto Metrolink South Housing Partners, L.P. (Related). Related is an active developer of residential and commercial properties in California. Affordable housing was part of Related's foundation and they continue to prioritize development, acquisition, and preservation of housing for this sector. Over 60 percent of the 40,000 residential apartment homes under Related's management are part of one or more affordable housing programs. Of these programs, an additional 20 percent provides workforce housing. Related has developed over 23,000 affordable housing units to date, and currently has more than 7,000 units under development or under contract throughout the United States. Related has developed several family sites to the west of the Project site including seven projects in the City of Fontana, one project in the City of Ontario, and one project in the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

Section 2 Regulatory Background

There are several overlying federal, state, and local biological resources regulations and policies that pertain to this project.

2.1 FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Endangered Species Act of 1973

Federally listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats are protected under provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA). Section 9 of the FESA prohibits “take” of threatened or endangered species. “Take” under the FESA is defined as to “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any of the specifically enumerated conduct.” The presence of any federally threatened or endangered species that are in a Project area generally imposes severe constraints on development, particularly if development would result in “take” of the species or its habitat. Under the regulations of the FESA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) may authorize “take” when it is incidental to, but not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful act.

“Harm” has been defined by the regulations of the USFWS to include types of “significant habitat modification or degradation.” The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Babbitt v. Sweet Home*, 515 U.S. 687, ruled that “harm” may include habitat modification “...where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering.” Activities that may result in “take” of individuals are regulated by USFWS.

Under the FESA, “Critical Habitat” is also designated at the time of listing or within one year of listing. “Critical Habitat” refers to habitat or a specific geographic area that contains the elements and features that are essential for the survival and recovery of the species. In the event that a project may result in take or in adverse effects to a species’ designated Critical Habitat, the project proponent may be required to engage in suitable mitigation. If the project has a federal nexus (i.e. occurs on federal land, is issued federal permits, or receives any other federal oversight or funding), the proponent will be required to enter into Section 7 informal and/or formal consultations with the USFWS to obtain, if possible, a biological opinion allowing for incidental take of the species in question. If the project is on private land or will not require any federal permits, the proponent will be required to write a habitat management plan to address the impacts.

The FESA defines as “endangered” any plant or animal species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A “threatened” species is a species that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future. A “proposed” species is one that has

been officially proposed by USFWS for addition to the federal threatened and endangered species list.

USFWS produced an updated list of candidate species for listing in June 2002 (Federal Register: Volume 67, Number 114, 50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 17). Candidate species are regarded by USFWS as candidates for addition to the “List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.” Although candidate species are not afforded legal protection under the FESA, they typically receive special attention from federal and state agencies during the environmental review process.

USFWS also uses the label “species of concern,” an informal term that refers to species which might be in need of concentrated conservation actions. As the species of concern designated by USFWS do not receive formal legal protection, the use of the term does not necessarily ensure that the species will be proposed for listing as a threatened or endangered species.

Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities

Part 58 of Title 24 (Housing and Urban Development) pertains to the environmental review procedures for entities assuming environmental responsibilities from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The responsible entity must certify that it has complied with HUD requirements under a number of related laws and authorities. For biological resources, this primarily pertains to the Endangered Species Act, particularly Section 7.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S. Government Code [USC] 703) makes it unlawful to pursue, capture, kill, or possess or attempt to do the same to any migratory bird or part, nest, or egg of any such bird listed in wildlife protection treaties between the United States, Great Britain, Mexico, Japan, and the countries of the former Soviet Union, and authorizes the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to protect and regulate the taking of migratory birds. It establishes seasons and bag limits for hunted species and protects migratory birds, their occupied nests, and their eggs (16 USC 703; 50 CFR 10, 21).

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act

Applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the U.S. must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction.³ Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards

³ Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section.

(Regional Board) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. Water Quality Certification must be based on a finding that the proposed discharge will comply with water quality standards, which are defined as numeric and narrative objectives in each Regional Board's Basin Plan. Where applicable, the State Water Resources Control Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within the jurisdiction of multiple Regional Boards. The Regional Board's jurisdiction extends to all waters of the state and to all waters of the U.S., including wetlands.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that "any applicant for a federal permit for activities that involve a discharge to waters of the State, shall provide the federal permitting agency a certification from the State in which the discharge is proposed that states that the discharge will comply with the applicable provisions under the federal Clean Water Act." Therefore, before the Corps will issue a Section 404 permit, applicants must apply for and receive a Section 401 water quality certification from the Regional Board.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

Section 404 of the CWA requires that a permit be obtained from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) prior to the discharge of dredged or fill materials into any "waters of the United States or wetlands." Waters of the United States are broadly defined in the Corps regulations (33 CFR 328) to include navigable waterways, their tributaries, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Wetlands are defined as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that normally do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas" (Federal Register 1982). Wetlands that are not specifically exempt from Section 404 regulations (such as drainage channels excavated on dry land) are considered to be "jurisdictional wetlands." In a recent Supreme Court Case, the Court acted to limit the regulatory jurisdiction of the Corps under Section 404 of the CWA as it applies to adjacent waters (USSC 2001). Specifically, the Court ruled that waters that are non-navigable, isolated, and intrastate are not subject to the Corps jurisdiction (Guzy and Anderson 2001). The Corps is required to consult with the USFWS, Environmental Protection Agency, and State Regional Board, among other agencies, in carrying out its discretionary authority under Section 404.

The Corps grants two types of permits, individual and nationwide. Project-specific individual permits are required for certain activities that may have a potential for more than a minimal impact and necessitate a detailed application. The most common type of permit is a nationwide permit. Nationwide permits authorize activities on a nationwide basis unless specifically limited, and are designed to regulate with little delay or paperwork certain activities having minimal impacts. Nationwide permits typically take two to three months to obtain whereas individual permits can take a year or more. To qualify for a nationwide permit, specific criteria must be met. If the criteria restrictions are met, permittees may proceed with certain activities

without notifying the Corps. Some nationwide permits require a pre-construction notification before activities can begin.

2.2 STATE REGULATIONS

California Endangered Species Act

State-listed threatened and endangered species are protected under provisions of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Activities that may result in “take” of individuals (defined in CESA as to “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill”) are regulated by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Habitat degradation or modification is not included in the definition of “take” under CESA. Nonetheless, CDFW has interpreted “take” to include the destruction of nesting, denning, or foraging habitat necessary to maintain a viable breeding population of protected species.

The State of California considers an endangered species as one whose prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy. A threatened species is considered as one present in such small numbers throughout its range that it is likely to become an endangered species in the near future in the absence of special protection or management. A rare species is one that is considered present in such small numbers throughout its range that it may become endangered if its present environment worsens. State threatened and endangered species are fully protected against take, as defined above.

The CDFW has also produced a Species of Special Concern list to serve as a species watch list. Species on this list are either of limited distribution or their habitats have been reduced substantially, such that a threat to their populations may be imminent. Species of special concern may receive special attention during environmental review, but they do not have formal statutory protection.

California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides for the protection of the environment within the State of California by establishing State policy to prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures for projects. It applies to actions directly undertaken, financed, or permitted by State lead agencies. If a project is determined to be subject to CEQA, the lead agency will be required to conduct an Initial Study (IS); if the IS determines that the project may have significant impacts on the environment, the lead agency will subsequently be required to write an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A finding of non-significant effects will require either a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration instead of an EIR. Section 15380 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines independently defines “endangered” and “rare” species separately from the definitions in the CESA. Under CEQA, “endangered”

species of plants or animals are defined as those whose survival and reproduction in the wild are in immediate jeopardy, while “rare” species are defined as those who are in such low numbers that they could become endangered if their environment worsens.

California Native Plant Society Rare or Endangered Plant Species

Vascular plants listed as rare or endangered by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), but which have no designated status under state and federal endangered species legislation are defined as follows:

California Rare Plant Rank

- 1A- Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere
- 1B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
- 2A- Plants Presumed Extirpated in California, But More Common Elsewhere
- 2B- Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, But More Common Elsewhere
- 3- Plants about Which More Information is Needed - A Review List
- 4- Plants of Limited Distribution - A Watch List

Threat Ranks

- .1- Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
- .2- Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
- .3- Not very threatened in California (<20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known).

Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3513

The CDFW administers the California Fish and Game Code. There are particular sections of the Code that are applicable to natural resource management. For example, Section 3503 of the Code makes it unlawful to destroy the nests or eggs of any birds that are protected under the MBTA. Furthermore, any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (Birds of Prey, such as hawks, eagles, and owls) are protected under Section 3503.5 of the Code which makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy their nest or eggs. A consultation with CDFW will be required prior to the removal of any bird of prey nest that may occur on a survey area. Section 3511 of the Code lists fully protected bird species, where the CDFW is unable to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take these species. Examples of species that are State fully protected include golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), and white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*). Section 3513 of the Code makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the MBTA.

Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code

Section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code applies to all perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral rivers, streams, and lakes in the State. Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code establishes a fee-based process to ensure that projects conducted in and around lakes, rivers, or streams do not adversely impact fish and wildlife resources, or, when adverse impacts cannot be avoided, ensures that adequate mitigation and/or compensation is provided. Pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code, a notification must be submitted to the CDFW for any activity that will divert or obstruct the natural flow or alter the bed, channel, or bank (which may include associated biological resources) of a river or stream or use material from a streambed. This includes activities taking place within rivers or streams that flow perennially or episodically and that are defined by the area in which surface water currently flows, or has flowed, over a given course during the historic hydrologic regime, and where the width of its course can reasonably be identified by physical and biological indicators.

2.3 LOCAL PLANS AND POLICIES

City of Rialto General Plan

The City of Rialto's 2010 General Plan contains a Conservation Element pertaining to Biological Resources. The Biological Resources section pertains primarily to the preservation of existing natural habitat along the Lytle Creek Wash, as well as to pockets of remaining natural habitat east of the Rialto Airport and south of 7th Street. The methods by which the City of Rialto plans to protect biological resources within the City limits include carefully designating resource areas, requiring that development in proximity to wildlife corridors incorporate mitigation measures, establishing conservation agreements with state and federal agencies, and adopting a habitat conservation plan (HCP) to protect DSF. There are no General Plan policies that conflict with the site's development.

Section 3 Methodology

Michael Baker conducted a thorough literature review and records search to determine which sensitive biological resources have the potential to occur on or within the general vicinity of the project site. In addition, a general habitat assessment and field investigation of the project site was conducted to document existing conditions and determine the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur.

3.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Prior to conducting the field visit, a literature review and records search was conducted for sensitive biological resources potentially occurring on or within the vicinity of the project site. Previously recorded occurrences of sensitive plant and wildlife species and their proximity to the project site were determined through a query of CDFW's QuickView Tool in BIOS, CNDDDB Rarefind 5, the CNPS Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California, Calflora Database, compendia of sensitive species published by CDFW, and the USFWS species listings.

Literature detailing biological resources previously observed in the vicinity of the project site and historical land uses were reviewed to understand the extent of disturbances to the habitats on-site. Standard field guides and texts on sensitive and non-sensitive biological resources were reviewed for habitat requirements, as well as the following resources:

- Google Earth Pro historic aerial imagery;
- CDFW 2012 Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation;
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey;
- USFWS Critical Habitat designations for Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- Habitat requirements for burrowing owl and DSF.

The literature review provided a baseline from which to inventory the biological resources potentially occurring within the project site. Additional recorded occurrences of those species found on or near the project site were derived from database queries. The CNDDDB ArcGIS database was used, in conjunction with ArcGIS software, to locate the nearest occurrence and determine the distance from the project site.

3.2 HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND FIELD INVESTIGATION

Michael Baker biologist Ryan S. Winkleman evaluated the extent and conditions of the plant communities found within the boundaries of the project site on November 17, 2015. Plant communities identified on aerial photographs during the literature review were verified by

walking meandering transects through the plant communities and along boundaries between plant communities. The plant communities occurring within the project site were evaluated for their potential to support sensitive plant and wildlife species. In addition, field staff identified any jurisdictional features, riparian/riverine habitat, and any natural corridors and linkages that may support the movement of wildlife through the area.

Special attention was given to sensitive habitats and/or undeveloped areas, which have higher potentials to support sensitive flora and fauna species. Areas providing suitable habitat for sensitive species were closely surveyed during the habitat assessment. Methods to detect the presence of these species included direct observation, aural detection, and signs of presence including tracks, scat, burrows, or other sign.

All plant and wildlife species observed, as well as dominant plant species within each plant community, were recorded. Wildlife detections were made through observation of scat, trails, tracks, burrows, nests, and/or visual and aural observation. In addition, site characteristics such as soil condition, topography, hydrology, anthropogenic disturbances, indicator species, condition of on-site plant communities, and presence of potential jurisdictional drainage and/or wetland features were noted.

3.3 SOIL SERIES ASSESSMENT

On-site and adjoining soils were researched prior to the field visit using the USDA NRCS Soil Survey for San Bernardino County, California, Southwestern Part. In addition, a review of the local geological conditions and historical aerial photographs was conducted to assess the ecological changes the project site has undergone.

3.4 PLANT COMMUNITIES

Plant communities were mapped using 7.5-minute USGS topographic base maps and aerial photography. The plant communities were classified in accordance with Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf and Evens (2009), CDFW (2003), and Holland (1986), delineated on an aerial photograph, and then digitized into GIS Arcview. The Arcview application was used to compute the area of each plant community in acres.

3.5 PLANTS

Common plant species observed during the field surveys were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field, and recorded in a field notebook. Unusual and less familiar plants were photographed on-site and identified in the laboratory using taxonomical guides. Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study follows the 2012 Jepson Manual. Scientific names are provided immediately following common names of plant species (first reference only).

3.6 WILDLIFE

Wildlife species detected during field surveys by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other sign were recorded during surveys in a field notebook. Field guides were used to assist with identification of species during surveys included *The Sibley Field Guide to the Birds of Western North America* (Sibley 2003) for birds, *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians* (Stebbins 2003) for herpetofauna, and *A Field Guide to Mammals of North America* (Reid 2006). Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study follows these guides or, where applicable, accepted taxonomic updates (e.g., the American Ornithologists' Union annual checklist supplement). Although common names of wildlife species are fairly well standardized, scientific names are provided immediately following common names in this report (first reference only).

3.7 JURISDICTIONAL AREAS

Aerial photography was reviewed prior to conducting the habitat assessment. The aerials were used to locate and inspect any potential natural drainage features and water bodies that may fall under the jurisdiction of the Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW. In general, surface drainage features indicated as blue-line streams on USGS maps that are observed or expected to exhibit evidence of flow are considered potential riparian/riverine habitat and are also subject to state and federal regulatory authorities.

Section 4 Existing Conditions

4.1 LOCAL CLIMATE

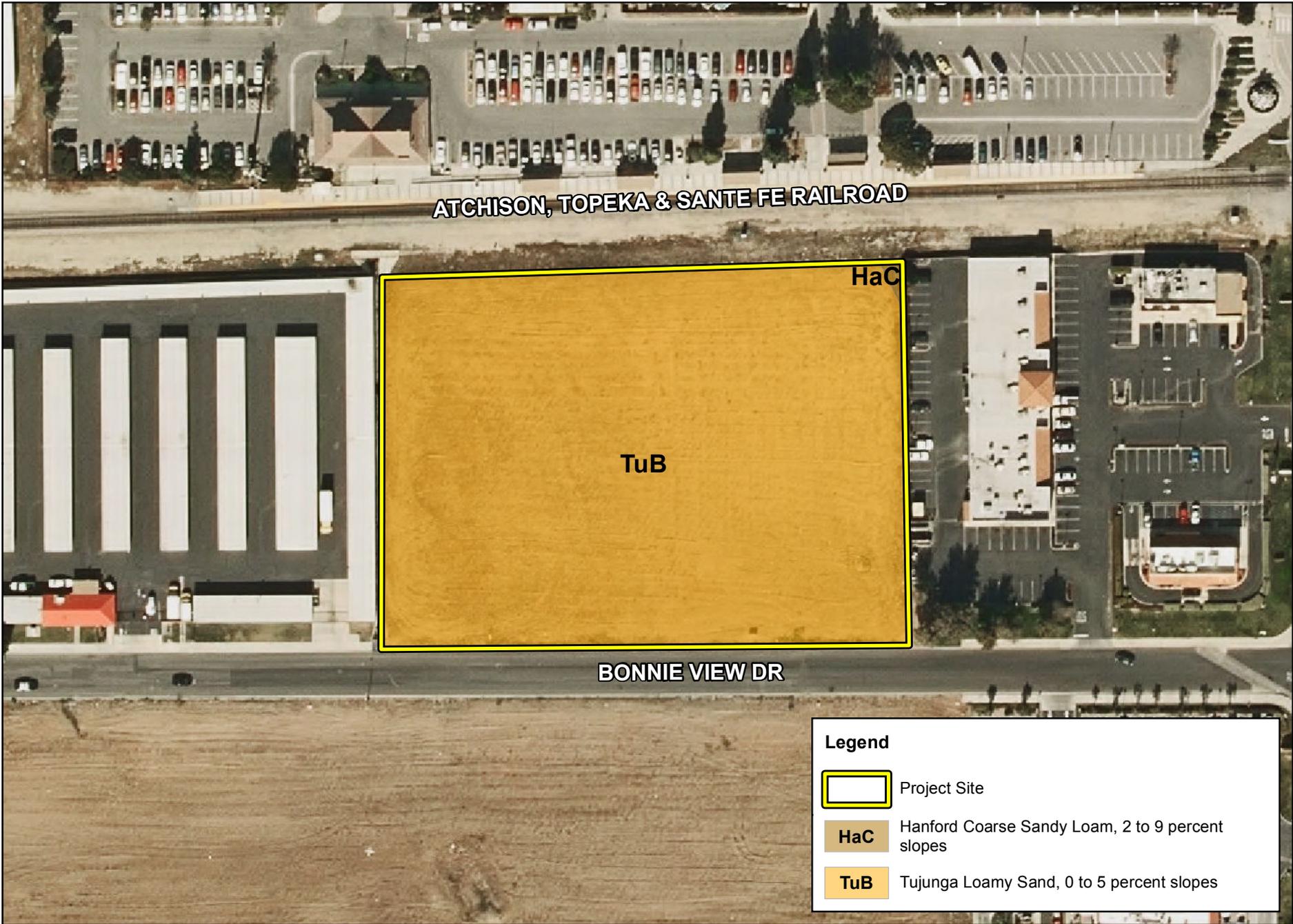
San Bernardino County features a somewhat cooler version of a Mediterranean climate, or semi-arid climate, with warm, sunny, dry summers and cool, rainy, mild winters. Relative to other areas in Southern California, winters are colder with chilly to cold morning temperatures. Climatological data obtained for the City of Rialto indicates the annual precipitation averages 16.43 inches per year (Intellicast 2015). Almost all of the precipitation in the form of rain occurs in the months between November and March, with hardly any occurring between the months of April and October. The wettest month is February, with a monthly average total precipitation of 3.7 inches, and the driest month is July, with a monthly average total precipitation of 0.04 inch. The average minimum and maximum temperatures are 51.7 and 80.2 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) respectively with December being the coldest month (monthly average 41°F) and July and August being the hottest (monthly average 96°F). Temperatures during the site visit were in the mid-60s (°F) with moderate winds of approximately 10 miles per hour continuously and little to no cloud cover.

4.2 TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

On-site surface elevation ranges from 1,198 to approximately 1,208 feet above mean sea level and generally slopes downward to the south. Soils within and adjacent to the project site were researched prior to the field visit using the USDA NRCS Custom Soil Resource Report for San Bernardino County, California, Southwestern Part. According to the Custom Soil Resource Report, the project site is underlain by the following soil units: Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 9 percent (HaC) and Tujunga loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent (TuB) (Exhibit 5, *Soils*). There are no Delhi Sand soils located within the project site, and the closest and only upwind location of mapped Delhi Sand soils is approximately 1.7 miles to the north, a location that has been completely developed into the four-way shopping center at the intersection of Riverside Avenue and Baseline Road.

4.3 SURROUNDING LAND USES

The project site is immediately to the west of a small commercial strip mall and immediately east of a self-storage facility. It is immediately south of the Rialto Metrolink Station and north of another vacant field across the street. Residential neighborhoods are located farther to the west, south, and east. Areas to the north across the railroad tracks are primarily commercial businesses, with some residential lots.



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Section 5 Discussion

Michael Baker biologist Ryan S. Winkleman conducted a field investigation of the project site on November 17, 2015 to document existing conditions and determine the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within the project site. Temperatures during the site visits were in the mid-60's (°F) with moderate winds of approximately 10 miles per hour continuously and little to no cloud cover. Michael Baker field staff encountered no limitations during the site visits. Refer to Appendix A for representative photographs taken throughout the project site.

5.1 SITE CONDITIONS

The project site is located in a mostly developed area of the City of Rialto. The site consists of two adjoining parcels, both of which, according to historic aerial imagery available via Google Earth Pro, are regularly mowed and maintained. A small patch of asphalt is present in the site's southeastern corner, but the site is otherwise earthen. An open cement storm drain channel is located immediately to the west of the project site; this channel runs underneath the railroad tracks and discharges onto Bonnie View Drive.

5.2 VEGETATION

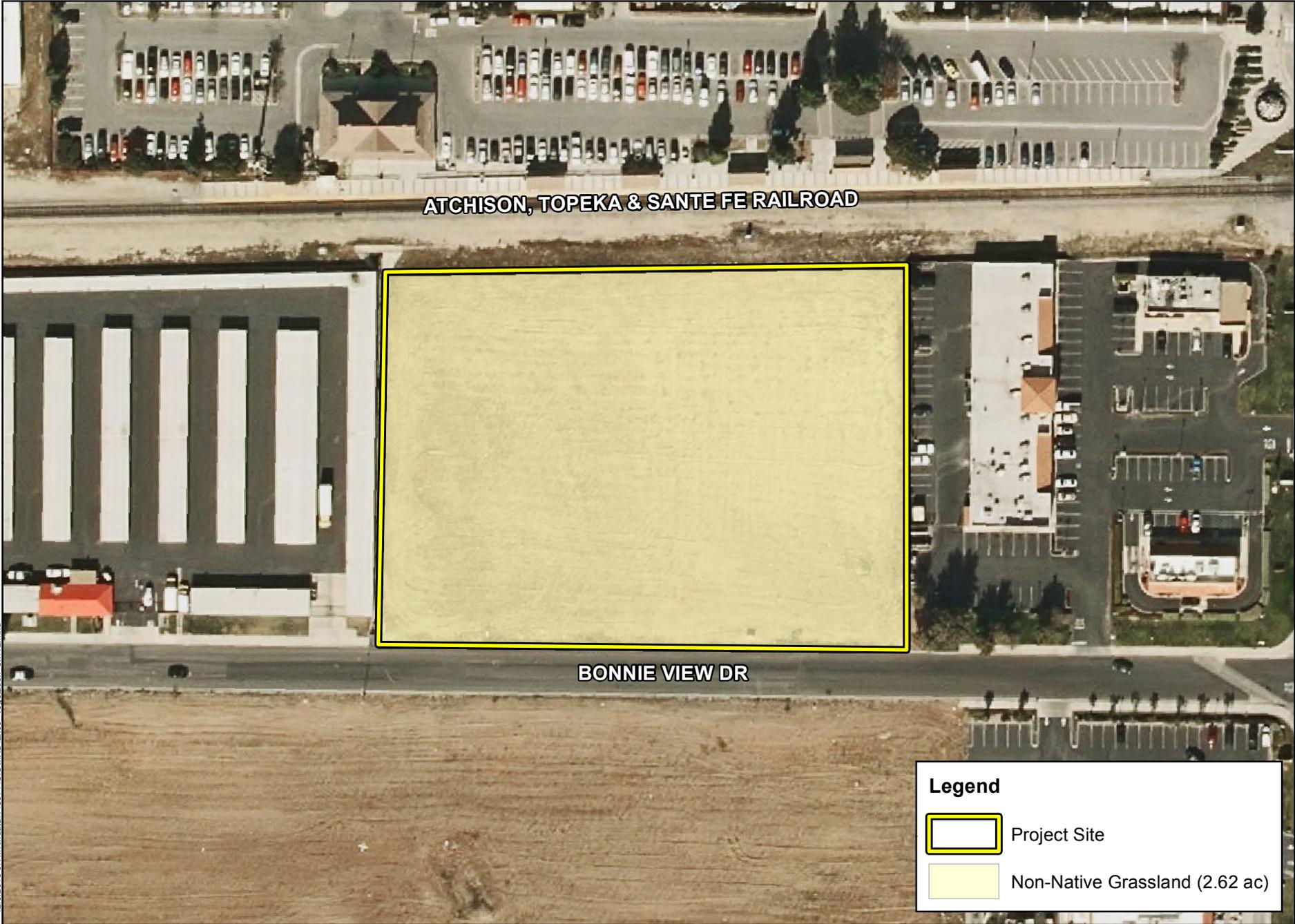
One (1) plant community was observed within the project site: non-native grassland (Exhibit 6, *Vegetation*). This vegetation community is described in further detail below.

5.2.1 NON-NATIVE GRASSLAND

The entire project site can be characterized as non-native grassland. It is co-dominated primarily by Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) and goatshead (*Tribulus terrestris*). Other plants present within the project site include pigweed (*Amaranthus albus*), common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), cheeseweed (*Malva parviflora*), annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*), and feather fingergrass (*Chloris virgata*).

5.3 WILDLIFE

Plant communities provide foraging habitat, nesting/denning sites, and shelter from adverse weather or predation. This section provides a discussion of those wildlife species observed, expected, or not expected to occur within the project site. The discussion is to be used as a general reference and is limited by the season, time of day, and weather condition in which the survey was conducted. Wildlife observations were based on calls, songs, scat, tracks, burrows, and actual sightings of animals.



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5.3.1 FISH

No fish or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of fish were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site. The adjacent runoff channel is not associated with any natural drainages and would not be expected to carry fish in it. Therefore, no fish are expected to occur and they are presumed absent.

5.3.2 AMPHIBIANS

No amphibians or hydrogeomorphic features (e.g., creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs) with frequent sources of water that would support populations of amphibians were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site. The adjacent runoff channel is not associated with any natural drainages and would not be expected to support any amphibians. Therefore, no amphibians are expected to occur and they are presumed absent.

5.3.3 REPTILES

No reptiles were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site. The project site is highly disturbed and is mostly surrounded by development; few reptile species would be expected to occur. The only reptilian species that would reasonably be expected to occur within the project site include western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*) and southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*).

5.3.4 BIRDS

Avian diversity was very low during the habitat assessment and only seven (7) bird species were identified within the project site during Michael Baker's habitat assessment, including killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). The project site provides foraging habitat for a very small number of avian species other than those already mentioned, and no substantial shelter. Common avian species expected to occur on-site other than those previously observed include rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*).

5.3.5 MAMMALS

No mammals were observed on or within the vicinity of the project site except for domestic dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*). The project site provides suitable habitat for a limited variety of mammalian species adapted to conditions within highly disturbed and/or developed areas. Small rodent burrows were observed on the project site, but most mammal species are nocturnal and are difficult to observe during a diurnal field visit. Mammalian species expected

to occur include California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), and deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*).

5.4 NESTING BIRDS

No nesting birds were detected during the field survey, which was conducted outside of the avian nesting season. The project site and the abandoned lot to the south contain marginal ground-nesting habitat that could support small numbers of killdeer nests. Vegetation in the strip mall to the east also has a very marginal opportunity to provide suitable nesting habitat for birds.

5.5 MIGRATORY CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES

Habitat linkages provide links between larger habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages, but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. A corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species yet inadequate for others. Wildlife corridors are significant features for dispersal, seasonal migration, breeding, and foraging.

The project site does not contain any areas that would serve as migratory corridors or linkages. A small cement channel immediately abutting the site's western border runs underneath the railroad tracks via a set of four culverts. These culverts could provide a movement corridor for mammals passing through the area, but based on the extensive development surrounding the site, the culverts are most likely just outlets for existing curbside storm drains to the north and probably do not present any functional wildlife movement opportunities. The project site and its immediate surrounding area provide no special movement opportunities.

5.6 JURISDICTIONAL AREAS

There are three key agencies that regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The Corps Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredge and/or fill materials into "waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 404 of the CWA and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Of the State agencies, the CDFW regulates alterations to streambed and associated plant communities pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code, and the Regional Board regulates discharges into surface waters pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

There are no drainage features located within the project site. A cement channel is located immediately to the west of the site, abutting its western boundary. This channel contains four culverts coming out of the southern wall of the railroad tracks south of the Metrolink Station and drains onto West Bonnie View Drive under a metal grate. It does not possess a surface hydrologic connection to any downstream waters of the U.S. or waters of the State and therefore would not be considered jurisdictional by the Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW.

5.7 SENSITIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The CNDDDB was queried for reported locations of listed and sensitive plant and wildlife species as well as sensitive natural plant communities in the San Bernardino South and Fontana USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles. A search of published records of these species was conducted within these quadrangles using the CNDDDB Rarefind 5 online software and CNDDDB Quickview Tool. The CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California supplied additional information regarding the distribution and habitats of vascular plants in the vicinity of the project site. The habitat assessment was used to assess the ability of the plant communities found on-site to provide suitable habitat for relevant sensitive plant and wildlife species.

The literature search identified twenty-six (26) sensitive plant species, sixty-one (61) sensitive wildlife species, and three (3) sensitive habitats as having the potential to occur within the San Bernardino South and Fontana quadrangles. Sensitive plant and wildlife species were evaluated for their potential to occur within the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of suitable habitat, and known distributions. Sensitive habitats were evaluated based on their identified presence or absence from the project site. Biological resources determined to have the potential to occur within the general project vicinity based on this record search are presented in Appendix B, *Potentially Occurring Sensitive Biological Resources*, and discussed in further detail below.

5.7.1 SENSITIVE PLANTS

Twenty-six (26) sensitive plant species, including six (6) federally listed plant species, have been recorded in the CNDDDB and CNPS in the San Bernardino South and Fontana quadrangles (refer to Appendix B). Based on the results of the habitat assessment along with habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions, it was determined that there is a low potential for smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* ssp. *laevis*) to occur on-site. All other sensitive plant species are presumed absent from the project site. All federally listed plant species are presumed absent from the project site. There is no longer any naturally-occurring habitat on the project site and all on-site vegetation is weedy and disturbance-following.

5.7.2 SENSITIVE WILDLIFE

Sixty-one (61) sensitive wildlife species, including eleven (11) federally listed wildlife species, have been reported in the San Bernardino South and Fontana quadrangles (refer to Appendix B). Based on habitat requirements for specific species and the availability and quality of habitats needed by each sensitive wildlife species, it was determined that Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), burrowing owl, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax fallax*), Vaux's swift (*Chaetura vauxi*), western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), merlin (*Falco columbarius*), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), and Lawrence's goldfinch (*Spinus lawrencei*) all have a low potential to occur on, adjacent to, or over the project site. All remaining sensitive wildlife species are presumed to be absent from the project site based on habitat requirements, availability and quality of habitat needed by each species, and known distributions. All federally listed wildlife species, including DSF, are presumed absent from the project site. A brief species account is provided below for the survey's two focus species, DSF and burrowing owl.

Burrowing Owl

The burrowing owl is a grassland specialist distributed throughout western North America where it occupies open areas with short vegetation and bare ground within shrub, desert, and grassland environments. Burrowing owls use a wide variety of arid and semi-arid environments with well-drained, level to gently-sloping areas characterized by sparse vegetation and bare ground (Haug and Didiuk 1993; Dechant et al. 1999). Burrowing owls are dependent upon the presence of fossorial mammals such as ground squirrels, whose burrows are used for roosting and nesting (Haug and Didiuk 1993). The presence or absence of colonial mammal burrows is often a major factor that limits the presence or absence of burrowing owls. Where mammal burrows are scarce, burrowing owls have been found occupying man-made cavities, such as buried and non-functioning drain pipes, stand-pipes, and dry culverts. Burrowing owls have crepuscular (dawn and dusk) hunting habits but are often observed perched in or near the burrow entrance during the day. The nesting season occurs between February 1 and August 31. Burrowing owls in California may migrate south, but often remain in the breeding area during the non-breeding period.

The project site is a vacant field with clear line of sight across the entire site. Small rodent burrows are present throughout the site, but none were found to be large enough to currently support burrowing owls. There are currently no perches on the site, although there is a slightly elevated area in the southeast corner where the asphalt patch is located. On-site prey is scarce. Another vacant field nearly twice as large is located to the south. This species could occur in

the future if conditions improved (i.e. suitable burrows and a larger prey base), but under its current conditions the project site has a low potential to support this species.

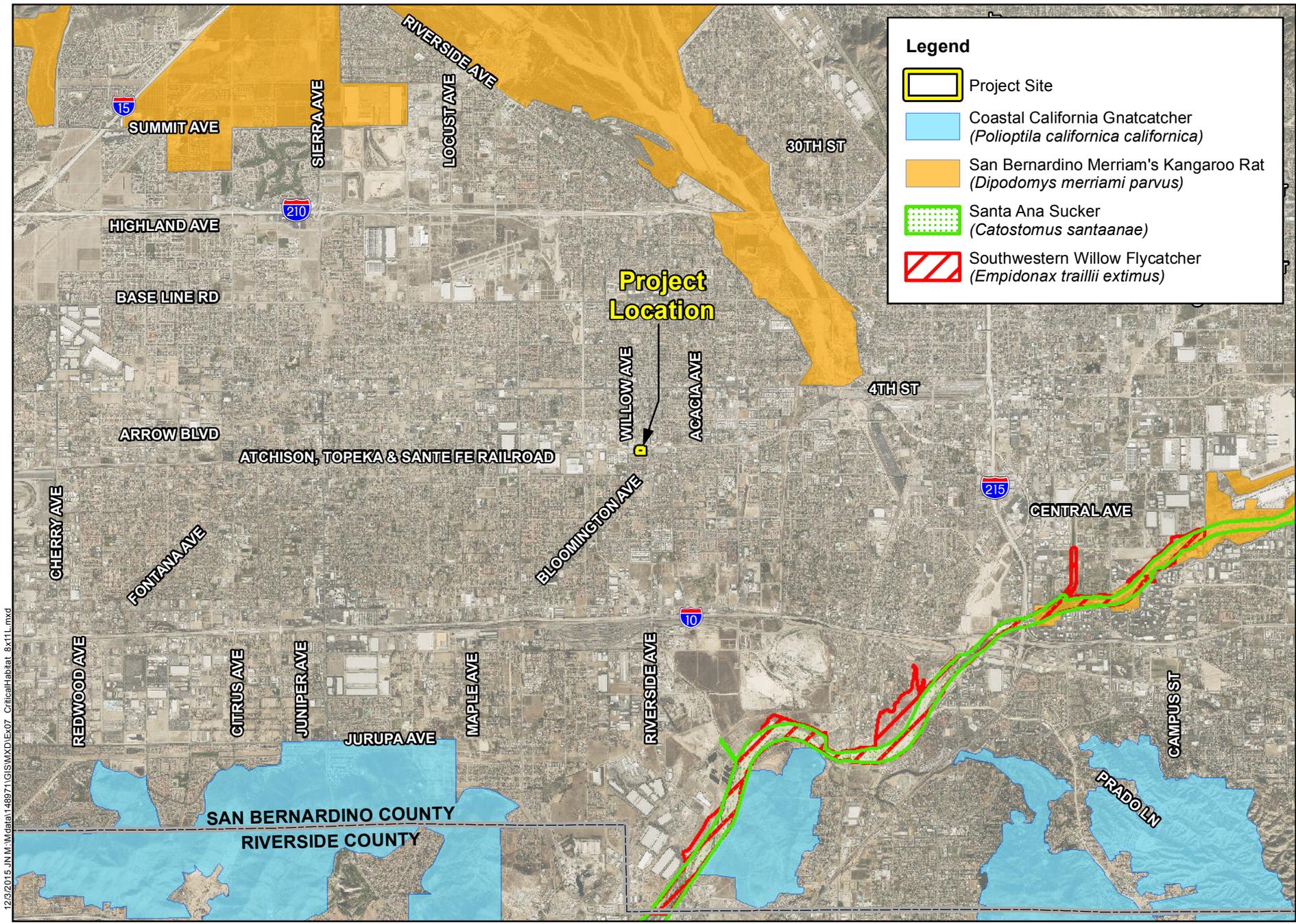
5.7.3 SENSITIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES

According to the CNDDDB, three (3) sensitive plant communities have been recorded in the San Bernardino South and Fontana quadrangles: Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub, Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest, and Southern Riparian Scrub (refer to Appendix B). None of these communities, nor any other sensitive plant community, is present on the project site.

5.8 CRITICAL HABITAT

Under the federal Endangered Species Act, “Critical Habitat” is designated at the time of listing of a species or within one year of listing. “Critical Habitat” refers to habitat or a specific geographic area that contains the elements and features that are essential for the survival and recovery of the species. In the event that a project may result in take or in adverse effects to a species’ designated Critical Habitat, the project proponent may be required to engage in suitable mitigation. However, consultation for impacts to Critical Habitat is only required when a project has a federal nexus (i.e. occurs on federal land, is issued federal permits [e.g. Corps Section 404 Clean Water Act permit], or receives any other federal oversight or funding). If a project does not have a federal nexus, Critical Habitat consultations are not required.

There is no designated Critical Habitat within the project site or its immediate vicinity, but several units are located within a 5-mile radius of the project site (Exhibit 7, *Critical Habitat*). San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) Designated Critical Habitat Unit 1 (Santa Ana River and Wash) is located approximately 4.8 miles southeast of the project site, while Unit 2 (Lytle Creek/Cajon Wash) is located approximately 1.9 miles northeast of the site (67 Federal Register [FR] 19812-19845). Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) Designated Critical Habitat Santa Ana Management Unit is located approximately 3.3 miles southeast of the project site (78 FR 343-534). Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*) Designated Critical Habitat Unit 1, Subunit 1A (Upper Santa Ana River and Wash) is located approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the project site (75 FR 77962-78027). Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) Designated Critical Habitat Unit 10 (San Bernardino and Riverside Counties) is located approximately 3.9 miles south of the project site (72 FR 72010-72213). No other Critical Habitat is located within a 5-mile radius of the project site.



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Section 6 **Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly** **Suitability Assessment**

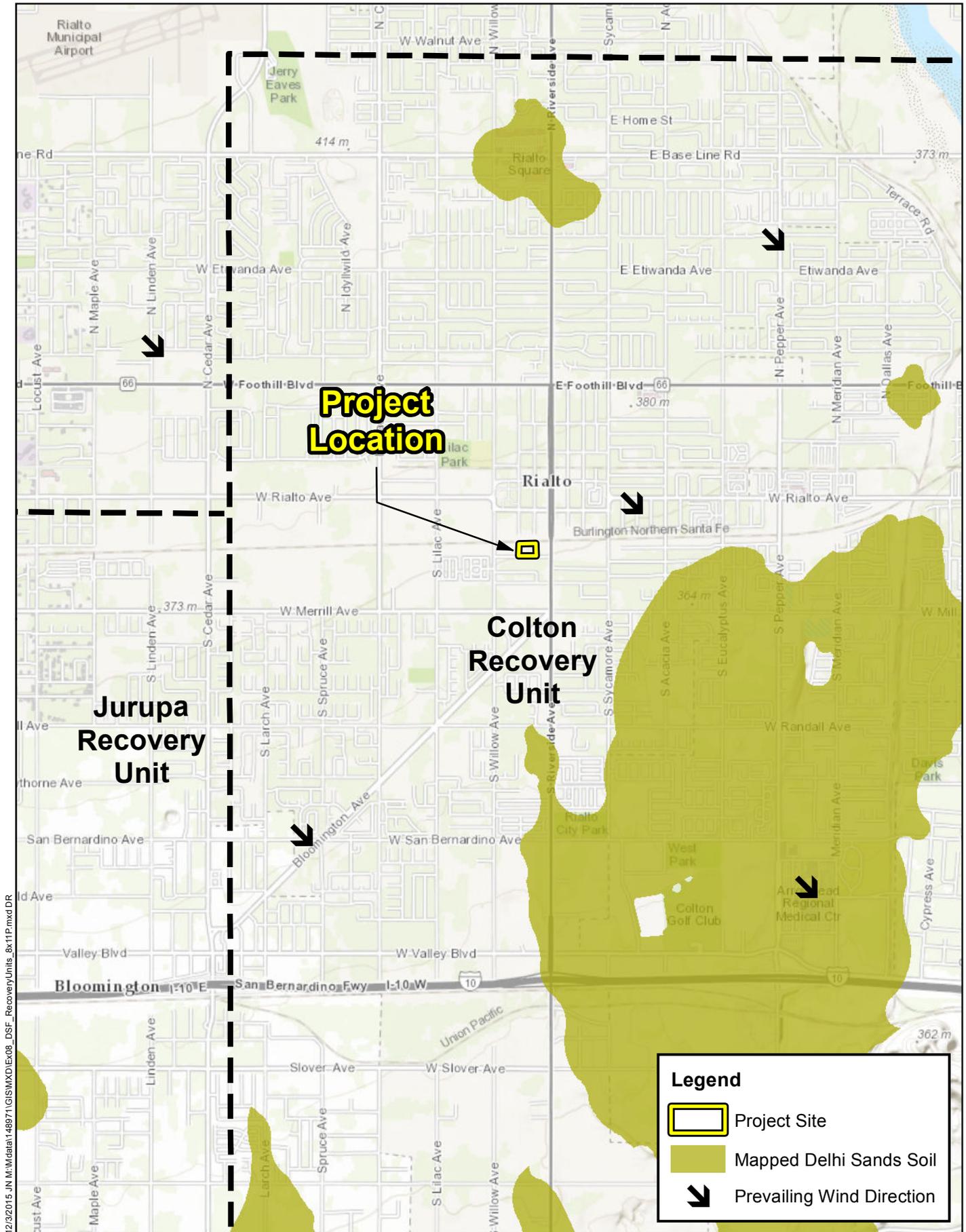
Land with suitable DSF habitat includes only those areas with open, undisturbed Delhi Series soils that have not been permanently altered by residential, commercial, or industrial development, or other human actions. Areas known to contain Delhi Sands and/or to be occupied by DSF have been divided by the USFWS into the Colton, Jurupa, and Ontario Recovery Units (USFWS 1997). These recovery units are defined as large geographic areas based on geographic proximity, similarity of habitat, and potential genetic exchange. Within these three recovery units are areas that have been previously protected by conservation easements. The project site is located within the Colton Recovery Unit.

The Colton Recovery Unit includes all but two of the known populations of DSF. Eight sites have been permanently protected in the Colton recovery unit: the Slover/Pepper population which is composed of the 3-hectare (ha) (7.5-acre) Colton Transmission Facility Reserve and the 61-ha (150-acre) Conservation Bank, the 12-ha (30-acre) Angelus Block conservation area, the 2.4-ha (6-acre) Owl Properties conservation area, the 4-ha (10-acre) Hospital Reserve, the 4-ha (10-acre) Reichel HCP conservation area, the 0.8-ha (1.9-acre) Valley/Pepper realignment HCP, and the 1.8-ha (4.5-acre) “Randall Basin” conservation area.

The project site is located outside of areas protected under the conservation easements above (Exhibit 8, *DSF Recovery Units*). The Colton Recovery Unit includes Delhi Sand soils from within the Cities of Rialto, Colton, Bloomington, and Riverside. However, the closest mapped Delhi Sand soils to the project site are located approximately 0.5 mile southeast of the project site (refer to Exhibit 8). The clean and unmixed Delhi Sand soils required by DSF do not occur on-site. Instead, on-site soils are classified as Tujunga and Hanford soils (refer to Exhibit 5) and contain coarse sands mixed with gravel and plant particulate matter. They have been altered, degraded, and continually cleared by human activity and the three primary indicator plant species for DSF—California buckwheat, California croton, and telegraph weed—are not present on the project site. The project site was determined not to have the potential to provide suitable habitat for DSF and it is assumed that DSF is absent from the project site.

The undeveloped areas within the project site were rated as unsuitable with a habitat quality rating of 1 for DSF (Exhibit 9, *DSF Habitat Suitability*). There were no areas identified on the project site that provide restorable Delhi Sand soils (a habitat quality rating of 3) or clean Delhi Sand soils (a habitat quality rating of 4/5). Further, the project site is surrounded on all sides by existing development and no longer has connectivity to other areas containing clean Delhi Sands soils or areas subject to Aeolian processes. The prevailing wind direction of the Santa Ana Winds is from northeast to southwest, and the only mapped Delhi Sand soils upwind of

the project site are approximately 1.7 miles away at the intersection of Riverside Avenue and Baseline Road, an area that has been extensively developed into a shopping center on all four sides. Formal focused DSF surveys are not recommended. Development of this property will not impact DSF or impede their recovery as defined by the DSF Recovery Plan (USFWS 1997).



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Section 7 Conclusions and Recommendations

The project site is located on a vacant lot in the City of Rialto. The entire lot is characterized as a non-native grassland, with low plant diversity (primarily Russian thistle and goatshead).

Sensitive Biological Resources

No sensitive plant or wildlife species were identified on or in the vicinity of the project site during Michael Baker's November 17, 2015 habitat assessment. Based on the survey results, it was determined that all sensitive plant and wildlife species have a low potential to occur or are presumed absent from the project site. Burrowing owl has a low potential to occur on the project site. However, a pre-construction burrowing owl clearance survey is recommended to ensure that burrowing owl remain absent from the project site.

Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly Suitability Assessment

The site does not contain any Delhi Sand soils. DSF is presumed absent from the project site. DSF focused surveys are not recommended.

HUD Environmental Review – Endangered Species

Use of HUD funds requires an analysis of the proposed project on endangered species or their habitat. Based on the results of the habitat assessment and the record search of the project site and surrounding area, there are no federally listed plant or animal species that would occur on the project site. The project site lacks any suitable habitat for federally listed plant and animal species, and, as such, there is also no Designated Critical Habitat on the project site. Therefore, development of the project site will have No Effect on federally listed species or their habitat or on any Designated Critical Habitat. Consultation for impacts to endangered species or Designated Critical Habitat will not be required for development of this project site.

Nesting Birds

Nesting birds are protected pursuant to the MBTA and Fish and Game Code (Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3511, and 3513 of the Fish and Game Code prohibit the take, possession, or destruction of birds, their nests, or their eggs). In order to ensure compliance with the MBTA and Fish and Game Code, a pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey will be required prior to any vegetation removal or ground disturbing activities during the nesting season (generally from February 1 - August 31, but can vary annually based upon seasonal weather conditions). The pre-construction nesting bird clearance survey should also focus on confirming the continued absence of burrowing owl from the project site.

If an active avian nest is discovered during the pre-construction clearance survey, construction activities should stay outside of an avoidance buffer from the active nest. While these buffer distances are typically 300 feet for passerine nests and 500 feet for raptors and listed species, due to the very small size of the project site this buffer should be determined in the field by the surveying biologist. It is recommended that a biological monitor be present to delineate the boundaries of the buffer area and to monitor the active nest to ensure that nesting behavior is not adversely affected by the construction activity. Once the young have fledged and left the nest, or the nest otherwise becomes inactive under natural conditions, construction activities can resume.

Jurisdictional Areas

There are no drainage features located within the project site. A cement channel is located immediately to the west of the site, abutting its western boundary. This channel contains four culverts coming out of the southern wall of the railroad tracks south of the Metrolink Station and drains onto West Bonnie View Drive under a metal grate. It does not possess a surface hydrologic connection to any downstream waters of the U.S. or waters of the State and therefore would not be considered jurisdictional by the Corps, Regional Board, or CDFW.

Section 8 References

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- U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey (USGS). 1967 (photorevised 1980). 7.5-minute topographic map for the San Bernardino South quadrangle.
- U.S. Supreme Court (USSC). 2001. Court Decision on *Solid Waste Association of Northern Cook Counties v. United States Corps of Engineers* (“SWANCC”). January 9, 2001.

Appendix A Site Photographs



Photograph 1: Facing the northwest corner of the site from its southeast corner. A Metrolink station is located in the distance, with a train actively pulling into the station.



Photograph 2: Facing the southwest corner of the site from its northeast corner.



Photograph 3: Facing the eastern side of the project site from its western edge.



Photograph 4: Facing north from the southern edge of the project site.



Photograph 5: A non-jurisdictional cement channel runs immediately west of the project site. It drains water underneath the railroad tracks. This channel would be covered with a pedestrian walkway to the Metrolink station in the distance but water would still run underneath.



Photograph 6: The cement channel in Photograph 5 drains directly onto Bonnie View Drive, south of the project site. With project implementation, water would still flow onto the street via a culvert under a new pedestrian walkway.

Appendix B Potentially Occurring Sensitive
Biological Resources

Table B-1: Potentially Occurring Sensitive Biological Resources

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
WILDLIFE SPECIES				
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Generally found in forested areas up to 3,000 feet in elevation, especially near edges and rivers. Prefers hardwood stands and mature forests, but can be found in urban and suburban areas where there are tall trees for nesting. Common in open areas during nesting season.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site. This species may forage in the area. No nesting habitat.
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i> northern goshawk	Fed: None CA: SSC	Heavily dependent on coniferous forests, particularly those with Douglas fir, lodgepole pine, Jeffrey pine, and aspens, but nests primarily in ponderosa pine in the Southwest. Nest stands are typically 25 to 250 acres in size and are characterized as being mature to old-growth forests with large trees, high (60-90%) canopy closure (the higher the better), and sparse ground cover, typically located near the bottom of moderate slopes. Water is almost always present in the vicinity of the nest. Forages in a wide array of habitats ranging from open steppe habitat to dense forests, but in California usually forages in forests.	No	Presumed absent. This species is rare anywhere in southern California south of the Sierra Nevada.
<i>Accipiter striatus</i> sharp-shinned hawk	Fed: None CA: WL	Found in pine, fir, and aspen forests. They can be found hunting in forest interior and edges from sea level to near alpine areas. Can also be found in rural, suburban and agricultural areas, where they often hunt at bird feeders. Typically found in southern California in the winter months.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site. This species may forage in the area. This species does not nest in southern California.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	Fed: None CA: CSC	Range is limited to the coastal areas of the Pacific coast of North America, from Northern California to upper Baja California. Can be found in a wide variety of habitat including annual grasslands, wet and dry vernal pools and other seasonal wetlands, agricultural fields, cattle feedlots, and dairies. Occasionally forage in riparian scrub habitats along marsh borders. Basic habitat requirements for breeding include open accessible water, protected nesting substrate (freshwater marsh dominated by cattails, willows, and bulrushes [<i>Schoenoplectus</i> sp.]), and either flooded or thorny or spiny vegetation and suitable foraging space providing adequate insect prey.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The project site lacks breeding or foraging habitat.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Typically found between 3,000 and 6,000 feet in elevation. Breed in sparsely vegetated shrublands on hillsides and canyons. Prefers coastal sage scrub dominated by California sagebrush (<i>Artemisia californica</i>), but can also be found breeding in coastal bluff scrub, low-growing serpentine chaparral, and along the edges of tall chaparral habitats.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The project site lacks any sage scrub.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	Fed: None CA: FP;WL	Occupies nearly all terrestrial habitats of the western states except densely forested areas. Favors secluded cliffs with overhanging ledges and large trees for nesting and cover. Hilly or mountainous country where takeoff and soaring are supported by updrafts is generally preferred to flat habitats. Deeply cut canyons rising to open mountain slopes and crags are ideal habitat.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site is too small and too surrounded by development to support this species.
<i>Ardea alba</i> great egret	Fed: None CA: None	Yearlong resident throughout California, except for the high mountains and deserts. Feeds and rests in fresh, and saline emergent wetlands, along the margins of estuaries, lakes, and slow-moving streams, on mudflats and salt ponds, and in irrigated croplands and pastures.	No	Low. There is marginal foraging habitat on-site.
<i>Ardea herodias</i> great blue heron	Fed: None CA: None	Forages along streams, marshes, lakes, and meadows. Nests colonially in tall trees (typically <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.), on cliffsides, or in isolated spots in marshes.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Artemisospiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow	Fed: None CA: WL	Generally prefers semi-open habitats with evenly spaced shrubs 1 – 2 meters in height. Prefers dry chaparral and coastal sage scrub along coastal lowlands, inland valleys, and low foothills. Less common in tall dense, old chaparral.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any chaparral or coastal scrub.
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i> orange-throated whiptail	Fed: None CA: CSC	Inhabits low-elevations coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, and valley-foothill hardwood habitats. Semi-arid brushy areas typically with loose soil and rocks, including washes, streamsides, rocky hillsides, and coastal chaparral.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any natural vegetation and is too isolated by surrounding development to allow natural occurrences of this species on the site.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail	Fed: None CA: None	Found in a variety of ecosystems, primarily hot and dry open areas with sparse foliage and open spaces between vegetation. Most often found in chaparral, sage scrub, woodland, and riparian areas.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any natural vegetation and is too isolated by surrounding development to allow natural occurrences of this species on the site.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	Fed: None CA: CSC	Primarily a grassland species, but it persists and even thrives in some landscapes highly altered by human activity. Occurs in open, annual or perennial grasslands, deserts, and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation. The overriding characteristics of suitable habitat appear to be burrows for roosting and nesting and relatively short vegetation with only sparse shrubs and taller vegetation.	No	Low. There is suitable line of sight across the survey area, but the site currently lacks any appropriate burrows, perches, or any substantial food sources. Could inhabit the site in the future if suitable burrows were present.
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> crotch bumble bee	Fed: None CA: None	Occurs from the California coast to the Sierra-Cascade crest and into Mexico. Utilizes plants in the Genera <i>Antirrhinum</i> , <i>Phacelia</i> , <i>Clarkia</i> , <i>Dendromecon</i> , <i>Eschscholzia</i> , and <i>Eriogonum</i> .	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	Fed: None CA: THR	Typical habitat is open desert, grassland, or cropland containing scattered, large trees or small groves. Breeds in stands with few trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and in oak savannah in the Central Valley. Forages in adjacent grassland or suitable grain or alfalfa fields or livestock pastures.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site is too small and too surrounded by development to support this species.
<i>Calypte costae</i> Costa's hummingbird	Fed: None CA: None	Desert and semi-desert, arid brushy foothills and chaparral. A desert hummingbird that breeds in the Sonoran and Mojave Deserts. Departs desert heat moving into chaparral, scrub, and woodland habitats.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat and no flowering plants on the site that would appeal to hummingbirds.
<i>Carolella busckana</i> Busck's gallmoth	Fed: None CA: None	Found in coastal scrub dunes.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Fed: THR CA: CSC	Occur in the watersheds draining the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains of southern California. Streams that Santa Ana Sucker inhabit are generally perennial streams with water ranging in depth from a few inches to several feet and with currents ranging from slight to swift.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. No water is present on-site.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs in desert and coastal habitats in southern California, Mexico, and northern Baja California, from sea level to at least 4,600 feet. Found in a variety of temperate habitats ranging from chaparral and grasslands to scrub forests and deserts. Requires low growing vegetation or rocky outcroppings, as well as sandy soils for burrowing.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site, and small rodent burrows were found throughout the site.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: CSC	Common resident of sandy herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel in southwestern California. Occurs mainly in arid coastal and desert border areas. Habitats include coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, sagebrush, desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, pinyon-juniper, and annual grassland.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Chaetura vauxi</i> Vaux's swift	Fed: None CA: SSC	Occurs only as a migrant throughout most of California, but nests in the northern reaches of the State. Prefers redwood and Douglas-fir habitats with nest-sites in large hollow trees and snags, especially tall, burned-out snags. Fairly common migrant throughout most of the state from April to May and August to September. Generally migrates over forests and open areas, roosting in trees and chimneys.	No	Low. May migrate over the site but highly unlikely to stop.
<i>Charina trivirgata</i> rosy boa	Fed: None CA: None	Ranges from southern California and western Arizona in the United States, southward to Baja California and western Sonora in Mexico. Species often inhabits rocky areas in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and desert environments.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site contains no natural vegetation.
<i>Chondestes grammacus</i> lark sparrow	Fed: None CA: None	Common resident in lowlands and foothills throughout much of California. Frequents sparse valley foothill hardwood, valley foothill hardwood-conifer, open mixed chaparral and similar brushy habitats, and grasslands with scattered trees or shrubs.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site contains no trees or other natural vegetation.
<i>Cicindela tranquebarica viridissima</i> greenest tiger beetle	Fed: None CA: None	Found in open spaces between trees in the woodlands adjacent to the Santa Ana River Basin.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> western yellow-billed cuckoo	Fed: THR CA: END	Obligate riparian species with a primary habitat association of willow-cottonwood riparian forest. Nests are typically placed (72% of the time) in willows (<i>Salix</i> spp.), particularly in black willow (<i>S. gooddingii</i>), red willow (<i>S. laevigata</i>), and sandbar willow (<i>S. exigua</i>). This species typically requires large blocks of intact riparian habitat, with anything less than 37 acres in size and 328 feet wide generally considered unsuitable. Breeding season home ranges can be as much as 100 acres per individual bird. Yellow-billed cuckoos are considered rare anywhere in southern California outside of the Colorado River.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any sort of riparian woodland.
<i>Coleonyx variegatus abbotti</i> San Diego banded gecko	Fed: None CA: None	Occurs in coastal and cismontane southern California from interior Ventura County south, although it is absent from the extreme outer coast. It is uncommon in coastal scrub and chaparral, most often occurring in granite or rocky outcrops in these habitats.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site contains no natural vegetation.
<i>Contopus cooperi</i> olive-sided flycatcher	Fed: None CA: CSC	Migrates through coastal southern California. Nests in the mountains in mixed conifer, montane hardwood-conifer, Douglas-fir, redwood, red fir, and lodgepole pine habitats. Most often found in tall montane coniferous forests overlooking open terrain.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site contains no trees or other natural vegetation.
<i>Crotalus ruber</i> red-diamond rattlesnake	Fed: None CA: CSC	It can be found from the desert, through dense chaparral in the foothills (it avoids the mountains above around 4,000 feet), to warm inland mesas and valleys, all the way to the cool ocean shore. It is most commonly associated with heavy brush with large rocks or boulders. Dense chaparral in the foothills, cactus or boulder associated coastal sage scrub, oak and pine woodlands, and desert slope scrub associations are known to carry populations of the northern red-diamond rattlesnake; however, chamise and red shank associations may offer better structural habitat for refuges and food resources for this species than other habitats.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site is vegetated by a sparse non-native grassland.
<i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i> San Bernardino ringneck snake	Fed: None CA: None	Common in open, relatively rocky areas within valley-foothill, mixed chaparral, and annual grass habitats. Most active after rains when the surface is damp. Most common near watercourses, springs, and damp meadows.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino kangaroo rat	Fed: END CA: CSC	Primarily found in Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub and sandy loam soils, alluvial fans and flood plains, and along washes with nearby sage scrub. May occur at lower densities in Riversidian upland sage scrub, chaparral and grassland in uplands and tributaries in proximity to Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub habitats. Tend to avoid rocky substrates and prefer sandy loam substrates for digging of shallow burrows.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site does not contain any Riversidian alluvial fan sage scrub or any alluvial flow.
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i> Stephens' kangaroo rat	Fed: END CA: THR	Occur in arid and semi-arid habitats with some grass or brush. Commonly associated with California sagebrush, California buckwheat, and filaree. Prefer open habitats with less than 50% protective cover. Require soft, well-drained substrate for building burrows and are typically found in areas with sandy soil. Prefers slopes of up to 10% but may occur on slopes up to 50%.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site entirely lacks any perennial shrubs and provides no cover.
<i>Egretta thula</i> snowy egret	Fed: None CA: None	Widespread in California along shores of coastal estuaries, fresh and saline emergent wetlands, ponds, slow-moving rivers, irrigation ditches, and wet fields. In southern California, common yearlong in the Imperial Valley and along the Colorado River.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> southwestern willow flycatcher	Fed: END CA: END	Occurs in riparian woodlands in southern California. Typically requires large areas of willow thickets in broad valleys, canyon bottoms, or around ponds and lakes. These areas typically have standing or running water, or are at least moist.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any sort of riparian woodland.
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	Fed: None CA: CSC	Primarily a cliff-dwelling species, roost generally under exfoliating rock slabs. Roosts are generally high above the ground, usually allowing a clear vertical drop of at least three meters below the entrance for flight. In California, it is most frequently encountered in broad open areas. Its foraging habitat includes dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, and agricultural areas.	No	Low. There is marginal foraging habitat but no roosting habitat.
<i>Falco columbarius</i> merlin	Fed: None CA: WL	Nest in forested openings, edges, and along rivers across northern North America. Found in open forests, grasslands, and especially coastal areas with flocks of small songbirds or shorebirds.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site. This species may forage in the area. This species does not nest in southern California.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Gila orcuttii</i> arroyo chub	Fed: None CA: CSC	Warm streams of the Los Angeles Plain, which are typically muddy torrents during the winter, and clear quiet brooks in the summer, possibly drying up in places. They are found both in slow-moving and fast-moving sections, but generally deeper than 40 cm.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. No water is present on-site.
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus californicus</i> San Bernardino flying squirrel	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs at elevation between 5,200 and 8,500 feet in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains in woodlands dominated by California black oak (<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>) and white fir (<i>Abies concolor</i>). Requires cavities for nests, as well as nearby water.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any coniferous forests.
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> California condor	Fed: END CA: END; FP	Requires vast expanses of open savannah, grasslands, and foothill chaparral in moderate-altitude mountain ranges for foraging. Nests in natural cavities in trees or in cliffs in canyons and forages up to 100 miles from nesting sites. Reintroduced individuals are heavily dependent on feeding stations, but with maturity and general range expansion, condors are increasingly foraging for natural food sources at farther distances from nests.	No	Presumed absent. This species is not currently known to occur in California south of the western San Gabriel Mountains.
<i>Icteria virens</i> yellow-breasted chat	Fed: None CA: SSC	Primarily found in tall, dense, relatively wide riparian woodlands and thickets of willows, vine tangles, and dense brush with well-developed understories. Nesting areas are associated with streams, swampy ground, and the borders of small ponds. Breeding habitat must be dense to provide shade and concealment. It winters south the Central America.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site does not contain any riparian scrub.
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> loggerhead shrike	Fed: None CA: CSC	Often found in broken woodlands, shrublands, and other habitats. Prefers open country with scattered perches for hunting and fairly dense brush for nesting.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable nesting habitat but marginal foraging habitat is present. Unlikely to occur on-site except if nesting.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> western yellow bat	Fed: None CA: CSC	Roosts in palm trees in foothill riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats with access to water for foraging.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable roosting or foraging habitat.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs in diverse habitats, but primarily is found in arid regions supporting shortgrass habitats. Openness of open scrub habitat is preferred over dense chaparral.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There are no shrubs for cover.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert woodrat	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs in coastal scrub communities between San Luis Obispo and San Diego Counties. Prefers moderate to dense canopies, and especially rocky outcrops.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There are no shrubs or rocky areas to build middens against, and no middens were observed on-site.
<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> pocketed free-tailed bat	Fed: None CA: CSC	Often found in pinyon-juniper woodlands, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, desert riparian, desert wash, alkali desert scrub, Joshua tree, and palm oasis.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable roosting or foraging habitat.
<i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i> southern grasshopper mouse	Fed: None CA: CSC	Inhabits alkali desert scrub and other desert scrub habitats, and to a lesser extent succulent shrubs, desert washes, desert riparian, coastal scrub, mixed chaparral, and sagebrush habitats. Generally rare in valley foothill and montane riparian habitats. Prefers low to moderate shrub cover and requires friable soils.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs in lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage scrub communities in and around the Los Angeles Basin. Prefers open ground with fine sandy soils. May not dig extensive burrows, but instead will seek refuge under weeds and dead leaves instead.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site.
<i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i> Pacific pocket mouse	Fed: END CA: SSC	Occurs on loose sandy soils that support sparse coastal sage scrub, grassland, and ruderal habitats.	No	Presumed absent. The site is well outside of this species' geographic range.
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast horned lizard	Fed: None CA: CSC	Occurs in a wide variety of vegetation types including coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland and coniferous forest. In inland areas, this species is restricted to areas with pockets of open microhabitat, created by disturbance (i.e. fire, floods, roads, grazing, fire breaks). The key elements of such habitats are loose, fine soils with a high sand fraction; an abundance of native ants or other insects; and open areas with limited overstory for basking and low, but relatively dense shrubs for refuge.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site.
<i>Picoides nuttallii</i> Nuttall's woodpecker	Fed: None CA: None	A common, permanent resident of low-elevation riparian deciduous and oak habitats. Occurs in the Central Valley, Transverse and Peninsular Ranges, in the Coast Ranges north to Sonoma Co. and rarely to Humboldt Co., and in lower portions of the Cascade Range and Sierra Nevada. Tree cavities and foliage provide cover.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Poliophtila californica californica</i> coastal California gnatcatcher	Fed: THR CA: CSC	Obligate resident of sage scrub habitats that are dominated by California sagebrush. This species generally occurs below 750 feet elevation in coastal regions and below 1,500 feet inland. It prefers habitat with more low-growing vegetation.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There is no coastal scrub on-site.
<i>Progne subis</i> purple martin	Fed: None CA: SSC	Found primarily in woodlands and low elevation coniferous forests dominated by Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, and Monterey pine. Usually nests in old woodpecker cavities in tall, isolated trees. Usually avoids deserts and grasslands.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. This species is generally rare in southern California.
<i>Rana draytonii</i> California red-legged frog	Fed: THR CA: SSC	Found mainly near ponds in humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and streamsides with plant cover. Most common in lowlands or foothills. Breeds in permanent or ephemeral waters sources; lakes, ponds, reservoirs, slow streams, marshes, bogs, and swamps.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There is no water on-site.
<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> Delhi Sands flower-loving fly	Fed: END CA: None	DSF habitat is limited to areas that include Delhi fine sand, an aeolian (wind-deposited) soil type. The highest density of DSF have been found in habitat that includes a variety of plants including California buckwheat, California croton, deerweed, and telegraph weed.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site does not contain any of the characteristic plant species typically associated with DSF and does not contain Delhi Sand soils.
<i>Setophaga petechia</i> yellow warbler	Fed: None CA: CSC	Nests over all of California except the Central Valley, the Mojave Desert region, and high altitudes and the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada. Winters along the Colorado River and in parts of Imperial and Riverside Counties. Nests in riparian areas dominated by willows, cottonwoods, sycamores, or alders or in mature chaparral. May also use oaks, conifers, and urban areas near stream courses.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There are no trees on-site.
<i>Spea hammondi</i> western spadefoot	Fed: None CA: SSC	Prefers open areas with sandy or gravelly soils, in a variety of habitats including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washed, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, alkali flats, foothills, and mountains. Rainpools which do not contain bullfrogs, fish, or crayfish are necessary for breeding.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There are no areas where water would be likely to ephemerally pool.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i> red-breasted sapsucker	Fed: None CA: None	Breeds in inland southern California but only winters in coastal southern California. Breeds from near sea level to around 9,500 feet in elevation, usually in coniferous forests with white pine, lodgepole pine, western hemlock, Douglas-fir, red fir, and spruce, as well as in deciduous and riparian habitats. Prefers breeding in areas with snags. Winters in deciduous and riparian woodlands.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There are no trees on-site.
<i>Spinus lawrencei</i> Lawrence's goldfinch	Fed: None CA: None	Open woodlands, chaparral, and weedy fields. Closely associated with oaks. Nests in open oak or other arid woodland and chaparral near water.	No	Low. There is marginal foraging habitat amongst the weeds.
<i>Spizella atrogularis</i> black-chinned sparrow	Fed: None CA: None	Breeds locally and uncommonly in foothills bordering Central Valley and commonly on arid mountain sloped of southern CA. Occurs mostly on sloping ground in mixed chaparral, chamise-redshank chaparral, sagebrush, and similar brushy habitats.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. There is no coastal scrub on-site.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	Fed: None CA: CSC	Primarily occupy grasslands, parklands, farms, tallgrass and shortgrass prairies, meadows, shrub-steppe communities and other treeless areas with sandy loam soils where it can dig more easily for its prey. Occasionally found in open chaparral (with less than 50% plant cover) and riparian zones.	No	Presumed absent. No badger burrows were observed on the project site, which is otherwise surrounded by development.
<i>Thamnophis sirtalis ssp.</i> south coast garter snake	Fed: None CA: CSC	Found in southern California coastal plains between Ventura and San Diego Counties, particularly in marsh and upland habitats near permanent water with good quality riparian vegetation.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo	Fed: END CA: END	Primarily occupy Riverine riparian habitat that typically feature dense cover within 1 -2 meters of the ground and a dense, stratified canopy. Typically it is associated with southern willow scrub, cottonwood-willow forest, mule fat scrub, sycamore alluvial woodlands, coast live oak riparian forest, arroyo willow riparian forest, or mesquite in desert localities. It uses habitat which is limited to the immediate vicinity of water courses, 2,000 feet elevation in the interior.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any sort of riparian woodland.
<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> yellow-headed blackbird	Fed: None CA: SSC	Nests in fresh emergent wetland with dense vegetation and deep water, often along borders of lakes or ponds. Forages in emergent wetland and most, open areas, especially cropland and muddy shores of lacustrine habitat.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The project site lacks breeding or foraging habitat.
PLANT SPECIES				

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Arenaria paludicola</i> marsh sandwort	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.1	Grows mainly in wetlands and freshwater marshes in arid climates. The plant can grow in saturated acidic bog soils and soils that are sandy with a high organic content. Found at elevations ranging from 33 to 558 feet. Blooming period is from May to August.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Asplenium vespertinum</i> western spleenwort	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in rocky soils within chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 591 to 3,281 feet. Blooming period is from February to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat.
<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i> Horn's milk-vetch	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Grows along lake margins in alkaline soils in meadows, seeps, and playas. Found at elevations ranging from 197 to 2,789 feet. Blooming period is from May to October.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Berberis nevinii</i> Nevin's barberry	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs on steep, north-facing slopes or in low-grade sandy washes in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 951 to 5,167 feet. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat.
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa-lily	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Prefers openings in chaparral, foothill woodland, coastal sage scrub, valley foothill grasslands, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest and yellow pine forest. Often found on dry, rocky slopes and soils and brushy areas. Can be very common after a fire. Found at elevations ranging from 459 to 6,299 feet. Blooming period is from May to July.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Carex comosa</i> bristly sedge	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.1	Found in coastal prairies, lake margins of marshes and swamps, and valley and foothill grassland. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 2,051 feet. Blooming period is from May to September.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> smooth tarplant	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs in alkaline soils within chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps, playas, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grassland habitats. Often found in disturbed, moist areas. Grows in elevation ranging from 0 to 2,100 feet. Blooming period ranges from April to September.	No	Low. There is marginal habitat on-site.
<i>Chloropyron maritimum</i> ssp. <i>maritimum</i> salt marsh bird's-beak	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.2	Upper terraces and higher edges of coastal salt marshes where tidal inundation is periodic. Found at elevations ranging from 0 to 99 feet. Blooming period is from May to October.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Chorizanthe leptotheca</i> Peninsular spineflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Found in granitic soils within chaparral, coast scrub, and lower montane coniferous forest habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 6,234 feet. Blooming period is from May to August.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Occurs on sandy and/or rocky soils in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and sandy openings within alluvial washes and margins. Found at elevations ranging from 951 to 3,773 feet. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat and is not subject to any alluvial processes.
<i>Cuscuta obtusiflora var. glandulosa</i> Peruvian dodder	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Grows in freshwater marshes and swamps as a parasitic vine. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 919 feet. Blooming period is from July to October.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Deinandra paniculata</i> paniculate tarplant	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.2	Typically found in vernal mesic, sometimes sandy soils in coastal scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools. Found at elevations ranging from 82 to 3,084 feet. Blooming period is from April to November.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i> slender-horned spineflower	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub (alluvial fan sage scrub). Flood deposited terraces and washes. Found at elevations ranging from 1,181 to 2,690 feet. Blooming period is from April to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat and is not subject to any alluvial processes.
<i>Eriastrum densifolium ssp. sanctorum</i> Santa Ana River woollystar	Fed: END CA: END CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in sandy or gravelly soils within chaparral and coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 299 to 2,001 feet. Blooming period is from April to September.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat and is not subject to any alluvial processes.
<i>Galium californicum ssp. primum</i> Alvin Meadow bedstraw	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Found in granitic or sandy soils in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forest. Found at elevations ranging from 4,429 to 5,577 feet. Blooming period is from May to July.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Helianthus nuttallii ssp. parishii</i> Los Angeles sunflower	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Occurs in coastal salt and freshwater marshes, swamps, and damp river banks. From 16 to 5,495 feet in elevation. Blooming period is from August to October.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> var. <i>puberula</i> mesa horkelia	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs on sandy or gravelly soils in chaparral, woodlands, and coastal scrub plant communities. Found at elevations ranging from 230 to 2,657 feet. Blooming period is from February to September.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> Robinson's pepper-grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 4.3	Dry soils on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 3 to 2,904 feet. Blooming period is from January to July.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat.
<i>Lycium parishii</i> Parish's desert-thorn	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.3	Habitats include coastal scrub and Sonoran desert scrub. Found at elevations ranging from 443 to 3,281 feet. Blooming period is from March to April.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat.
<i>Monardella pringlei</i> Pringle's monardella	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Prefers sandy soils within coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 1,312 feet. Blooming period is from May to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub habitat.
<i>Nasturtium gambelii</i> Gambel's water cress	Fed: END CA: CTHR CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in freshwater or brackish marshes and swamps. Found at elevations ranging from 16 to 1,083 feet. Blooming period is from April to October.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Ribes divaricatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i> Parish's gooseberry	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1A	Occurs in riparian woodland, usually in willow swales. From 213 to 328 feet in elevation. Blooming period is from February to April.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
<i>Senecio aphanactis</i> chaparral ragwort	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Grows in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub habitat. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 2,625 feet. Blooming period is from January to April.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> Salt Spring checkerbloom	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Found in alkaline, mesic soils within chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, and playas. Found at elevations ranging from 49 to 5,020 feet. Blooming period is from March to June.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any scrub or arboreal habitat.
<i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i> prairie wedge grass	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 2B.2	Prefers cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps. Found at elevations ranging from 984 to 6,562 feet. Blooming period is from April to July.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.

Scientific Name Common Name	Status	Habitat	Observed During Survey	Potential to Occur
<i>Symphotrichum defoliatum</i> San Bernardino aster	Fed: None CA: None CNPS: 1B.2	Grows in cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and vernal mesic valley and foothill grassland. Can be found growing near ditches, streams, and springs within these habitats. Found at elevations ranging from 7 to 6,693 feet. Blooming period is from July to November.	No	Presumed absent. There is no suitable habitat. The site lacks any wetland habitat or water.
SENSITIVE HABITATS				
Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Occur within broad washes of sandy alluvial drainages that carry rainfall runoff sporadically in winter and spring, but remain relatively dry through the remainder of the year. Is restricted to drainages and floodplains with very sandy substrates that have a dearth of decomposed plant material. These areas do not develop into riparian woodland or scrub due to the limited water resources and scouring by occasional floods.	No	Absent.
Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Dominated by cottonwood (<i>Populus</i> spp.) and willow (<i>Salix</i> spp.) trees and shrubs. Considered to be an early successional stage as both species are known to germinate almost exclusively on recently deposited or exposed alluvial soils.	No	Absent.
Southern Riparian Scrub	CDFW Sensitive Habitat	Riparian zones dominated by small trees or shrubs, lacking taller riparian trees.	No	Absent.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Fed) - Federal
 END- Federal Endangered
 THR- Federal Threatened

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CA) - California
 END- California Endangered
 THR- California Threatened
 CTHR- Candidate for California Threatened
 FP- California Fully Protected
 CSC- California Species of Concern
 WL- Watch List

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) California Rare Plant Rank
 1A Plants Presumed Extirpated in California and Either Rare or Extinct Elsewhere
 1B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere
 2B Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but More Common Elsewhere
 3 Plants About Which More Information is Needed – A
 4 Plants of Limited Distribution – A Watch List

Threat Ranks
 0.1- Seriously threatened in California
 0.2- Moderately threatened in California
 0.3- Not very threatened in California