

APPENDIX B
Biological Resources Report

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION

THE WELL COMMUNITY CHURCH NEW CHURCH CAMPUS PROJECT



DECEMBER 2020



BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION

NEW CHURCH CAMPUS PROJECT, FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Biological Resource Evaluation (BRE) report provides the results of a biological survey conducted by Quad Knopf, Inc. (QK) for the New Church Campus Project (Project). In order to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the requirement of the approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by the City of Clovis, a biological evaluation was conducted to identify the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur on or near the Project.

The Project is on approximately 20.0 acres of a 52.86-acre property in the City of Clovis, Fresno County, California. The Project is bounded by residential development to the north, south, and east, and a sports field complex for Buchanan High School to the west. The Project includes construction of Phase I and II of a new church campus including three new free-standing structures totaling approximately 80,000 square feet and associated landscaping, utility and pedestrian infrastructure, sports fields and courts, and a 515-stall parking lot.

Initial construction activities would include the removal of vegetation, crops, and trees, grading activities, and minor excavations for the installation of utility infrastructure, including undergrounding the canal that bisects the eastern portion of the site for conveyance of water, sewer, stormwater, and irrigation. No existing site structures are planned for demolition, however, approximately 14 acres of peach tree crop will be removed. Continued operation of the Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility on the northern half of the Project, while on the same overall site, would not necessarily be part of the entitlements for the proposed church, as those operations are considered existing.

A review of the literature and agency databases was conducted to obtain information on the occurrences of natural communities and special-status species known from the vicinity of the Project. QK conducted a biological reconnaissance survey on November 13, 2020, to determine the locations and extent of land use and natural vegetation communities, determine the potential for occurrences of special-status plant and wildlife species, and to verify the presence of wetlands and waters. No special-status species or diagnostic sign of special-status species was observed.

Based on the literature and database searches, there is some potential for four special status species to occur on the site, the San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), and burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*). The site is highly disturbed and contains no habitat that would support special-status plant or wildlife species. Also, there were no special-status species present on the Project site. Eight inactive nests were present within the BSA, therefore, nesting migratory birds and raptors have some potential to occur on the Project. The Project will likely have no impact to special-status plant and wildlife species and limited impacts to migratory birds and raptors and Helm Colonial Ditch, and after implementation of the recommended BMPs and avoidance measures the project impacts are further reduced.

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

The Well Community Church (TWCC) is proposing to construct a new church campus in Clovis, Fresno County, California. The New Church Campus Project (Project) will provide more space for desired church activities and gatherings as well as serve as a community resource for the surrounding neighborhoods. To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and meet the requirement for approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by the City of Clovis, a biological evaluation was conducted to identify the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur on or near the Project. This Biological Resource Evaluation (BRE) provides the basic biological information requested by TWCC.

1.1 - Project Location

The proposed Project is in the City of Clovis, California. Phase I and II of the Project is on approximately 20.0 acres of a 52.86-acre property on the north side of E. Nees Avenue between Minnewawa Avenue and Clovis Avenue (Figures 1-1 and 1-2) on Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 560-051-10, 560-051-23, and 560-051-25. The Project is bounded by residential development, to the north, south, and east, and a sports field complex for Buchanan High School to the west. The Project is within the Clovis United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle, and within Sections 29 and 32, Township 12 South, Range 21 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

1.2 - Project Description

Phase I and II of the Project would incorporate existing site features such as the existing residential development which is acting as the current campus of TWCC and landscaped grounds at the northeast corner of Minnewawa and East Nees Avenues. Three new free-standing structures will be constructed that would total approximately 80,000 square feet. These include an auditorium/sanctuary, children's classrooms, and office building. The auditorium/sanctuary would be approximately 28,000 square feet, while the classroom and office building would each be approximately 26,000 square-feet. The Project would include associated landscaping, utility and pedestrian infrastructure, sports fields and courts of approximately 4.0-acres, and a 515-stall parking lot.

Initial construction activities would include the removal of existing vegetation including crops, and trees, grading activities, and there would be minor excavations for the installation of utility infrastructure including water conveyance, sewer, and stormwater containment. A canal that bisects the eastern portion of the site will be undergrounded. No existing site structures are planned for demolition, but approximately 14 acres of peach trees will be removed. The Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility that exists on the northern half of the Project site would not be removed, would continue to operate, and is not included as part of the Project.

Phase I and II of the proposed Project occupies approximately 20.0-acres of the site. Phase I includes the construction of the auditorium and sanctuary, children's classrooms, sports fields and courts, and parking. Phase II includes the construction of the office building. Future

phases, which would be installed on the remaining 32.86 acres of the site, are not yet funded and are not yet identified. Therefore, any areas not described or included under the current Phase I and II Project would be addressed by a separate CEQA analysis if and when a future project, as defined by CEQA, is proposed.

1.3 - Purpose, Goals, and Objectives for this Report

The primary focus of this report is to provide TWCC with an understanding of how the Project would comply with CEQA and comply the requirements needed for an approval of a CUP by the City of Clovis. This Biological Resource Evaluation (BRE) provides information about sensitive biological resources including sensitive natural communities, special-status plant and wildlife species, wildlife movement corridors and nursery sites, and wetlands and waters. Information on these topics were obtained by conducting a desktop review of existing databases and literature, then verifying and augmenting those findings by conducting an on-site biological survey.



SECTION 2 - METHODS

2.1 - Definition of Biological Study Area

The Biological Study Area (BSA) consists of the entire 52.86 acre Project site, which included the area of Phase I and Phase II, the peach orchards, Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility, and residential structures, as well as a 500-foot buffer surrounding the entire Project site (Figure 2-1).

2.2 - Literature Review and Database Analysis

The following sources were reviewed to obtain information on sensitive biological resources occurring in the Project vicinity:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CDFW 2020a),
- CDFW's Biogeographic Information and Observation System (CDFW 2020b),
- CDFW's Special Animals List (CDFW 2020c),
- CDFW's California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR) System (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988),
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (CNPS 2020),
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation system (USFWS 2020a),
- USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper (USFWS 2020b),
- USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (USFWS 2020c),
- USGS National Hydrography Dataset (USGS 2020),
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone maps (FEMA 2020),
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (NRCS 2020), and
- Current and historical aerial imagery (Google LLC 2020, Netroline 2020).

For each of these data sources, the search was focused on the Clovis USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle in which the Project is located, plus the surrounding eight quadrangles including Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North. For the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) query, a 10-mile search radius was also used to identify natural communities and special-status species records nearest to the Project.

The CNDDDB provides element-specific spatial information on documented occurrences of special-status species and sensitive natural communities. Some of the information available for review in the CNDDDB is still undergoing review by the CDFW; these records are identified as unprocessed data. The CNPS database provides similar information as the CNDDDB, but at a much lower spatial resolution. Much of the information from these databases is submitted opportunistically and is often focused on protected lands or on lands where various

developments have been proposed. Neither database represents data collected during comprehensive surveys for special-status resources in the region. As such, the absence of recorded occurrences in these databases at any specific location does not preclude the possibility that a special-status species could be present.

The CDFW Special Animals List and USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation system (IPac) provide no spatial data on wildlife occurrences and provide only lists of species that might potentially be present. Wildlife species designated as “Fully Protected” by California Fish and Game Code Sections 5050 (Fully Protected reptiles and amphibians), 3511 (Fully Protected birds), and 4700 (Fully Protected mammals) are also included on the final list of species that were evaluated.

A review of the National Wetlands Inventory (USFWS 2020b) was completed to identify whether wetlands had previously been documented on or adjacent to the Project site. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), which is operated by the USFWS, is a collection of wetland and riparian maps that depicts graphic representations of the type, size, and location of wetlands, deep water, and riparian habitats in the United States. In addition to the NWI, regional hydrologic information (NHD) was obtained from the USGS to evaluate the potential occurrence of blueline streams within the Project area.

Soils data were obtained from the Natural Resource Conservation District, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA 2020), climate information was obtained from Weather Underground, and land use information was obtained from available aerial imagery. Information about flood zones were obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security (FEMA 2020).

The results of the database inquiries (Appendix A) were subsequently reviewed to extract pertinent information on site conditions and evaluate the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur within or near the Project site. Only those resources with the potential to be present and affected by the Project were included and considered in this document. The potential presence of natural communities and special-status species was based on distributional ranges overlapping the Project site and the presence of habitat and/or primary constituent habitat elements.

2.3 - Reconnaissance-Level Field Surveys

A biological survey of the BSA was conducted on November 13, 2020, by QK Associate Environmental Scientist Julie Hausknecht and Assistant Environmental Scientist Sarah Yates. The survey consisted of walking meandering pedestrian transects spaced 50 to 100 feet apart throughout the Project site and a 500-foot buffer surrounding the site.

Tasks completed during the survey included determining and documenting current land use, developing an inventory of plant species, wildlife species and wildlife sign (e.g. scat, burrows, nests, feathers, tracks, etc.), characterizing vegetation associations and habitat conditions within the BSA, assessing the potential for federally- and State-listed and other special-status plant and wildlife species to occur on and near the Project, and assessing the potential for

migratory birds and raptors to nest on and near the Project. In addition, all historical wetland and water features documented by NWI and NHD were visit and verified and. All spatial data were recorded using Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Collector for ArcGIS software installed on an iPad. Site conditions were documented with representative photographs (Appendix B).

SECTION 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

This section identifies the regional and local environmental setting of the Project and describes existing baseline conditions. The environmental setting of the BSA was obtained from various sources of literature, databases, and aerial photographs. Site conditions were verified and updated during the site survey conducted by QK Environmental Scientists.

3.1 - Topography

The Project site occurs on relatively flat, level terrain at an approximate elevation of 380 feet above mean sea level. Most of the Project site has been previously disturbed by current and historical agriculture activities, residential, and commercial uses. Historical aerial imagery shows the land has been farmed and used for commercial activities for decades (Google LLC 2020).

3.2 - Climate

The climatic conditions of the region are typical of the southern San Joaquin Valley, consisting of a hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters, which is characteristic of a Mediterranean climate. Average maximum temperatures range from approximately 54.6°F in January to 98.3°F in July, with several days recorded above 100°F each summer (WRCC 2020). The average annual precipitation is 9.94 inches, with the most rain occurring from October through April. During the winter months, a dense fog often occurs after rain events.

3.3 - Land Use

The Project site is in the City of Clovis, California on the north side of East Nees Avenue between Minnewawa Avenue and Clovis Avenue.) The Project is bounded by residential development to the north and south. Rural residential areas lie to the east of the site and a sports field complex for Buchanan High School to the west (Figure 3-1). The project site is currently zoned R-A for single family residential, very low density.

3.4 - Soils

The BSA is underlain by seven soil types including Delhi loamy sand, Hanford course sandy loam, Hanford fine sandy loam, Hanford sandy loam, Ramona sandy loam, Tujunga loamy sand, and Visalia sandy loam (Table 3-1, Figure 3-2, NRCS 2020). Of these, only four soil types; Hanford fine sandy loam Hanford sandy loam, Tujunga loamy sand, and Visalia sandy loam occur on the Project site. Within Phase I and II, Tujunga loamy sand is the dominant soil type.



**Table 3-1
Soil Acreages On-Site and within the BSA**

Soil Type	Acreages		
	BSA	Project	Phase I and II
Delhi loamy sand	5.08	0.00	0.00
Hanford coarse sandy loam	1.02	0.00	0.00
Hanford fine sandy loam	5.00	1.27	1.02
Hanford sandy loam	24.65	11.25	4.19
Ramona sandy loam	0.72	0.00	0.00
Tujunga loamy sand	33.56	25.50	13.90
Visalia sandy loam	20.97	12.62	3.70

3.4.1 - DELHI SOIL SERIES

The Delhi series consists of very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils that formed in wind modified material weathered from granitic rock sources. Delhi soils are on floodplains, alluvial fans, and terraces. Slopes range from 0 to 15 percent. The mean annual precipitation is about 13 inches and the mean annual temperature is about 62°F. This soil is used for growing grapes, peaches, truck crops, alfalfa, and residential development. Typical vegetation consists of annual grasses and forbs and dominate native plants include buckwheat (*Eriogonum* spp.) and various shrub and tree species. This is a hydric soil (NRCS 2020).

3.4.2 - HANFORD SOIL SERIES

The Hanford series consists of very deep, well drained soils that formed in moderately coarse textured alluvium dominantly from granite. Hanford soils are on stream bottoms, floodplains and alluvial fans and have slopes of 0 to 15 percent. The mean annual precipitation is about 12 inches and the mean annual air temperature is about 63°F. These soils are widely distributed in the San Joaquin Valley and in the valleys of central and southern California and are used for growing a wide range of fruits, vegetables, and general farm crops. They are also used for urban development and dairies. Vegetation in uncultivated areas is mainly annual grasses and associated herbaceous plants. Besides Hanford fine sandy loam, the Hanford series does not consist of hydric soils (NRCS 2020).

3.4.3 - RAMONA SOIL SERIES

The Ramona series consists of nearly level to moderately steep, well-drained soils that formed in alluvium derived mostly from granitic and related rock sources. Ramona soils characteristics including texture, material and mineral composition, color, acidity, and structure vary widely between soil horizons. Ramona soils are found on terraces and fans at elevations of 250 to 3,500 feet. The mean annual precipitation is about 10 to 20 inches and the mean annual temperature is about 63°F. This soil is used mostly for production of grain, grain-hay, pasture, irrigated citrus, olives, truck crops, and deciduous fruits. Uncultivated areas have a cover of annual grasses, forbs, chamise or chaparral. This is not a hydric soil (NRCS 2020).

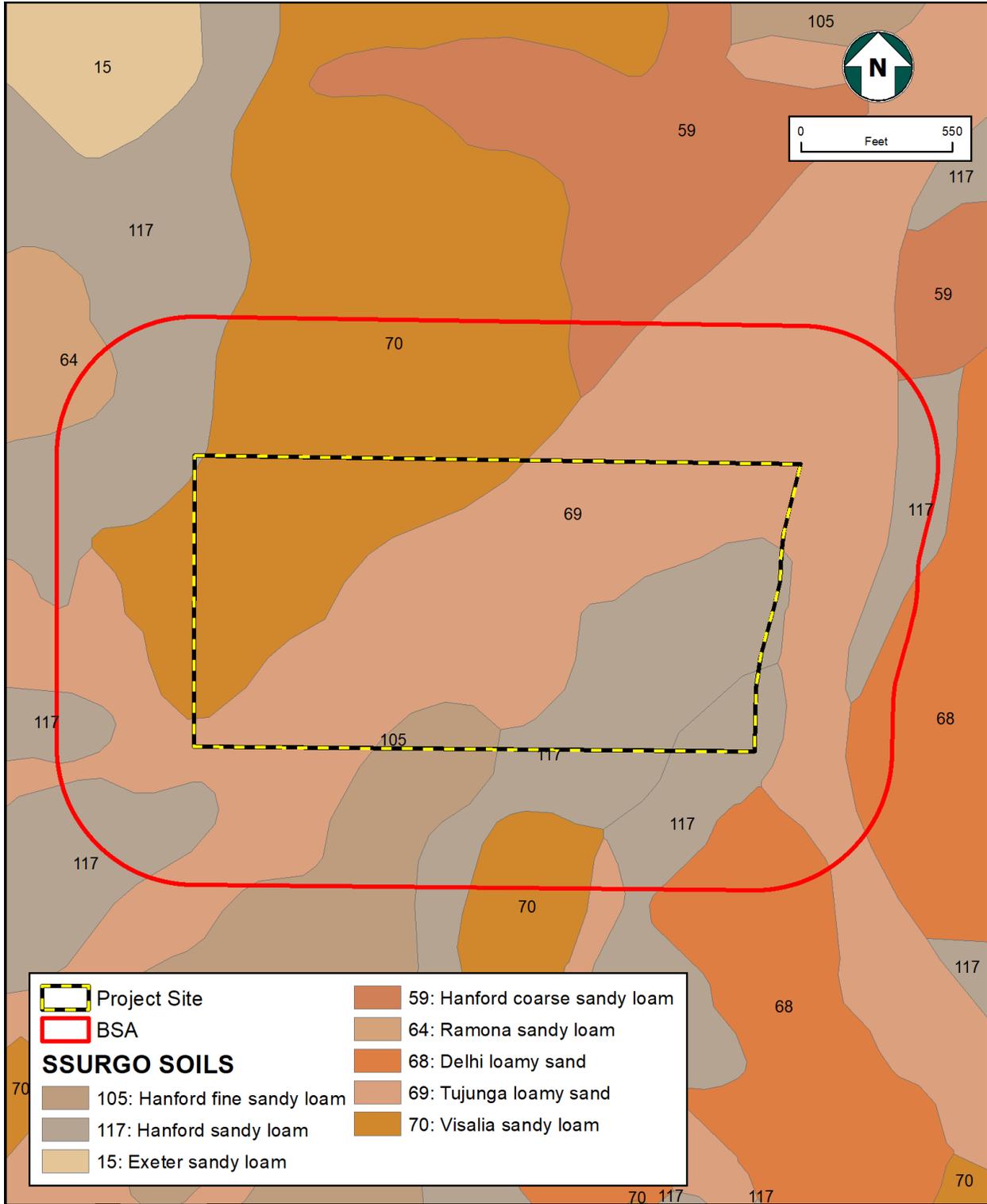


Figure 3-2
Soils Mapped within the BSA,
New Church Campus Project, Clovis, California

3.4.4 - TUJUNGA SOIL SERIES

The Tujunga series consists of very deep, somewhat excessively drained soils that formed in alluvium from granitic sources. Tujunga soils are on alluvial fans and floodplains, including urban areas. Slopes range from 0 to 12 percent. The mean annual precipitation is about 11 inches and the mean annual temperature is about 64°F. This soil is used for grazing, citrus, grapes, other fruits, and urban residential or commercial development. Uncultivated areas have a cover of shrubs, annual grasses, and forbs. In urban areas ornamentals and turf-grass are common. This is a hydric soil (NRCS 2020).

3.4.5 - VISALIA SOIL SERIES

The Visalia series consists of soils that lack definite structure that form from alluvial outwash from granitic materials in the hills and mountains to the east. Visalia soils occupy somewhat lower and flatter alluvial fans than the soils of the related Hanford series. The Visalia soils were included with the Foster and Hanford soils in the earlier soil definitions but they are now recognized as different from foster soils in that they are not calcareous and recognized as different from Hanford soils in their darker color, lower position, and less well-developed drainage. The soil is used, under irrigation, for a variety of crops including citrus fruits, grapes and deciduous fruits, alfalfa, truck crops, and field crops (Storie 1940). This is a hydric soil (NRCS 2020).

3.5 - Hydrology

The Project site is in the South Valley Floor Hydrologic Unit, within the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region (CDWR 2020). The Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region encompasses approximately 10.5 million acres and includes the drainage area south of the San Joaquin River within the San Joaquin Valley. The Kings, Kaweah, Tule, and Kern rivers, which drain the west face of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, provide the bulk of the surface water supply native to the basin. Imported surface waters enter the basin through the San Luis Canal/California Aqueduct System, the Friant-Kern Canal, and the Delta-Mendota Canal. Of these significant water features, the Kings River is the nearest to the Project, occurring as close as 13.75 miles east of the site. The Kings River flows west out of the mountains, southwest through the cities of Sanger and Kingsburg, and then south where it ultimately joins the Tule River.

One water feature named Helm Colonial Ditch occurs on the Project site (Figure 3-3). It flows through the eastern section of the Project and the Phase I and II site, running parallel to North Clovis Avenue, adjacent to peach orchards and a vacant lot, then branches off in the southern section of the BSA. The National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) identifies Helm Colonial Ditch as a canal and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) identifies it as R5UBFx, an unknown perennial riverine system with an unconsolidated bottom that is semi permanently flooded and that has been excavated by humans (USFWS 2020c). Two other water features, Dry Creek and an unnamed canal occur outside the Project in the eastern portion of the BSA. The NHD identifies the Dry Creek as intermittent stream and the NWI identifies it as R4SBC, an intermittent streambed riverine system that is seasonally flooded.

The NHD identifies the unnamed canal as an artificial path and the NWI identifies it as R5UBFx, an unknown perennial riverine system with an unconsolidated bottom that is semi permanently flooded and that has been excavated by humans (USFWS 2020c). The northwest corner of the BSA, including a small section of the northwest corner of the Project site occurs within the 0.2% annual flood zone as defined by the FEMA. On the eastern side of the BSA, outside of the Project, FEMA identifies Dry Creek as occurring within a 1% annual flood zone (Figure 3-4, FEMA 2020).

One other unnamed irrigation ditch, not identified by NWI or NHD, runs along the northwest boundary of the Project north of the peach orchard west of the Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packaging plant. This feature is manmade with no hydrologic connection to Phase I and II.

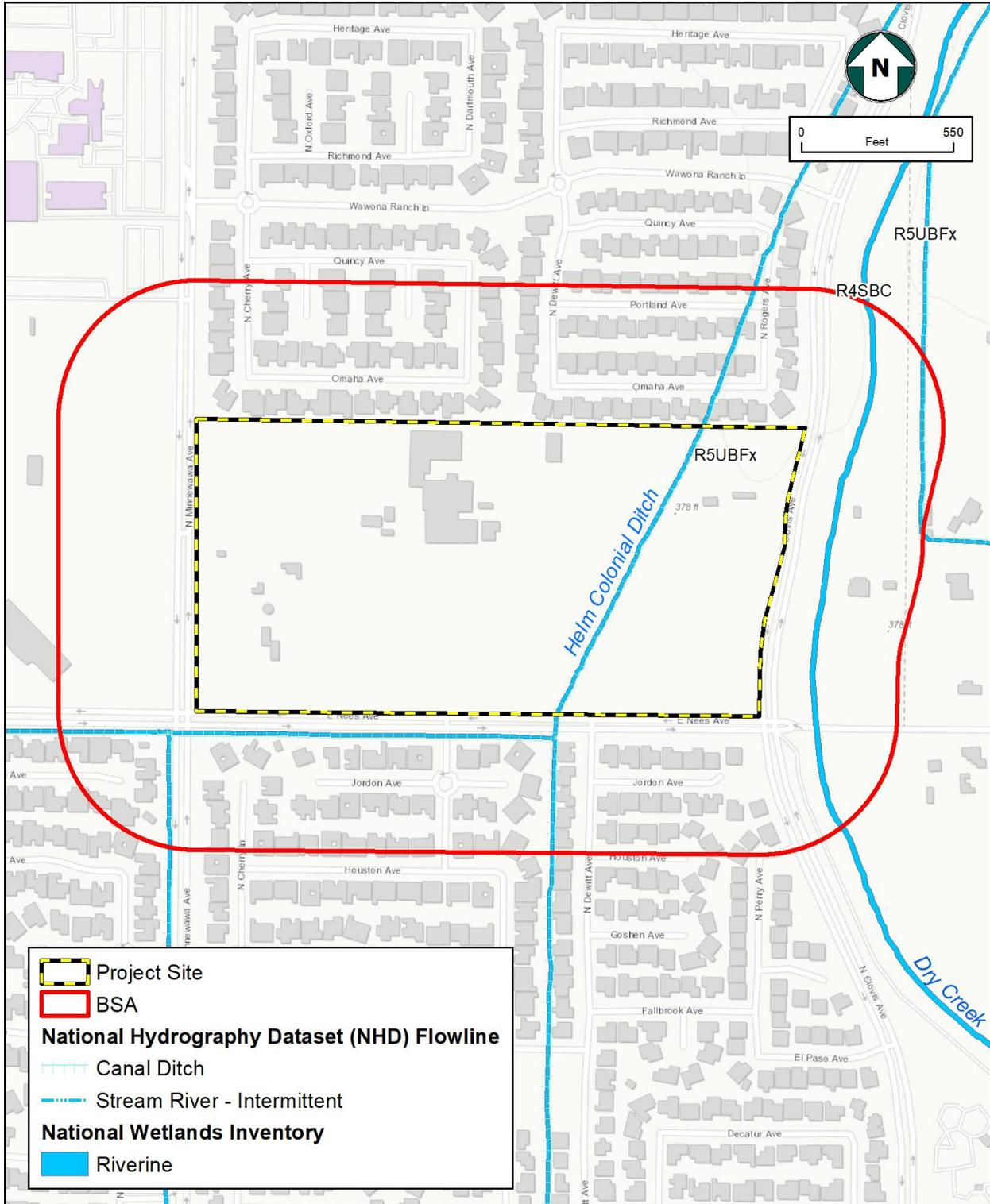


Figure 3-3
NWI and NHD Records of Aquatic Resources,
New Church Campus Project, Clovis, California

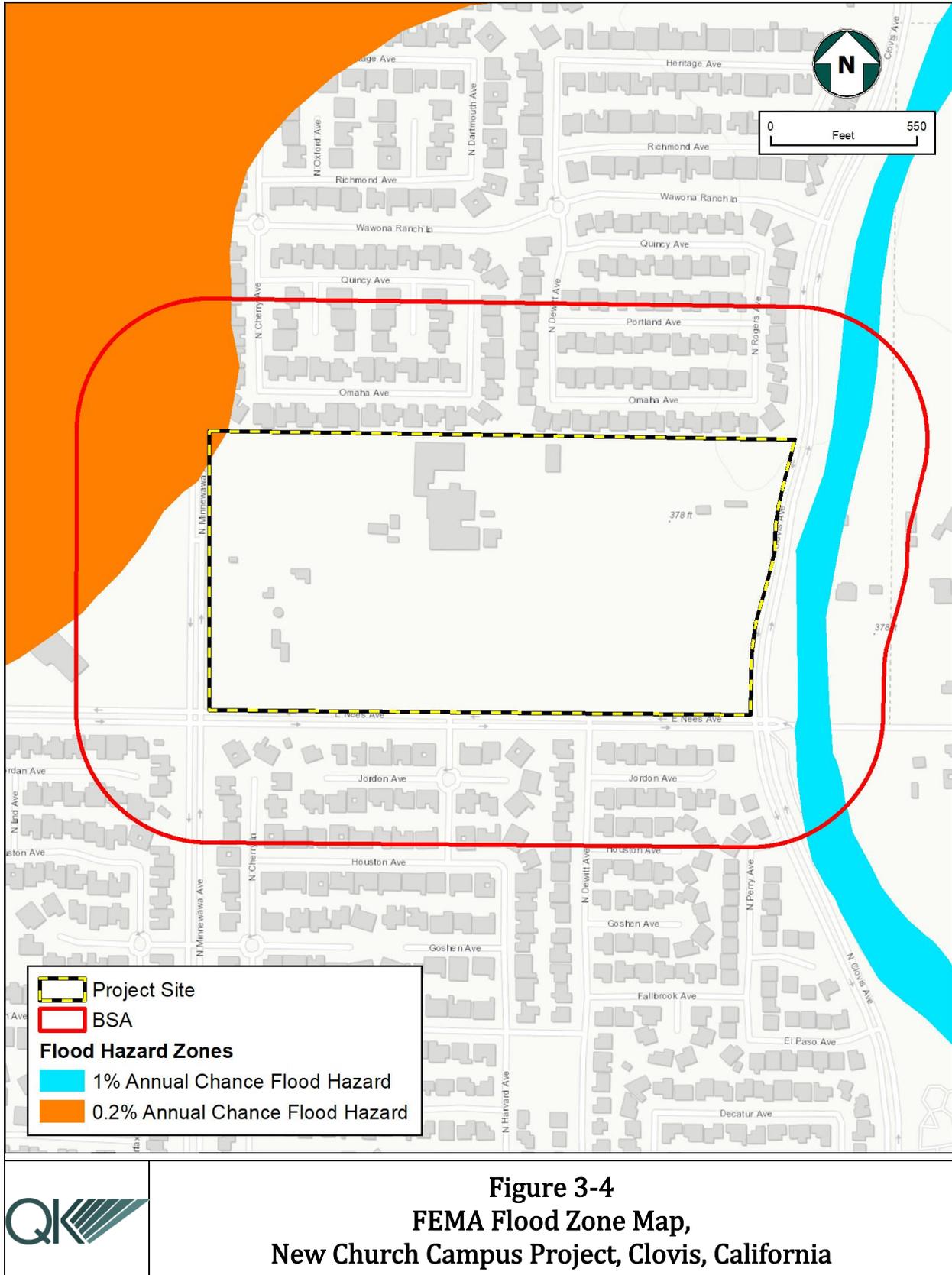


3.6 - General Biological Conditions

The Project site is surrounded by residential developments in the north, south, and east and a high school facility in the west. No natural plant communities occur in the area of the Project site. The site currently consists of maintained peach orchards, the Peach Tree Fruit Stand, a processing and packaging facility for Wawona Frozen Foods, three paved or gravel areas for parking, and a residence including tennis courts, merry-go-round, and a temporary stage area. The northwest corner of the site contains a cleared area with exposed soil.

The BSA contains agricultural and ornamental plants with some ruderal plant species scattered throughout the site. Small mammal burrows are present along the north bank of the irrigation ditch in the northwest corner of the site and some ground squirrel burrows are present scattered throughout the well-maintained orchards. No active migratory bird or raptor nests were documented onsite, but four mud nests were present on three older structures in the northern and western portions of the Project site. Two stick nests were present on the Project in a tree behind residential housing near the Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility. Two additional stick nests were present outside the Project site in the northwest corner of the BSA, one in a light fixture and another in large conifer near the sports complex. Only three of the mud nests were present within the Phase I and II site (see Figure 3-5). Two raptors, a red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and a northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), which is a California Species of Special Concern, were overflying the Project during the field survey (see Figure 3-5). A complete list of plant and wildlife species observed during the biological reconnaissance survey is included in Appendix C.

Helm Colonial Ditch bisects the eastern section of the Project and Phase I and II, and the unnamed irrigation ditch, runs along the northwest boundary of the Project (see Figure 3-5). Both are manmade features, and the unnamed irrigation ditch has no hydrologic connection to Phase I and II.





SECTION 4 - FINDINGS

4.1 - Sensitive Natural Communities

4.1.1 - RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW AND DATABASE SEARCHES

Four sensitive natural vegetation communities including the Northern Claypan Vernal Pool, Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool, Great Valley Mixed Riparian Forest, and Sycamore Alluvial Woodland are known to occur within 10-miles of the Project. The nearest occurrences of Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool and Northern Claypan Vernal Pool are 2.5-miles north and 3.5-miles west of the Project. The nearest occurrences of Great Valley Mixed Riparian Forest and Sycamore Alluvial Woodland are 5.4-miles northwest and 5.7-miles west of the Project.

4.1.2 - PRESENCE OF SENSITIVE NATURAL COMMUNITIES

There are no occurrences of any sensitive natural community at the Project site.

4.2 - Special-Status Plants

4.2.1 - RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW AND DATABASE SEARCHES

There were 16 special-status plant species identified in the literature and database review that are known or with potential to occur within the nine-quad search surrounding the Project (Table 4-1). None of these special-status plants are known to historically occur on the Project site. There are 14 special-status plant species with historical occurrence records within 10 miles of the Project site.

Table 4-1
Special-Status Plant Species Occurring in the Region
New Church Campus Project
 (Source: CNDDDB 2017, CNPS 2017, and USFWS 2017)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Calycadenia hooveri</i>	Hoover's calycadenia	1B.3
<i>Castilleja campestris</i> var. <i>succulenta</i>	succulent owl's-clover	FT, SE, 1B.2
<i>Downingia pusilla</i>	dwarf downingia	2B.2
<i>Eryngium spinosepalum</i>	spiny-sepaled button-celery	1B.2
<i>Imperata brevifolia</i>	California satintail	2B.1
<i>Lagophylla dichotoma</i>	forked hare-leaf	1B.1
<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i>	Madera leptosiphon	1B.2
<i>Navarretia myersii</i> ssp. <i>myersii</i>	pincushion navarretia	1B.1
<i>Orcuttia inaequalis</i>	San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass	FT, SE, 1B.1
<i>Orcuttia pilosa</i>	hairy Orcutt grass	FE, SE, 1B.1
<i>Pseudobahia bahiifolia</i>	Hartweg's golden sunburst	FE, SE, 1B.1
<i>Pseudobahia peirsonii</i>	San Joaquin adobe sunburst	FT, SE, 1B.1

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i>	Sanford's arrowhead	1B.2
<i>Tropidocarpum capparideum</i>	caper-fruited tropidocarpum	1B.1
<i>Tuctoria greenei</i>	Greene's tuctoria	FE, 1B.1

Sources:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2020. California Natural Diversity Data Base, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 2020. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (online edition, v6-05b 4-11-05). Rare Plant Scientific Advisory Committee. California Native Plant Society. Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Federal Endangered and Threatened Species that Occur in or may be Affected by Projects in the Clovis USGS 7 ½ Minute Quad. USFWS. Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

Abbreviations:

- 1B.1 California Native Plant Society List 1B Species-Plants Categorized as Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere; Seriously Endangered in California
- 1B.2 California Native Plant Society List 1B Species-Plants Categorized as Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere; Fairly Endangered in California.
- 1B.3 California Native Plant Society List 1B Species-Plants Categorized as Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere; Not Very Endangered in California
- 2B.1 California Native Plant Society List 2B Species-Plants Categorized as Endangered in California; Seriously Endangered
- 2B.2 Native Plant Society List 2B Species-Plants Categorized as Endangered in California; Fairly Endangered in California
- FE Federal Endangered Species
- FT Federal Threatened Species
- SE California Endangered Species

4.2.2 - PRESENCE OF SPECIAL-STATUS PLANTS

No special-status plant species were observed within the BSA. Although the field survey did not coincide with the optimum survey period for all sensitive plant species, there is no habitat present on the Project site or within the BSA that would support special status plant species. The Project site is very degraded from historical land uses, being mostly developed and with frequent disturbances from agriculture operations and urban landscaping maintenance. A complete list of plant species observed during the biological reconnaissance survey is included in Appendix C.

4.3 - Special-Status Wildlife

4.3.1 - RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW AND DATABASE SEARCHES

There were 40 special-status wildlife species identified in the literature and database review that are known or with potential to occur within the nine-quad search area surrounding the Project (Table 4-2). There were 30 special-status wildlife species documented within a 10-mile radius of the Project site. There are no historical records special-status wildlife species on or near the Project site.

Table 4-2
Special-Status Wildlife Species Occurring in the Region,
New Church Campus Project
 (Source: CNDDDB 2020, CNPS 2020, and USFWS 2020)

Scientific Name	Common name	Status
Invertebrates		
<i>Bombus crotchii</i>	Crotch bumble bee	CE, G3G4
<i>Desmocerus californicus</i>	valley elderberry longhorn beetle	FT, G3
<i>Efferia antiochi</i>	Antioch efferian robberfly	G1G2
<i>Gonidea angulata</i>	western ridged mussel	G3
<i>Lytta moesta</i>	moestan blister beetle	G2
<i>Lytta molesta</i>	molestan blister beetle	G2
<i>Metapogon hurdi</i>	Hurd's metapogon robberfly	G1G2
Crustaceans		
<i>Branchinecta conservatio</i>	Conservancy fairy shrimp	FE
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	vernal pool fairy shrimp	FT, G3
<i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i>	midvalley fairy shrimp	G2
<i>Lindieriella occidentalis</i>	California linderiella	G2G3
Fishes		
<i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i>	hardhead	SSC, G3
<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	delta smelt	FT, SE, G1
Amphibians		
<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	California tiger salamander	FT, ST, WL, G2G3
<i>Rana draytonii</i>	California red-legged frog	FT, SSC
<i>Spea hammondi</i>	western spadefoot	SSC, G3
Reptiles		
<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	northern California legless lizard	SSC, G3
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i>	California glossy snake	SSC, G5
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	western pond turtle	SSC, G3G4
<i>Gambelia sila</i>	blunt-nosed leopard lizard	FE, SE, FP, G1
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	coast horned lizard	SSC, G3G4
<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	giant gartersnake	FT, ST, G2
Birds		
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	ST, SSC, G2G3
<i>Ardea alba</i>	great egret	G5
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	burrowing owl	SSC, G4
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Swainson's hawk	ST, G5
<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	western yellow-billed cuckoo	FT, SE, G5
<i>Egretta thula</i>	snowy egret	G5
<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	California horned lark	WL, G5
<i>Nycticorax</i>	black-crowned night heron	G5
<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	double-crested cormorant	WL, G5
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	least Bell's vireo	FE, SE, G5

Scientific Name	Common name	Status
Mammals		
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	pallid bat	SSC, G5
<i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i>	Fresno kangaroo rat	FE, SE, G3
<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	spotted bat	SSC, G4
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	western mastiff bat	SSC, G5T4
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	hoary bat	G5
<i>Perognathus inornatus</i>	San Joaquin pocket mouse	G2G3
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	American badger	SSC, G5
<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i>	San Joaquin kit fox	FE, ST, G4

Sources:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2020. California Natural Diversity Data Base, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 2020. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (online edition, v6-05b 4-11-05). Rare Plant Scientific Advisory Committee. California Native Plant Society. Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2020. Federal Endangered and Threatened Species that Occur in or may be Affected by Projects in the Clovis USGS 7 ½ Minute Quad. USFWS. Sacramento, CA. Quads: Clovis, Lanes Bridge, Friant, Academy, Round Mountain, Sanger, Malaga, Fresno South, and Fresno North.

Abbreviations:

- FE Federal Endangered Species
- FT Federal Threatened Species
- SE California Endangered Species
- ST California Threatened Species
- SSC California Department of Fish and Game Species of Special Concern
- FP California Department of Fish and Wildlife Fully Protected Species
- WL California Department of Fish and Wildlife Watch List
- G1 Global Conservation Status: Critically Imperiled
- G2 Global Conservation Status: Imperiled
- G3 Global Conservation Status: Vulnerable
- G4 Global Conservation Status: Apparently Secure
- G5 Global Conservation Status: Secure

4.3.2 - PRESENCE OF SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE

No special-status wildlife species or their sign were observed within the BSA. Most of the Project site is highly disturbed and contains no habitat that would support most of the special-status wildlife species listed in Table 4-2. A complete list of wildlife species observed during the biological reconnaissance survey is included in Appendix C.

There are no vernal pools or wetlands that would support aquatic species such as the crustaceans, western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), giant gartersnake (*Thamnophis gigas*), western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), and California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) and no bodies of water suitable for the hardhead (*Mylopharodon conocephalus*) or delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*) occur within the BSA. There are no grasslands or native shrub habitat that would support California glossy snake (*Arizona elegans occidentalis*), northern California legless lizard (*Anniella pulchra*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), and blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia sila*). No wetland or riparian habitat exists on-site that would support nesting or foraging of the tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) or least Bell’s vireo

(*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and no woodland habitat exists that would support the western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). There are no rocky outcroppings, mines or caves, cliff faces, tree hollows, or bridges on the Project site that would support the pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), or spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum*).

The San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) is unlikely to occur on any portion of the Project site. The nearest recorded CNDDDB occurrence for this species was from the early 1990s and is approximately 8.7-miles north of the Project near Friant. The Project site is primarily urban and agriculture development with repeated disking, residential landscaping operations, and nearby road traffic. No San Joaquin kit fox or diagnostic sign (e.g. tracks, dens, scat, prey remains) was found during the field survey. Although adequate prey species are present within the BSA, land use and habitat conditions make it unlikely that the San Joaquin kit fox would be present, even as transient foragers. Likewise, the American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), which has similar habitat requirements, is unlikely to occur within the BSA. Proposed Project activities would have no effect on these species.

The Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) is unlikely to occur at the Project. The most recent CNDDDB record of occurrence in the region was from 2017 west of State Route 41, over 10-miles northwest of the Project. Although there is limited foraging habit on-site, there were no potential Swainson's hawk nests observed on the site, there were few trees or utility poles of a size that would support nesting Swainson's hawks, and the disturbances and human activity in the area limit the potential for Swainson's hawks to use the site as a breeding area. Several California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*) and other small mammal burrow complexes were present, indicating that there is prey for Swainson's hawks, so there is some potential for the Swainson's hawk to be present from time to time as transient foragers. It is unlikely this species would nest within the orchards or residential property occurring on the BSA.

The burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) is unlikely to occur at the Project. The closest recorded CNDDDB occurrence in the region was from 1990 near the Fresno Yosemite International Airport, approximately 4.7-miles southwest of the Project. Because burrowing owls use existing burrows excavated by small mammals including California ground squirrels, there is a potential for burrowing owls to inhabit the site. With an existing orchard, foraging habit also occurs on-site, but no burrowing owl or sign was present. Because of the high level of disturbance occurring within the BSA, it is unlikely this species would be present.

4.4 - Nesting Migratory Birds and Raptors

4.4.1 - PRESENCE OF NESTING BIRDS AND RAPTORS

No active migratory bird or raptor nests were present onsite, but the survey was not conducted during a period when nests would be active. There were six inactive nests within the Project consisting of four mud nests and two stick nests (see figure 3-5). The four mud nests were present on three older structures in the northern and western portions of the

Project site. Two stick nests were present in a tree behind residential housing near the Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility. Two additional stick nests were present outside the Project in the northwest corner of the BSA, one in a light fixture and another in large conifer near the sports complex (see Figure 3-5). A few larger trees in the southwest corner of the site and several utility poles throughout the site are adequate as nesting sites but no nests were present on these features.

A red-tailed hawk was perching on a utility pole near a vacant lot on the eastern portion of the site, then later observed overflying the site. A northern harrier, which is a California Species of Special Concern, was overflying the northwestern portion of Project site (see Figure 3-5) numerous times. Many of the trees on-site are small peach trees that are not suitable for nesting and are frequently disturbed. The southwest corner of the site is rich in tree diversity and could support nesting raptors and migratory birds. There are several large conifers and light fixtures within the BSA, west of the Project in the sports field complex and large trees east of the site that could provide suitable nesting habitat. Ground nesting species including mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), orange-crowned warbler (*Leiothlypis celata*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*), and dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*) were present during the field survey, but no ground nests were found. There is ground nesting habitat within the BSA, but most of those areas are routinely disturbed.

4.5 - Critical Habitat, Movement Corridors, and Linkages

4.5.1 - RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW AND DATABASE SEARCHES

No designated Critical Habitat occurs on the Project site. The nearest USFWS-designated Critical Habitat Unit is for succulent (fleshy) owl's clover (*Castilleja campestris* ssp. *succulenta*), located approximately 3.3 miles to the east of the Project (Figure 4-1).

4.5.2 - PRESENCE OF MOVEMENT CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES

There are no important movement corridors or linkages that intersect the Project site. There are designated movement corridors approximately 4.0 miles to the west and east of the Project (Figure 4-2). The Project is situated within an urban area and there are no substantial movements of wildlife onto or off the Project site.

4.6 - Wetlands and Waters

4.6.1 - RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW AND DATABASE SEARCHES

No wetland features are known to exist at the Project site (see Figures 3-3). The NHD and NWI identified one water feature, the Helm Colonial Ditch, which is described as an unknown perennial riverine system that bisects the eastern section of the Project. Two other water features, Dry Creek and an unnamed canal occur outside the Project in the eastern BSA.

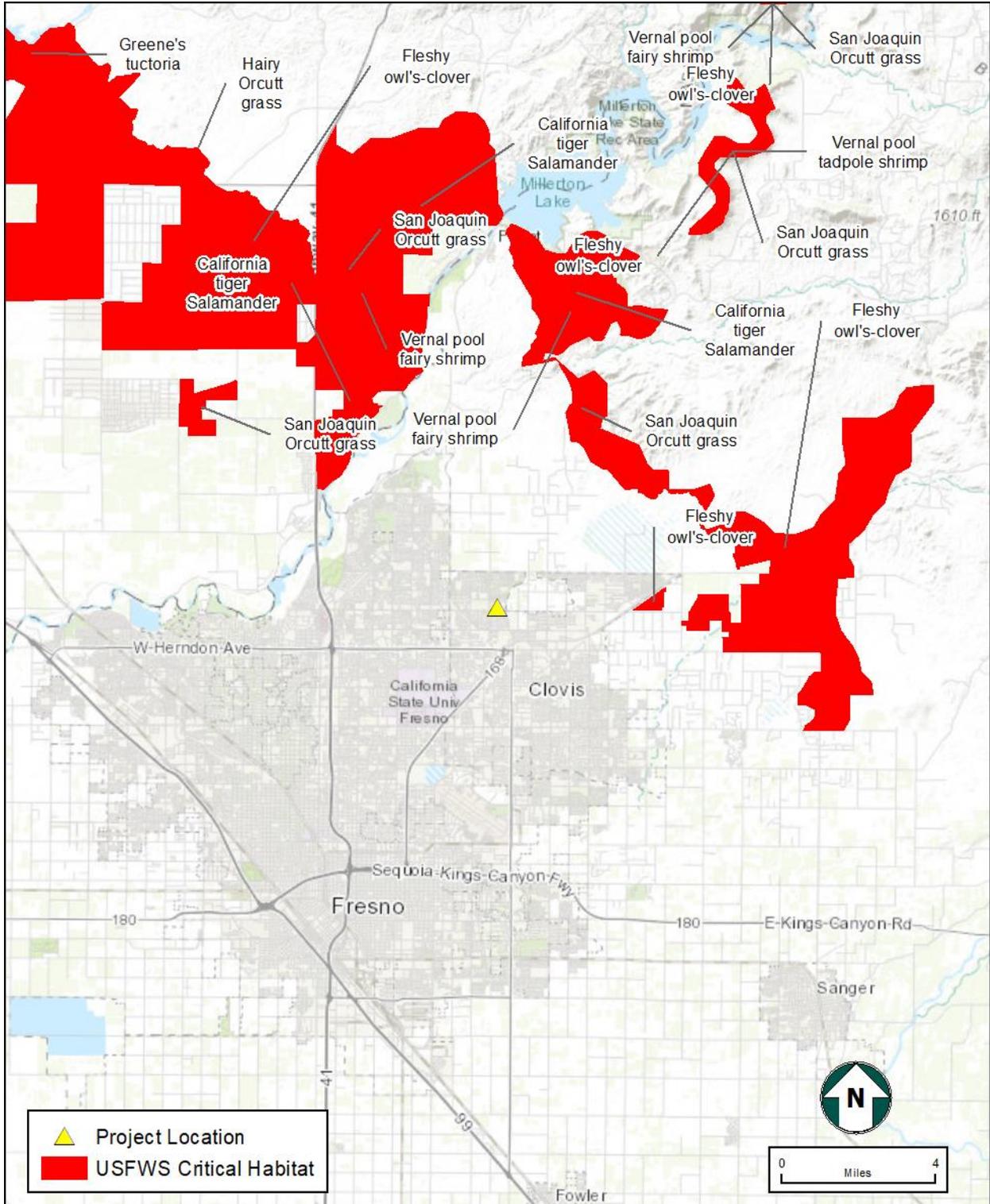


Figure 4-1
Mapped Critical Habitat in the Project Vicinity,
New Church Campus Project, Clovis, California



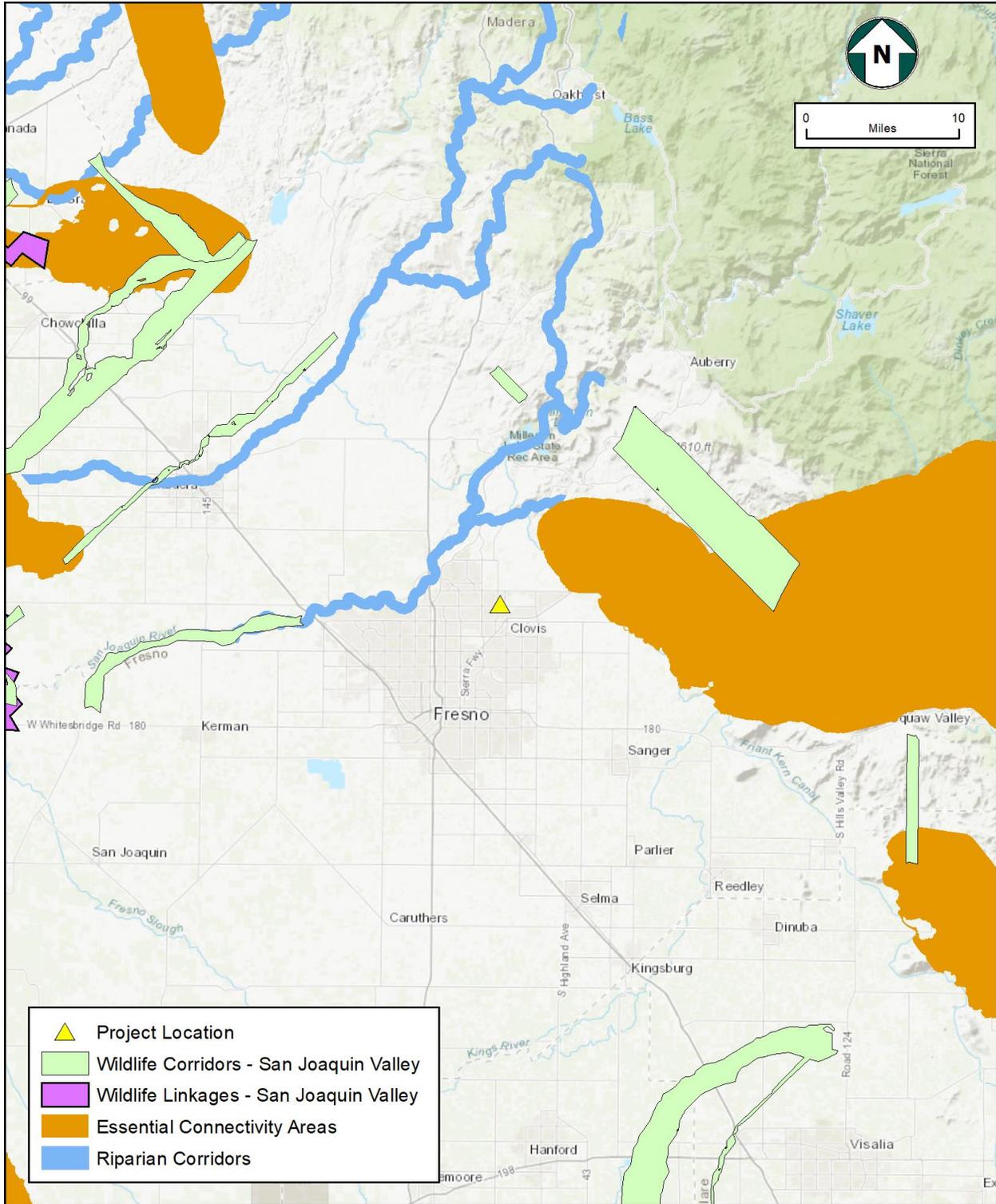


Figure 4-2
Movement Corridors and Linkages,
New Church Campus Project, Clovis, California



4.6.2 - PRESENCE OF WETLANDS AND OTHER WATERS

All water features on the Project identified by the NWI and NHD database search were visited during the survey. No wetland features were present on the Project site. There were two irrigation ditches, the Helm Colonial Ditch that exists on the eastern section of the Project as well as on Phases I and II and an unnamed irrigation ditch, not identified by NWI or NHD located in the northwest corner of the Project (see Figure 4-3). The unnamed irrigation ditch was dry. Portions of the Helm Colonial Ditch that occurs within the Project site were dry and some portions were wet. Those portions that were wet were within the southern part of the Project and contained some areas of common smartweed (*Persicaria hydropiper*), field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), fringed willowherb (*Epilobium ciliatum*), and sprangletop (*Leptochloa fusca*).

Two water features were present outside the Project within the eastern BSA, an intermittent stream, Dry Creek, and an unnamed canal (see Figure 4-3).



SECTION 5 - POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPACTS

The purpose of this section is to present an evaluation of the potential for Project-related impacts to sensitive biological resources to occur resulting from Project construction activities. Although the potential for impacts of the project are anticipated to be minor because the Project will be mostly constructed on an existing peach orchard, vacant lot, and maintained residential property, there are some risks of Project impacts. These are discussed below.

5.1 - Potential Impacts to Sensitive Vegetation Communities and Special-Status Plant Species

No sensitive vegetation communities or special-status plant species occur on-site. The Project would not impact sensitive natural communities or special-status plant species.

5.2 - Potential Impacts to Special-Status Wildlife Species

Some special status wildlife species could be present at the Project from time to time, but the available habitat only marginally fulfills the requirements of the San Joaquin kit fox, Swainson's hawk, American badger, and western burrowing owl. The potential for these species to occur on the Project site, even as transients, is very unlikely. The kit fox and badger are both unlikely to occur on or near the Project and Project activities would have no effect on these two species. The Project will result in the removal of agricultural peach trees, but the loss of these trees will not represent a loss in nesting habitat for Swainson's hawk. Although some trees and structures within the BSA could support nests, the urban setting and lack of local occurrences makes the presence of the Swainson's hawk very unlikely. No potential nests of the Swainson's hawk were present on the Project site or within the BSA. Some ground squirrel burrows scattered within the orchards could provide suitable nesting habitat for burrowing owls but with the high level of agricultural activity and the lack of local occurrences makes the presence of the burrowing owl unlikely. No special-status wildlife species or diagnostic signs of special-status wildlife species were present on the Project site, and the disturbed condition of the site would tend to preclude those species from occurring. Therefore, the Project is anticipated to have no impacts to special-status wildlife species.

5.3 - Potential Impacts to Nesting Birds and Raptors

No active bird nests were observed on the Project site, but the survey was not conducted during a period when nests would be active. There were several migratory bird and raptor nests present on and near the site, and there is a potential for these nests become active during the bird breeding season (February 15 through September 15) and for other nests to be constructed. There is potential for Project activities to result in the loss of active migratory bird and raptor nests, and to cause nest abandonment and interference with breeding bird behaviors including foraging, feeding, and rearing behaviors. These impacts would be limited to the areas of the Project site that support nesting and foraging habitat. Bird nests established within existing peach trees, ornamental trees in the southwest corner, and

manmade features including residential and storage structures, Wawona Frozen Foods processing and packing facility, utility poles, and light fixtures.

5.4 - Potential Impacts to Movement Corridors and Linkages

Project activities would not impact any movement corridors or wildlife linkages.

5.5 - Potential Impacts to Wetlands and Waters

No wetland features exist on or near the Project and there would be no impacts to wetland resources. The Helm Colonial Ditch bisects the eastern section of the Project site. That ditch will be undergrounded prior to the start of construction activities. Construction activities will not cause impacts to the unnamed irrigation ditch that occurs in the northwest corner of the Project outside of Phase I and II or to Dry Creek and the unnamed canal outside of the Project in the eastern section of the BSA.

SECTION 6 - RECOMMENDATIONS

Phase I and Phase II of the Project is anticipated to have no impacts to sensitive natural communities, special-status plants, special-status wildlife, wetlands, critical habitat, or migratory corridors. Although no impacts to special-status species are expected, Best Management Practices (BMPs) are recommended. There is a potential for the project to impact migratory birds and raptors, and to impact waters. Additional BMPs including a pre-construction survey is recommended prior to construction of any future phases beyond Phase I and Phase II.

6.1 - Recommended Best Management Practices for the Protection of Special-Status Wildlife Species

To protect the special-status wildlife species, we recommend these BMPs:

- A pre-construction survey of the project footprint and a 500-foot buffer surrounding the Project footprint should be conducted. The survey should occur no less than 14 days prior to the start of construction activities, and no more than 30 days prior to the start of construction activities. If construction is delayed beyond 30 days from the time of the survey, then another survey would need to be conducted. The survey should be conducted by a biologist with adequate training and prior experience conducting surveys for special-status wildlife species;
- A worker Environmental Awareness Training Program should be prepared and presented to all workers that will be on-site during construction activities;
- Project-related vehicles should observe a 20 mph speed limit in all project areas, except on county roads and state and federal highways; this is particularly important at night when wildlife is most active. To the extent possible, nighttime construction should be minimized. Off-road traffic outside of designated project areas should be prohibited;
- To prevent inadvertent entrapment of wildlife while work is being conducted, the contractor should cover all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep at the close of each working day with plywood or similar materials, or provide one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, the contractor should thoroughly inspect them for trapped animals;
- Some wildlife species such as kit foxes and burrowing owls are attracted to den-like structures such as pipes and may enter stored pipe becoming trapped or injured. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of 4 inches or greater that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods should be thoroughly inspected for wildlife before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in anyway. If a kit fox, burrowing owl, or other animal is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe should not be moved until the USFWS has been consulted. If necessary, and under the direct supervision of the biologist, the pipe may be moved once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the animal has escaped;

- All trash and food items should be discarded into closed containers and properly disposed at the end of each workday;
- To prevent harassment, mortality of wildlife, or destruction of dens by dogs or cats, no pets should be permitted on project sites; and
- A qualified biological monitor should be on-site during vegetation removal within the Project footprint.

6.2 - Recommendations for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Raptors

To protect nesting migratory birds and raptors, it is recommended that:

- If Project activities are scheduled during the nesting bird season, from February 1st through September 15th, then a pre-construction survey for nesting birds should be conducted within the project footprint and within 500-feet from the outside boundaries of the Project footprint. Construction activities should not be conducted within 250 feet of an active bird nest or within 500 feet of an active raptor nest. That avoidance distance could be reduced if a biological monitor determines that activities are not affecting the breeding success of the nesting birds.

6.3 - Recommendations for the Protection of Wetlands and Other Waters

To minimize impacts to Helm Colonial Ditch, a wetland delineation should be conducted prior to undergrounding and the start of construction. Based on the delineation findings, coordination with the appropriate agencies should be conducted.

SECTION 7 - SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Based on the literature and database searches, there is some potential for four special-status species to occur on the site, the San Joaquin kit fox, American badger, Swainson's hawk, and burrowing owl. There were no special-status species present on the Project, and the site is highly disturbed and contains no habitat that would support special-status plant or wildlife species. Eight inactive nests were present in the BSA, six of those on the Project and three of those on Phase I and II, therefore, nesting migratory birds and raptors have some potential to occur on the Project. An evaluation of presence and potential impacts to these species indicates that the Project will likely have no impact to special-status plant and wildlife species and limited impacts to migratory birds and raptors and Helm Colonial Ditch, and after implementation of the recommended BMPs and avoidance measures the project impacts are further reduced.

This Biological Resource Evaluation report has been performed in accordance with professionally accepted biological investigation practices conducted at this time and in this geographic area. The findings and opinions conveyed in this report are based on findings derived from specified historical and literature sources and a biological survey of the Project site and surrounding area. The biological investigation was limited by the scope of work performed. The biological survey may not have been performed during blooming periods or periods of seasonal or daily wildlife activity that would provide positive identification if resources were present, and therefore the findings of this report might not be definitive. The biological survey was limited also by the environmental conditions present at the time of the survey. In addition, general biological (or protocol) surveys do not guarantee that the organisms are not present and would not be discovered in the future within the site. Mobile animal species could occupy the site on a transient basis or re-establish populations in the future. No other guarantees or warranties, expressed or implied, are provided.

SECTION 8 - REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

**SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES DATABASE SEARCH RESULTS FOR THE NEW CHURCH CAMPUS
PROJECT**



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad IS (Lanes Bridge (3611987) OR Friant (3611986) OR Academy (3611985) OR Round Mountain (3611975) OR Clovis (3611976) OR Sanger (3611965) OR Malaga (3611966) OR Fresno North (3611977) OR Fresno South (3611967))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<i>Ambystoma californiense</i> California tiger salamander	AAAAA01180	Threatened	Threatened	G2G3	S2S3	WL
<i>Anniella pulchra</i> Northern California legless lizard	ARACC01020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> pallid bat	AMACC10010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Ardea alba</i> great egret	ABNGA04040	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake	ARADB01017	None	None	G5T2	S2	SSC
<i>Athene cucularia</i> burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee	IIHYM24480	None	Candidate Endangered	G3G4	S1S2	
<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> vernal pool fairy shrimp	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
<i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i> midvalley fairy shrimp	ICBRA03150	None	None	G2	S2S3	
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
<i>Calycadenia hooveri</i> Hoover's calycadenia	PDAST1P040	None	None	G2	S2	1B.3
<i>Castilleja campestris var. succulenta</i> succulent owl's-clover	PDSCR0D3Z1	Threatened	Endangered	G4?T2T3	S2S3	1B.2
<i>Caulanthus californicus</i> California jewelflower	PDBRA31010	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> western yellow-billed cuckoo	ABNRB02022	Threatened	Endangered	G5T2T3	S1	
<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i> valley elderberry longhorn beetle	IICOL48011	Threatened	None	G3T2	S3	
<i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i> Fresno kangaroo rat	AMAFD03151	Endangered	Endangered	G3TH	SH	
<i>Downingia pusilla</i> dwarf downingia	PDCAM060C0	None	None	GU	S2	2B.2



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Efferia antiochi</i> Antioch efferian robberfly	IIDIP07010	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<i>Egretta thula</i> snowy egret	ABNGA06030	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Emys marmorata</i> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i> California homed lark	ABPAT02011	None	None	G5T4Q	S4	WL
<i>Eryngium spinosepalum</i> spiny-sepaled button-celery	PDAP10Z0Y0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<i>Euderma maculatum</i> spotted bat	AMACC07010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i> western mastiff bat	AMACD02011	None	None	G5T4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Gonidea angulata</i> western ridged mussel	IMBIV19010	None	None	G3	S1S2	
<i>Great Valley Mixed Riparian Forest</i> Great Valley Mixed Riparian Forest	CTT61420CA	None	None	G2	S2.2	
<i>Imperata brevifolia</i> California satintail	PMPOA3D020	None	None	G4	S3	2B.1
<i>Lagophylla dichotoma</i> forked hare-leaf	PDAST5J070	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> hoary bat	AMACC05030	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Leptosiphon serrulatus</i> Madera leptosiphon	PDPLM09130	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i> California linderiella	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<i>Lytta moesta</i> moestan blister beetle	IICOL4C020	None	None	G2	S2	
<i>Lytta molesta</i> molestan blister beetle	IICOL4C030	None	None	G2	S2	
<i>Metapogon hurdi</i> Hurd's metapogon robberfly	IIDIP08010	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i> hardhead	AFCJB25010	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Navarretia myersii ssp. myersii</i> pincushion navarretia	PDPLM0C0X1	None	None	G2T2	S2	1B.1
<i>Northern Claypan Vernal Pool</i> Northern Claypan Vernal Pool	CTT44120CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<i>Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool</i> Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool	CTT44110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	



Selected Elements by Scientific Name
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> black-crowned night heron	ABNGA11010	None	None	G5	S4	
<i>Orcuttia inaequalis</i> San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass	PMPOA4G060	Threatened	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Orcuttia pilosa</i> hairy Orcutt grass	PMPOA4G040	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Perognathus inornatus</i> San Joaquin pocket mouse	AMAFD01060	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i> double-crested cormorant	ABNFD01020	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i> coast homed lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Pseudobahia bahiifolia</i> Hartweg's golden sunburst	PDAST7P010	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Pseudobahia peirsonii</i> San Joaquin adobe sunburst	PDAST7P030	Threatened	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Sagittaria sanfordii</i> Sanford's arrowhead	PMALI040Q0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<i>Spea hammondii</i> western spadefoot	AAABF02020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Sycamore Alluvial Woodland</i> Sycamore Alluvial Woodland	CTT62100CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Tropidocarpum capparideum</i> caper-fruited tropidocarpum	PDBRA2R010	None	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Tuctoria greenei</i> Greene's tuctoria	PMPOA6N010	Endangered	Rare	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> least Bell's vireo	ABPBW01114	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S2	
<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> San Joaquin kit fox	AMAJA03041	Endangered	Threatened	G4T2	S2	

Record Count: 55



United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer To:

November 12, 2020

Consultation Code: 08ESMF00-2021-SLI-0332

Event Code: 08ESMF00-2021-E-00888

Project Name: The Well Community Church-New Campus

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Please follow the link below to see if your proposed project has the potential to affect other species or their habitats under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/protected_species/species_list/species_lists.html

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

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

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

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

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

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

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

This species list is provided by:

Sacramento Fish And Wildlife Office

Federal Building
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
(916) 414-6600

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 11 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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

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

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Fresno Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys nitratooides exilis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5150 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/37/office/11420.pdf	Endangered
San Joaquin Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2873	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> Population: Western U.S. DPS There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia silus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/625	Endangered
Giant Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis gigas</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4482	Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
California Red-legged Frog <i>Rana draytonii</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2891 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/205/office/11420.pdf	Threatened
California Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma californiense</i> Population: U.S.A. (Central CA DPS) There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2076	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Delta Smelt <i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/321	Threatened

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
Conservancy Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta conservatio</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8246	Endangered
Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Greene's Tuctoria <i>Tuctoria greenei</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1573	Endangered

Critical habitats

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

APPENDIX B

REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE NEW CHURCH CAMPUS PROJECT



Photograph 1: View of existing paved lot and Wawona Frozen Foods north of the residential development.
GPS Coordinates: 36.853965°N, -119.710903°W facing east.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 2: View of peach orchards and vacant lot with Helm Colonial Ditch bisecting the eastern portion of the Project. GPS Coordinates: 36.854517°N, -119.704823°W facing north.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 3: View of the dry unnamed irrigation ditch in the northwest corner of the Project.
GPS Coordinates: 36.854973°N, -119.710936°W facing east.
Photograph taken by Sarah Yates on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 4: View of the southern segment of Helm Colonial Ditch in Phase I and II, with ponding water present.
GPS Coordinates: 36.852160°N, -119.706348°W facing northeast.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 5: View of large trees near on the residential developed area in the southwest corner of the Project. GPS Coordinates: 36.852237°N, -119.710862°W facing northeast.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 6: View of temporary stage structure and trees near the residential development in the southwest corner of the Project. GPS Coordinates: 36.85225°N, -119.71044°W facing northwest.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 7: View of the main building for the Wawona Frozen Food processing and packaging facility.
GPS Coordinates: 35.85394°N, -119.70726°W facing northwest.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 8: View of structures on the Project west of the Wawona Frozen Foods facility.
GPS Coordinates: 36.854236°N, -119.708632°W facing southeast.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 9: View of migratory bird mud nest under storage building overhang west of Wawona Frozen Foods. GPS Coordinates: 36.854246°N, -119.708577°W facing south.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 10: View of migratory bird mud nest on residential structure in southwest corner of the Project. GPS Coordinates: 36.853409°N, -119.710191°W facing south.
Photograph taken by Sarah Yates on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 11: View of migratory bird mud nest on storage structure adjacent to the residential building.
GPS Coordinates: 36.853590°N, -119.709707°W facing northwest.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.



Photograph 12: View of two migratory nests in a tree west of the Wawona Frozen Food facility.
GPS Coordinates: 36.854291°N, -119.708628°W, facing west.
Photograph taken by Julie Hausknecht on November 13, 2020.

APPENDIX C

PLANT AND WILDLIFE SPECIES OBSERVED ON THE NEW CHURCH CAMPUS PROJECT

Table C - 1
Plant and Wildlife Species Observed on the Project Site
The New Church Campus Project

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
Plants		
<i>Acer negundo</i>	box elder	None
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese maple	None
<i>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</i>	ragweed	None
<i>Bromus catharticus</i>	rescue grass	None
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	bittercress	None
<i>Carex</i> sp.	sedge	None
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	deodar cedar	None
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda grass	None
<i>Datura wrightii</i>	Jimsonweed	None
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	fringed willowherb	None
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	field horsetail	None
<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Canada horseweed	None
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	red stemmed filaree	None
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	honey locust	None
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English ivy	None
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce	None
<i>Lagerstroemia</i> sp.	crepe myrtle	None
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	henbit deadnettle	None
<i>Leptochloa fusca</i>	sprangletop	None
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	glossy privet	None
<i>Malva parvifolia</i>	cheeseweed	None
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	chinaberry	None
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	None
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	royal paulownia	None
<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i>	common smartweed	None
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	date palm	None
<i>Phoradendron</i> sp.	mistletoe	None
<i>Photinia serratifolia</i>	Christmas berry	None
<i>Picea pungens</i>	blue spruce	None
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache	None
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	blue plumbago	None
<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Fremont's cottonwood	None
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	common purslane	None
<i>Prunus persica</i>	peach tree	None
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	live oak	None
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak	None
<i>Rosa banksiae</i>	Banks' rose	None
<i>Rosa</i> sp.	rose bushes	None
<i>Salix</i> sp.	willow	None

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Russian thistle	None
<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	redwood	None
<i>Solanum americanum</i>	American black nightshade	None
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	sow thistle	None
<i>Stellaria neglecta</i>	common chickweed	None
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	puncture vine	None
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm	None
<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Chinese date	None
Birds		
<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	California scrub jay	None
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	red-tailed hawk	None
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	turkey vulture	None
<i>Charadrius vociferous</i>	killdeer	None
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	northern harrier	SSC
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	northern flicker	None
<i>Columba livia</i>	rock pigeon	None
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	American crow	None
<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	dark-eyed junco	None
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	northern mockingbird	None
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	house sparrow	None
<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	white pelican	SSC
<i>Sayornis saya</i>	Say's phoebe	None
<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	yellow-rumped warbler	None
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	European starling	None
<i>Vermivora celata</i>	orange-crowned warbler	None
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	mourning dove	None
<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	white-crowned sparrow	None
Mammals		
<i>Canis latrans</i>	coyote*	None
<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	California ground squirrel*	None
<i>Sciurus niger</i>	fox squirrel	None
<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	pocket gopher*	None
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	fox*	None
Reptiles		
<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	side-blotched lizard	None

* Indicates that only sign (e.g., tracks, scat, burrows, dens, vocalizations) of the species was observed.