

**Biological Resources Assessment
Pine Tree RV Park Expansion Project
City of Big Bear Lake, San Bernardino County, California**

Prepared for:

Miller Family Trust
3582 Durham Circle
Oceanside, CA 92056
760.419.5507

Contact: Donald Miller, Owner's Representative

Prepared by:

FirstCarbon Solutions
250 Commerce, Suite 250
Irvine, CA 92602
714.508.4100

Contact: Kerri Tuttle, Project Director
Robert Carroll, Project Manager

Date: March 26, 2019

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Section 1: Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 - Project Site Location and History | 1 |
| 1.2 - Project Description | 1 |
| Section 2: Regulatory Framework..... | 7 |
| 2.1 - Federal | 7 |
| 2.2 - State..... | 8 |
| 2.3 - Local..... | 10 |
| Section 3: Methods | 13 |
| 3.1 - Literature Review..... | 13 |
| 3.2 - Field Survey | 14 |
| Section 4: Results..... | 17 |
| 4.1 - Environmental Setting | 17 |
| 4.2 - Vegetation Communities | 17 |
| 4.3 - Wildlife | 18 |
| 4.4 - Trees | 18 |
| Section 5: Sensitive Biological Resources..... | 23 |
| 5.1 - Special-Status Plant Communities..... | 23 |
| 5.2 - Special-Status Plant Species | 23 |
| 5.3 - Special-Status Wildlife Species | 24 |
| 5.4 - Nesting Birds..... | 25 |
| 5.5 - Wildlife Movement Corridors..... | 25 |
| 5.6 - Trees | 25 |
| 5.7 - Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands | 25 |
| 5.8 - Habitat Conservation Plan..... | 25 |
| Section 6: Impact Analysis and Recommendations | 27 |
| 6.1 - Special-Status Wildlife Species | 27 |
| 6.2 - Nesting Birds..... | 27 |
| 6.3 - Trees | 28 |
| Section 7: References | 29 |
| | |
| Appendix A: Database Searches | |
| Appendix B: Sensitive Species Tables | |
| B.1 - Special-Status Plant Species Table | |
| B.2 - Special-Status Wildlife Species Table | |
| Appendix C: Site Photographs | |

List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1: Regional Location Map.....3
Exhibit 2: Local Vicinity Map, Aerial Base5
Exhibit 3: Soils Map19
Exhibit 4: Biotic Habitats21

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

At the request of the Miller Family Trust, FirstCarbon Solutions (FCS) conducted a Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) for the proposed project site located within the City of Big Bear Lake, in San Bernardino County, California (Exhibit 1). The project proposes to develop a portion of the 2.24-acre site by adding 29 new Recreational Vehicle (RV) spaces to the 21 existing RV spaces.

Analysis of the biological resources associated with the project site began with a thorough review of relevant literature followed by a field review to determine potential impacts to special-status species or other sensitive biological resources. The purpose of this assessment is to describe on-site vegetation communities, identify potentially jurisdictional waters of the U.S., and assess the potential for occurrence of special-status plant and wildlife species within the project site.

The project site is located in the San Bernardino County Biotic Overlay Area for San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod (*Physaria kingie ssp. bernardina*), flying squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus californicus*), southern rubber boa (*Charina umbratica*), and bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). FCS also evaluated the potential for these species to occur with the proposed project site based on the habitat present.

1.1 - Project Site Location and History

The 2.24-acre project site is located at 42144 North Shore Drive near the northeast corner of Big Bear Lake. The project site is roughly rectangular in shape, and is located on North Shore Drive, with Lakeview Lane to the west and Big Bear Lake to the south (Exhibit 2). The project site is located within the Fawnskin United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles, Township 2 North, Range 1 East, Sections 8, 9, and 10. The project site is currently an active RV park with associated mobile residences.

1.2 - Project Description

The Miller Family Trust proposes to expand the Pine Tree RV Park, which currently contains 21 RV spaces, and proposes to add 29 new RV spaces to the existing facility.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



Source: Census 2000 Data, The CaSIL.

FIRSTCARBON
SOLUTIONS™

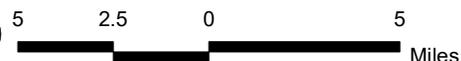
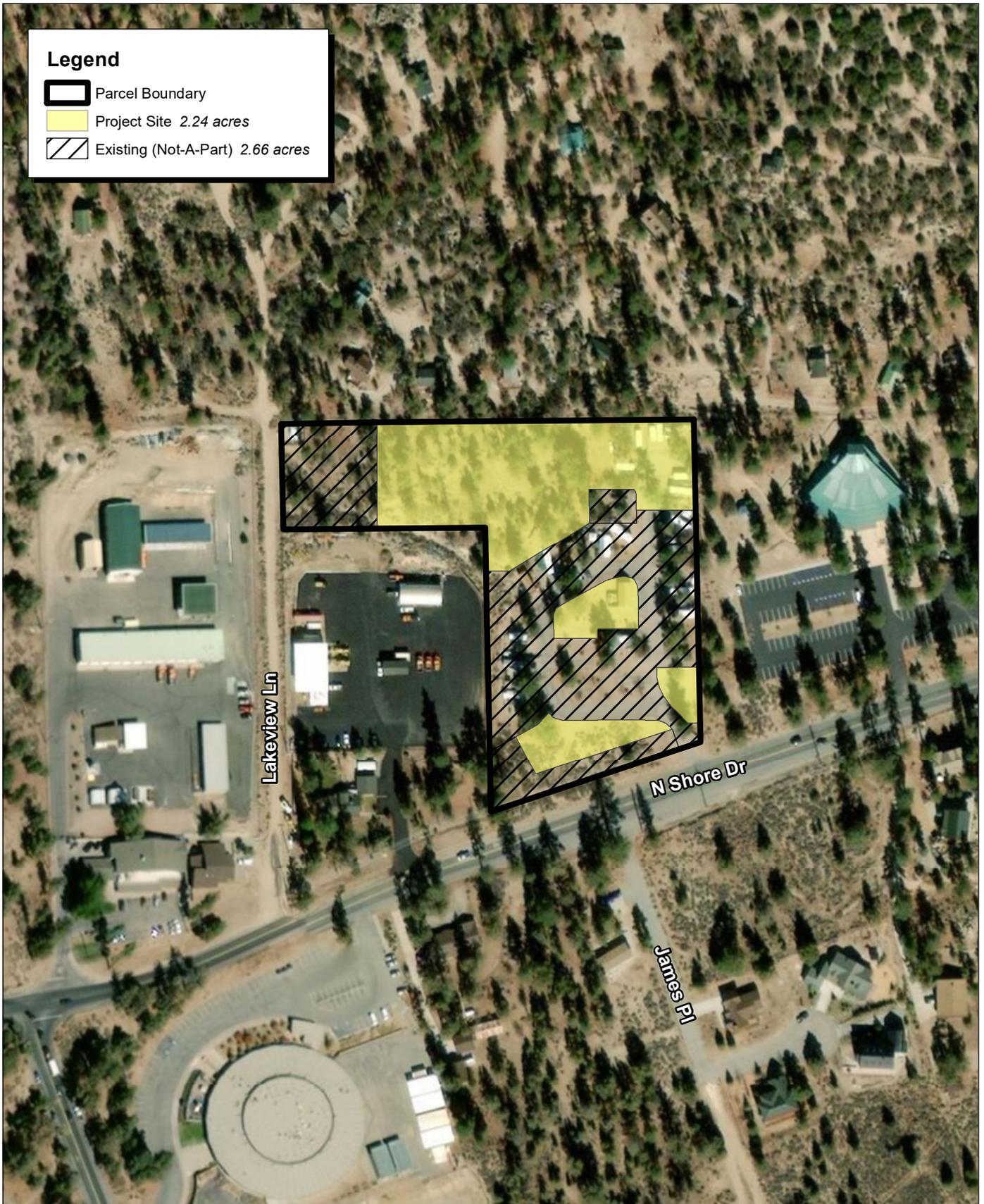


Exhibit 1 Regional Location Map

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

SECTION 2: REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

2.1 - Federal

2.1.1 - Federal Endangered Species Act

The United States (U.S.) Congress passed the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) in 1973 to protect those species that are endangered or threatened with extinction. FESA is intended to operate in conjunction with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to help protect the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend.

FESA prohibits the “take” of endangered or threatened wildlife species. “Take” is defined to include harassing, harming, pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife species or any attempt to engage in such conduct (FESA § 3 (19)). “Harm” is further defined to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns (50 CFR § 17.3). “Harass” is defined as actions that create the likelihood of injury to listed species to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavior patterns (50 CFR § 17.3). Actions that result in take can result in civil or criminal penalties.

FESA and the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 guidelines prohibit the issuance of wetland permits for projects that jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) when threatened or endangered species under their jurisdiction may be affected by a proposed project. In the context of the proposed project, FESA consultation would be initiated if development resulted in take of a threatened or endangered species or if issuance of a Section 404 permit or other federal agency action could result in take of an endangered species or adversely modify critical habitat of such a species.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Raptors (birds of prey), migratory birds, and other avian species are protected by a number of State and federal laws. The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the killing, possessing, or trading of migratory birds except in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.

Clean Water Act

The USACE regulates the discharge of dredge or fill material into waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the CWA. “Discharges of fill material” is defined as the addition of fill material into waters of the U.S., including, but not limited to, the following: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; fill for intake and outfall pipes and subaqueous utility lines (33 CFR § 328.2(f)) In addition, Section 401 of the CWA (33 USC 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct

any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the U.S. to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards.

Waters of the U.S. include a range of wet environments such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, and wet meadows. Boundaries between jurisdictional waters and uplands are determined in a variety of ways, depending on which type of waters is present. Methods for delineating wetlands and non-tidal waters are described below.

- Wetlands are defined as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” (33 CFR § 328.3(b)) Presently, to be a wetland, a site must exhibit three wetland criteria: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology existing under the “normal circumstances” for the site.
- The lateral extent of non-tidal waters is determined by delineating the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) (33 CFR § 328.4(c)(1)). The OHWM is defined by the USACE as “that line on shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical character of the soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas” (33 CFR § 328.3(e)).

2.2 - State

2.2.1 - California Endangered Species Act

The State of California enacted the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) in 1984. CESA is similar to FESA but pertains to State-listed endangered and threatened species. CESA requires State agencies to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (formally California Department of Fish and Game) when preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents. The purpose of CESA is to ensure that the lead agency actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat essential to the continued existence of those species, if there are reasonable and prudent alternatives available (FGC § 2080). CESA directs agencies to consult with CDFW on projects or actions that could affect listed species, directs CDFW to determine whether jeopardy would occur, and allows CDFW to identify “reasonable and prudent alternatives” to the project consistent with conserving the species. CESA allows CDFW to authorize exceptions to the State’s prohibition against take of a listed species if the take is incidental to carrying out an otherwise lawful project that has been approved under CEQA (FGC § 2081).

2.2.2 - California Fish and Game Code

The California Fish and Game Code (FGC) defines “take” as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill” (FGC § 86). Except for take related to scientific research, all take of fully protected species is prohibited. Fully protected fish species are protected under FGC Section 5515; fully protected amphibian and reptile species are protected under Section 5050; fully protected bird species are protected under Section 3511; and fully protected mammal

species are protected under Section 4700. FGC Section 3503 prohibits the killing of birds or the destruction of bird nests. Section 3503.5 prohibits the killing of raptor species and the destruction of raptor nests. FGC Sections 2062 and 2067 define “endangered and threatened species.”

2.2.3 - California Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern

In addition to formal listing under FESA and CESA, species receive additional consideration by CDFW and local lead agencies during the CEQA process. Species that may be considered for review are included on a list of “Species of Special Concern,” developed by the CDFW. It tracks species in California whose numbers, reproductive success, or habitats may be threatened. In addition to Species of Special Concern, the CDFW identifies animals that are tracked by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), but warrant no federal interest and no legal protection. These species are identified as “California Special Animals.”

2.2.4 - California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The RWQCB regulates actions that would involve “discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the water of the state” (Water Code § 13260(a)), pursuant to provisions of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act. “Waters of the State” are defined as “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state” (Water Code § 13050(e)).

2.2.5 - California Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern

In addition to formal listing under FESA and CESA, species receive additional consideration by CDFW and local lead agencies during the CEQA process. Species that may be considered for review are included on a list of “Species of Special Concern,” developed by the CDFW. It tracks species in California whose numbers, reproductive success, or habitat may be threatened. In addition to Species of Special Concern, the CDFW identifies animals that are tracked by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), but warrant no federal interest and no legal protection. These species are identified as California Special Animals.

2.2.6 - California Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern

In addition to formal listing under FESA and CESA, species receive additional consideration by CDFW and local lead agencies during the CEQA process. Species that may be considered for review are included on a list of “Species of Special Concern,” developed by the CDFW. It tracks species in California whose numbers, reproductive success, or habitats may be threatened. In addition to Species of Special Concern, the CDFW identifies animals that are tracked by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), but warrant no federal interest and no legal protection. These species are identified as “California Special Animals.”

2.2.7 - California Native Plant Society

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) reviews and ranks the rarity of California’s rare plants (CNPS 2018). This information is published in the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (CNPS 2019). The CNPS ranks are defined as follows:

- **Rank 1A:** Plants presumed extirpated/extinct in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere
- **Rank 1B:** Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
- **Rank 2A:** Plants presumed extirpated in California but common elsewhere
- **Rank 2B:** Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
- **Rank 3:** Review List: Plants about which more information is needed
- **Rank 4:** Watch List: Plants of limited distribution

Potential impacts to populations of CNPS-ranked plants receive consideration under CEQA. All plants listed as CNPS Rank 1 or 2 are considered to meet CEQA Guidelines Section 15380 criteria. While only some of the plants listed as CNPS Rank 3 and 4 meet the definitions of threatened or endangered species, potential impacts to these species or their habitats should be analyzed during the preparation of environmental documents relating to CEQA, as they may meet the definition of Rare or Endangered under CEQA Guidelines Section 15380 criteria.

2.3 - Local

2.3.1 - Habitat Conservation Plan

The project site is not subject to any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan and is therefore subject to regulation by local, State, and federal laws on a case-by-case basis. As there is no adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State Habitat Conservation Plan applicable to the project site, no impact would occur in this regard, and as such, no additional requirements of mitigation measures are recommended.

2.3.2 - Regional

The proposed project site is located within the Biotic Resources Overlay Zone of San Bernardino County. The Overlay Zone is established by Sections 82.01.020 (Land Use Plan and Land Use Zoning Districts) and 82.01.030 (Overlays), which implement the County's General Plan policies regarding protection and conservation of beneficial rare and endangered plants and animals and their associated habitats.

The general provisions of the City of Big Bear Lake Tree Ordinance (Chapter 17.10) are outlined below.

- The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all property, in every zone district, within the City of Big Bear Lake.
- This ordinance shall apply to all trees, which are a minimum of 12 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH), including both native and non-native trees.
- In cases where an interpretation of wording in this ordinance is required, the authority for interpretation shall be the Community Development Director, except that the Community
- Development Director's decision may be appealed to the Planning Commission and ultimately to the City Council in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Development Code.

- The removal of any tree 12 inches or greater DBH shall be subject to review and approval by the City through issuance of a discretionary land use approval or tree removal permit. Any removal of such tree without obtaining the required permit shall be a violation of this ordinance. Each tree removed shall be a separate violation.
- Intentional or negligent clearing of property which results in the death or decline of trees to the point that such trees must be removed, as determined by a California Registered Professional Forester or an arborist certified by the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, shall be a violation of this ordinance unless such clearing is done pursuant to an approved permit. Each tree, which is removed or damaged by intentional or negligent clearing to the point that it cannot survive such damage, as determined by a California Registered Professional Forester or an arborist certified by the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, shall be a separate violation of this ordinance.
- The attachment of any signs, notices, or fastening of any wires, cables, spikes, nails, screws, or similar objects to any tree shall be a violation of this ordinance. However, in no event shall this section mean to prohibit the hanging of decorative lights, birdhouses, bird feeders, and other similar devices on trees, which do not damage trees.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

SECTION 3: METHODS

3.1 - Literature Review

The literature review provides a baseline from which to evaluate the biological resources potentially occurring on the project site, as well as in the surrounding area.

3.1.1 - Existing Documentation

As part of the literature review, an FCS biologist examined existing environmental documentation for the project site and local vicinity. This documentation included biological studies for the area; literature pertaining to habitat requirements of special-status species potentially occurring in the project vicinity; and federal register listings, protocols, and species data provided by the USFWS and CDFW. These and other documents are listed in the references section of this report.

3.1.2 - Topographic Maps and Aerial Photographs

An FCS biologist reviewed current USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map(s) and aerial photographs as a preliminary analysis of the existing conditions within the project site and immediate vicinity. Information obtained from the review of the topographic maps included elevation range, general watershed information, and potential drainage feature locations (USGS 1986). Aerial photographs provide a perspective of the most current site conditions relative to on-site and off-site land use, plant community locations, and potential locations of wildlife movement corridors.

3.1.3 - Soil Surveys

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has published soil surveys that describe the soil series (i.e., group of soils with similar profiles) occurring within a particular area (USDA 1980). These profiles include major horizons with similar thickness, arrangement, and other important characteristics. These series are further subdivided into soil mapping units that provide specific information regarding soil characteristics. Many special-status plant species have a limited distribution based exclusively on soil type. Therefore, pertinent USDA soil survey maps were reviewed to determine the existing soil mapping units within the project site and to establish if soil conditions on-site are suitable for any special-status plant species (Soil Survey Staff 2015).

3.1.4 - Special-Status Species Database Search

An FCS biologist compiled a list of threatened, endangered, and otherwise special-status species previously recorded within the general project vicinity. The list was based on a search of the CDFW's CNDDDB (CDFW 2019), a special-status species and plant community account database, and the CNPS's Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California database (CNPS 2019) for the Fawnskin, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map.

The CNDDDB Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS 5; CDFW 2019) database was used to determine the distance between known recorded occurrences of special-status species and the project site.

3.1.5 - Trees

Prior to conducting the reconnaissance-level survey, an FCS's biologist reviewed applicable City and County ordinances pertaining to tree preservation and protective measures and their tree replacement conditions or permits required.

3.1.6 - Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

Prior to conducting the reconnaissance-level survey, an FCS's biologist reviewed USGS topographic maps and aerial photography to identify any potential natural drainage features and water bodies. In general, all surface drainage features identified as blue-line streams on USGS maps and linear patches of vegetation are expected to exhibit evidence of flows and considered potentially subject to state and federal regulatory authority as "waters of the United States and/or State." A preliminary assessment was conducted to determine the location of any existing drainages and limits of project-related grading activities, to aid in determining if a formal delineation of waters of the United States or State is necessary.

3.2 - Field Survey

FCS Biologist, Robert Carroll, conducted the reconnaissance-level field survey on March 19, 2019. The object of the survey was not to extensively search for every species occurring within the project site, but to ascertain general site conditions and identify potentially suitable habitat areas for various special-status plant and wildlife species. Special-status or unusual biological resources identified during the literature review were ground-truthed during the reconnaissance-level survey. Special attention was paid to sensitive habitats and areas potentially supporting special-status floral and faunal species.

3.2.1 - Vegetation

Common plant species observed during the reconnaissance-level survey were identified by visual characteristics and morphology in the field and recorded in a field notebook. Uncommon and less familiar plants were identified off-site with the use of taxonomical guides, such as Clarke et al. (2007), Hitchcock (1971), McAuley (1996), and Munz (1974). Taxonomic nomenclature used in this study follows Baldwin et al. (2012). Common plant names, when not available from Baldwin et al. (2012), were taken from other regionally specific references. Vegetation types and boundaries were noted on aerial photos and through field observation, and digitized using ESRI ArcGIS software® ArcMap 10.0. By incorporating collected field data and interpreting aerial photography, a map of habitat types, land cover types, and other biological resources within the project site was prepared. Habitat types were based on the classification system from the City of Big Bear Lake's General Plan Environmental Resources Element.

3.2.2 - Wildlife

Wildlife species detected during the reconnaissance-level survey by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other signs were recorded in a field notebook. Notations were made regarding suitable habitat for those special-status species determined to potentially occur within the project site. Appropriate field

guides were used to assist with species identification during surveys, such as Peterson (2010), Reid (2006), and Stebbins (2003).

3.2.3 - Wildlife Movement Corridors

Wildlife movement corridors link areas of suitable wildlife habitat that are otherwise separated by rugged terrain, changes in vegetation, or human disturbance. Urbanization and the resulting fragmentation of open space areas create isolated “islands” of wildlife habitat, forming separated populations. Corridors act as an effective link between populations.

The project site was evaluated for evidence of a wildlife movement corridor during the reconnaissance-level survey. However, the scope of the biological resources study did not include a formal wildlife movement corridor study utilizing track plates, camera stations, scent stations, or snares. Therefore, the focus of this study was to determine if the change of current land use of the project site may have significant impacts on the regional movement of wildlife. These conclusions are made based on the information compiled during the literature review, including aerial photographs, USGS topographic maps and resource maps for the vicinity, the field survey conducted, and professional knowledge of desired topography and resource requirements for wildlife potentially utilizing the project site and vicinity.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

SECTION 4: RESULTS

The reconnaissance-level field survey was conducted by FCS Biologist, Robert Carroll, on March 19, 2019, from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Weather conditions during the field survey were cloudy with a starting temperature of approximately 54° degrees Fahrenheit with occasional gusts of wind.

4.1 - Environmental Setting

The 2.24-acre project site is highly fragmented and disturbed. Approximately 25 percent of the project site is composed of impervious surfaces in the form of access roads, a parking lot/storage area, and RV berths. The entire perimeter of the site, with the exception of the entrance from North Shore Drive is surrounded by a 6-foot-tall chain link fence. The site contains numerous trees, shrubs, and areas of vegetation that are unmaintained and commonly found in disturbed settings. A drainage feature is also located on the western portion of the site, which the project will actively avoid through a setback. No special-status plant or wildlife species were observed during the March 19, 2019 site visit.

4.1.1 - Topography

The project site is mostly flat with the exception of the northwestern corner, which sits on a slight slope. The site becomes relatively flat toward the south and east.

4.1.2 - Soils

The entire project site is composed of Morical, very deep-Hecker families complex (Exhibit 3). The soils found on site are deep soils derived from alluvium and are comprised of gravelly loam, gravelly clay loam, and gravelly sandy loam. This soil type is well drained and commonly found in terrace toe and footslopes.

4.2 - Vegetation Communities

A search of the USFWS Critical Habitat Portal revealed that the project does not contain identified critical habitat for any federally listed species (USFWS 2011). The project will have no impacts on any USFWS designated Critical Habitat, and there are no designated refuges within the project boundaries.

4.2.1 - Montane Coniferous Forest 1.28 Acres

The northwestern portion of the project site is composed mostly of Jeffery pine (*Pinus jeffreyi*), interspersed with white fir (*Abies concolor*) and pinyon pine (*Pinus monophylla*) (Exhibit 4). The understory included areas of sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) and rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*). Downed logs and branches were also present throughout this area. This community is highly fragmented from its surrounding habitat; as noted in the introduction, a 6-foot-tall chain link fence surrounds the area. An active gravel parking lot/storage area is located directly to the east and the active RV Park is located to the south. Additionally, a circular gravel access road was observed within the center of this vegetative community.

4.2.2 - Developed 0.96 Acre

The remainder of the project site is considered developed land. Developed land is classified as areas that have been constructed upon or otherwise physically altered to an extent that native vegetation is no longer supported and retains no soil substrate. Developed land is characterized by permanent or semi-permanent structures, pavement or hardscape, and landscaped areas that often require irrigation. Vegetation observed within these areas included almost exclusively of tree species interspersed between RV berths, laundry and restroom facilities, and access roads. Tree species observed included western juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*), white fir, and manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.).

4.3 - Wildlife

The vegetation community and land cover types discussed above provide habitat for numerous local wildlife species. Wildlife activity was low during the field survey and consisted of primarily avian species. Species observed within the project site during the field survey included stellar jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*).

4.4 - Trees

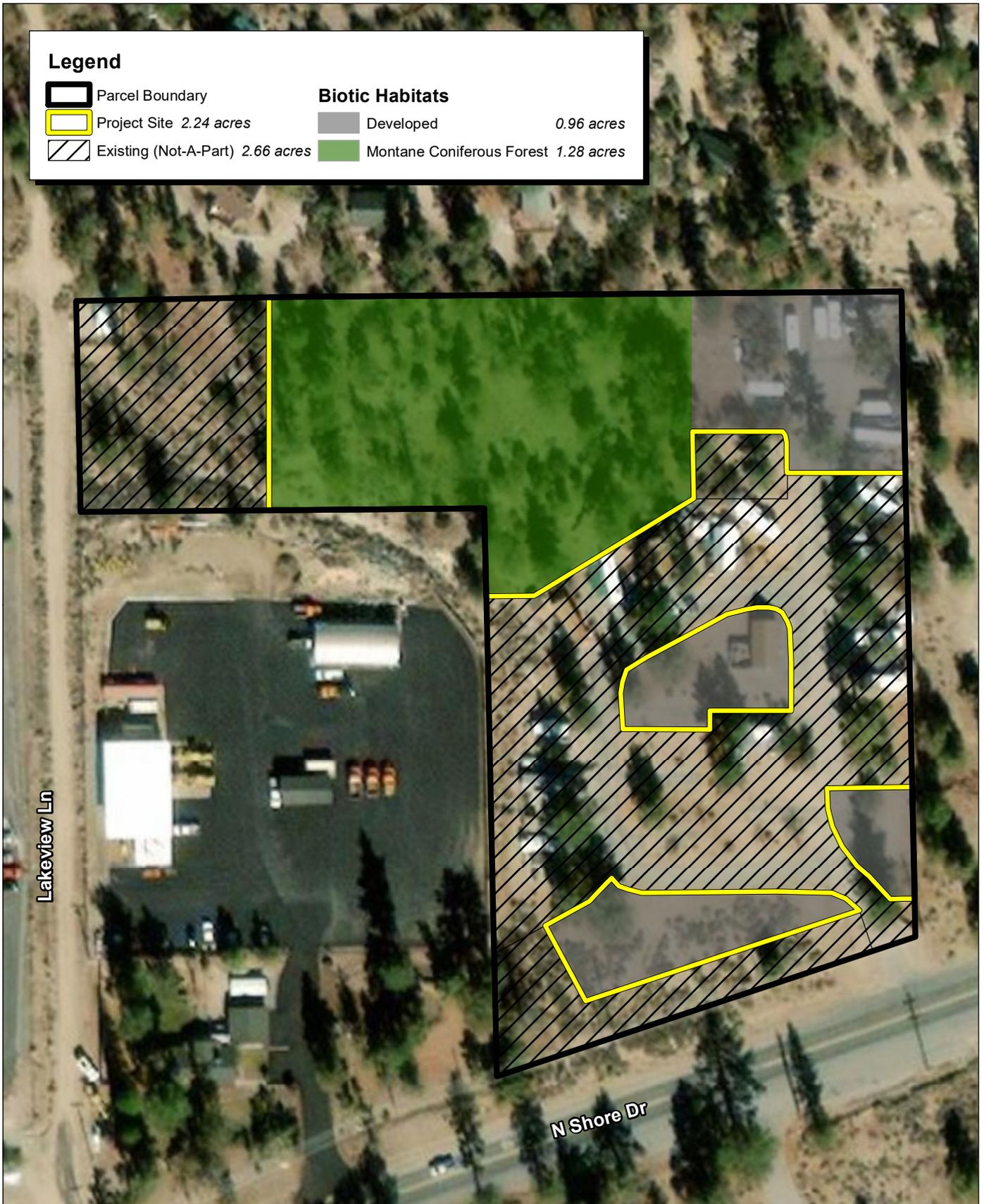
As noted above, the project site contains a large number of trees commonly found in high alpine habitats. In conversations with the landowner's representative, tree removal would be minimized during project construction. If the project requires the removal of trees, an arborist report should be prepared to fully document the extent of the trees on-site and determine the potential need for applicable permits based on local and regional regulations.



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, USDA Soils Data Mart San Bernardino National Forest Soils.



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

SECTION 5: SENSITIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The following section discusses the existing site conditions and potential for special-status biological resources to occur within the project site.

5.1 - Special-Status Plant Communities

Special-status plant communities are considered sensitive biological resources based on federal, State, or local laws regulating their development, limited distributions, and habitat requirements of special-status plant or wildlife species that occur within them. The high level of disturbance and fragmentation within project boundaries preclude the presence of special-status plant communities. The soil community and overall habitat within the project boundaries are not conducive to the growth rare plant species. There are no special-status plant communities within the project boundaries. Because of the lack of special-status plant communities, this potential impact is not addressed in the impact analysis and recommendations section of this document.

5.2 - Special-Status Plant Species

The Special-Status Plant Species Table (Appendix B) identifies 12 special-status plant species and CNPS sensitive species that have been recorded to occur within the Fawnskin, California topographic quadrangle (USGS 1986), as recorded by the CNDDDB and CNPSEI (CDFW 2019; CNPS 2019). The table also includes the species' status, required habitat, and potential to occur within the project site. All special-status plant species that have been determined unlikely to occur on-site, primarily based on the absence of suitable soils, habitat, and level of disturbance. The project site lacks the microhabitat needed to support special-status plant species such as pebble plains, carbonate soils, limestone slopes, meadows, or seeps.

5.2.1 - San Bernardino Mountains Bladderpod

As noted in the introduction, the project site is located in the San Bernardino County Biotic Overlay Area for San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod. This species is typically found in pinyon and juniper woodlands, lower montane coniferous forest, and subalpine coniferous forest. This species is also commonly found on dry sandy to rocky carbonate soils (CDFW 2019). No suitable habitat is present for this species within the project boundaries. Per the CNDDDB database, the nearest recorded occurrence for San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod is approximately 4.5 miles from the project site. This species is unlikely to occur on the project site.

In addition to the San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod, all special-status plant species are included in the Special-Status Plant Species Table, in order to justify their exclusion from further discussion. Because of the lack of special-status plant species, this potential impact is not addressed in the impact analysis and recommendations section of this document.

5.3 - Special-Status Wildlife Species

The Special-Status Wildlife Species Table (Appendix B-2) identifies 7 federal and State listed threatened and/or endangered wildlife species, and State Species of Special Concern that have been recorded in the CNDDDB (CDFW 2019) as occurring within the Fawnskin, California topographic quadrangle (USGS 1986). Six of the seven special-status species have been determined unlikely to occur on site primarily based on the absence of suitable habitat, proximity to human disturbance, or no recorded occurrence in the immediate vicinity of the project site. One remaining special-status wildlife species, bald eagle, has the potential to occur within the project site.

The San Bernardino flying squirrel and southern rubber boa were also included in the Special-Status Wildlife Species Table, as the project site is located in the San Bernardino County Biotic Overlay Area for these species. Although the San Bernardino flying squirrel and southern rubber boa are both unlikely to occur on-site, a more detailed discussion regarding their potential to occur on the project site is included below.

5.3.1 - San Bernardino Flying Squirrel

This species is commonly found in black oak or white fir dominated woodlands in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountain ranges. This species needs cavities in trees or snags for nesting and cover (CNDDDB 2019). The project site does contain marginal nesting habitat in the form of tree cavities and snags; however, the trees found within the site are too thinly dispersed, as this species prefers large stands of dense forest. Additionally, the close proximity to the current RV Park and other neighboring developments further reduce the suitability of habitat within the project boundaries. This species is unlikely to occur on the project site.

5.3.2 - Southern Rubber Boa

This species is commonly found in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountains within montane forests. This species requires moist soil for burrowing, downed logs and surface litter for cover (CNDDDB 2019). The northwestern area of the project site contains numerous downed logs, leaf/pine needle litter. However, the proximity to the active RV Park and neighboring developments likely preclude the presence of this species. Per the CNDDDB database, the nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 2.5 miles from project site. This species is unlikely to occur on the project site.

5.3.3 - Bald Eagle

The project site is within close proximity to the Big Bear Lake shoreline, which provides optimal foraging habitat. Most nests are found within 1 mile of water in large, old-growth, or dominate live trees with open branches (CNDDDB 2019). The northwestern area of the project site contains mature, old-growth trees suitable for perching and is located within 1 mile of Big Bear Lake. Per the CNDDDB database, the nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 5 miles from the project site, within Grout Bay campground. Based on suitable habitat within the project site, this species has the potential, albeit low, to occur on the project site.

5.4 - Nesting Birds

There are a variety of mature trees within the project boundaries. These trees may provide suitable nesting habitat for non-special-status migratory raptors and passerine bird species protected under the MBTA.

Construction activities could disturb nesting and breeding birds in trees and shrubs within and around the project site. Potential impacts on special-status and migratory birds that could result from the construction and operation of the project include the destruction of eggs or occupied nests, mortality of young, and the abandonment of nests with eggs or young birds prior to fledging. If these species were found to be present, impacts to these species would be significant. The project would likely be required to conduct pre-construction nesting bird surveys to reduce impacts to nesting birds to a less than significant level.

5.5 - Wildlife Movement Corridors

The project boundary is surrounded by fencing, neighboring developments, and North Shore Drive, which further restrict the movement of wildlife. Large areas of the site are actively used as an RV park, parking lot/storage area and as such, the structural context of the site will not significantly change from the proposed development. These barriers further impede wildlife species movement through and within the project site. As such, the project will not interfere substantially with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites and no impacts would occur. Because of the lack of wildlife movement corridors, this potential impact is not addressed in the impact analysis and recommendations section of this document.

5.6 - Trees

As previously mentioned, the project site contains various species of mature and native species of trees. Several trees on-site would be protected against removal or alteration per the City's Tree ordinance, as outlined in Section 2.2.8.

5.7 - Jurisdictional Waters and Wetlands

An assessment of potentially jurisdictional features was conducted as part of the literature review and reconnaissance-level survey for the project site. The western fringe of the project site contains a drainage feature, which will be actively avoided through a setback. The remainder of the project site does not contain wetlands or other potential jurisdictional waters. Therefore, there would be no impacts related to jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands. Because no jurisdictional waters or wetlands would be impacted by project development, these potential impacts are not addressed in the impact analysis and recommendations section of this document.

5.8 - Habitat Conservation Plan

The project site does not fall within the coverage area of a habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. Therefore, there would be no impact related to consistency with a

habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. As such, these potential impacts are not addressed in the impact analysis and recommendations section of this document.

SECTION 6: IMPACT ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following discussion addresses potential impacts to special-status biological resources resulting from the proposed project and recommends mitigation measures, where appropriate, to minimize those impacts to a level of “less than significant” under CEQA.

6.1 - Special-Status Wildlife Species

As referenced above, the northwestern area of the project site large mature trees, which provide suitable nesting or perching habitat for the bald eagle. The project site is also located under a mile from Big Bear Lake, which provides ideal foraging habitat for the species. Impact to this species would be considered significant under CEQA. As such, implementation of the following mitigation measure as it relates to bald eagles would reduce impacts to a “less than significant” level.

The following mitigation measure shall be implemented for construction work during the breeding season for bald eagle:

- If construction or tree removal is proposed during the breeding season for bald eagle (typically January 1 through August 31), an approved avian biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for bald eagle if work occurs during the breeding season. Nest surveys shall be conducted within a radius of 1,000 feet from the project footprint within 7 days prior to construction. If nests of bald eagles or nesting activity is detected within 1,000 feet of the site, non-disturbance measures shall be developed in cooperation with the appropriate regulatory agency, as determined by the project’s biologist. Measures may consist of performing construction work outside of the nesting season or the construction of blinds to shield construction from nests.

6.2 - Nesting Birds

As noted above, the project site and its adjacent areas contain trees and vegetation that may provide potential habitat for non-special-status migratory raptors and passerine bird species protected by the MBTA. Impacts to these birds may be considered significant under CEQA. As such, implementation of the following mitigation measure as it relates to nesting birds would reduce impacts to a “less than significant” level. The following mitigation measures are recommended to comply with the MBTA:

The following mitigation measure shall be implemented for construction work during the nesting season (February 15 through August 31):

- If construction or tree removal is proposed during the breeding/nesting season for migratory birds (typically February 15 through August 31), a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for migratory birds within the construction area, including a 300-foot survey buffer, no more than 3 days prior to the start of ground disturbing activities in the construction area.

- If an active nest is located during pre-construction surveys, USFWS and/or CDFW (as appropriate) shall be notified regarding the status of the nest. Furthermore, construction activities shall be restricted as necessary to avoid disturbance of the nest until it is abandoned or a qualified biologist deems disturbance potential to be minimal. Restrictions may include establishment of exclusion zones (no ingress of personnel or equipment at a minimum radius of 300 feet around an active raptor nest and 50-foot radius around an active migratory bird nest) or alteration of the construction schedule.
- A qualified biologist shall delineate the buffer using nest buffer signs, Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing, pin flags, and or flagging tape. The buffer zone shall be maintained around the active nest site(s) until the young have fledged and are foraging independently.

6.3 - Trees

The City of Big Bear Lake has a Tree Ordinance in place to ensure the preservation and conservation of all trees which are a minimum of 12 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH), including both native and non-native trees. Dependent on project development, any removal of trees greater than 12 inches DBH on-site will need to abide by all regulations and ordinances set forth by the City, as mentioned in Section 2.2.8 above. If the project requires the removal of trees, then prior to the commencement of construction activities the applicant shall conduct an arborist tree survey to catalog and provide an inventory all trees scheduled for removal and apply for any necessary permits regarding tree removal. All applicable provisions of the City's Tree Ordinance (if applicable) shall be adhered to.

SECTION 7: REFERENCES

- Baldwin, B. et al. 2012. *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*. Berkeley: University of California Press. County of San Bernardino (Bernardino). 2007 (amended 2015).
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2005. Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS 5). Website: <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/bios/>. Accessed March 20, 2019.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2018. CNDDDB RareFind 5 California Natural Diversity Database Query for Special-Status Species. Website: <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/rarefind/view/RareFind.aspx>. Accessed March 20, 2019.
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 2019. California Native Plant Society Rare and Endangered Plant Inventory. Website: <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/>. Accessed March 20, 2019.
- Clarke, O.F., D. Svehla, G. Ballmer, and A. Montalvo. 2007. *Flora of the Santa Ana River and Environ: With References to World Botany*. Berkeley, California: Heyday Books.
- CNPS, 2019. Rare Plant Program. Website: <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org>. Accessed March 20, 2019.
- Hitchcock, A. 1971. *Manual of the Grasses of the United States in Two Volumes, Volume One*. Second Edition. New York: Dover Publications, Inc.
- McAuley, M. 1996. *Wildflowers of the Santa Monica Mountains, 2nd Edition*. Canoga Park, California: Canyon Publishing Company.
- Munz, P. 1974. *A Flora of Southern California*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Peterson, T.R. 2010. *A Field Guide to Birds of Western North America, 4th Edition*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- Reid, F. 2006. *A Field Guide to Mammals of North America, 4th Edition*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2015. *Official Soil Series Descriptions*. Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>. Accessed March 20, 2019.
- Stebbins, R.C. 2003. *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians*. Third Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). 1980. *Soil Survey of San Bernardino County, California*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Appendix A: Database Searches

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



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



Query Criteria: Quad IS (Fawnskin (3411638))

| Species | Element Code | Federal Status | State Status | Global Rank | State Rank | Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Acanthoscyphus parishii</i> var. <i>goodmaniana</i> Cushenbury oxytheca | PDPGN0J043 | Endangered | None | G4?T1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk | ABNKC12040 | None | None | G5 | S4 | WL |
| <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle | ABNKC22010 | None | None | G5 | S3 | FP |
| <i>Astragalus albens</i> Cushenbury milk-vetch | PDFAB0F0A0 | Endangered | None | G1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Astragalus bernardinus</i> San Bernardino milk-vetch | PDFAB0F190 | None | None | G3 | S3 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>sierrae</i> Big Bear Valley milk-vetch | PDFAB0FB9L | None | None | G5T2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Astragalus leucolobus</i> Big Bear Valley woollypod | PDFAB0F4T0 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Boechea parishii</i> Parish's rockcress | PDBRA061C0 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Boechea shockleyi</i> Shockley's rockcress | PDBRA061V0 | None | None | G3 | S2 | 2B.2 |
| <i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee | IIHYM24480 | None | None | G3G4 | S1S2 | |
| <i>Bombus morrisoni</i> Morrison bumble bee | IIHYM24460 | None | None | G4G5 | S1S2 | |
| <i>Calochortus palmeri</i> var. <i>palmeri</i> Palmer's mariposa-lily | PMLIL0D122 | None | None | G3T2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Castilleja cinerea</i> ash-gray paintbrush | PDSCR0D0H0 | Threatened | None | G1G2 | S1S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Castilleja lasiorhyncha</i> San Bernardino Mountains owl's-clover | PDSCR0D410 | None | None | G2? | S2? | 1B.2 |
| <i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse | AMAFD05032 | None | None | G5T34 | S3S4 | SSC |
| <i>Charina umbratica</i> southern rubber boa | ARADA01011 | None | Threatened | G2G3 | S2S3 | |
| <i>Claytonia lanceolata</i> var. <i>peirsonii</i> Peirson's spring beauty | PDPOR03097 | None | None | G5T1Q | S1 | 3.1 |
| <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> Townsend's big-eared bat | AMACC08010 | None | None | G3G4 | S2 | SSC |
| <i>Cymopterus multinervatus</i> purple-nerve cymopterus | PDAPI0U0Q0 | None | None | G4G5 | S2 | 2B.2 |
| <i>Drymocallis cuneifolia</i> var. <i>cuneifolia</i> wedgeleaf woodbeauty | PDROS2D011 | None | None | G2T1 | S1 | 1B.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>Dryopteris filix-mas</i> male fern | PPDRY0A0B0 | None | None | G5 | S2 | 2B.3 |
| <i>Dudleya abramsii ssp. affinis</i> San Bernardino Mountains dudleya | PDCRA04013 | None | None | G4T2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i> large-blotched salamander | AAAAD04013 | None | None | G5T2? | S3 | WL |
| <i>Eremogone ursina</i> Big Bear Valley sandwort | PDCAR040R0 | Threatened | None | G1 | S1 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Erigeron parishii</i> Parish's daisy | PDAST3M310 | Threatened | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Eriogonum evanidum</i> vanishing wild buckwheat | PDPGN08780 | None | None | G2 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Eriogonum kennedyi var. austromontanum</i> southern mountain buckwheat | PDPGN083B2 | Threatened | None | G4T2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Eriogonum microthecum var. johnstonii</i> Johnston's buckwheat | PDPGN083W5 | None | None | G5T2 | S2 | 1B.3 |
| <i>Eriogonum ovalifolium var. vineum</i> Cushenbury buckwheat | PDPGN084F8 | Endangered | None | G5T1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Erythranthe exigua</i> San Bernardino Mountains monkeyflower | PDSCR1B140 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Erythranthe purpurea</i> little purple monkeyflower | PDSCR1B2B0 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Euchloe hyantis andrewsi</i> Andrew's marble butterfly | IILEPA5032 | None | None | G3G4T1 | S1 | |
| <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> bald eagle | ABNKC10010 | Delisted | Endangered | G5 | S3 | FP |
| <i>Heuchera parishii</i> Parish's alumroot | PDSAX0E0S0 | None | None | G3 | S3 | 1B.3 |
| <i>Hydroporus simplex</i> simple hydroporus diving beetle | IICOL55050 | None | None | G1? | S1? | |
| <i>Ivesia argyrocoma var. argyrocoma</i> silver-haired ivesia | PDROS0X021 | None | None | G2T2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Lampropeltis zonata (parvirubra)</i> California mountain kingsnake (San Bernardino population) | ARADB19062 | None | None | G4G5 | S2? | WL |
| <i>Lewisia brachycalyx</i> short-sepaled lewisia | PDPOR04010 | None | None | G4 | S2 | 2B.2 |
| <i>Lilium parryi</i> lemon lily | PMLIL1A0J0 | None | None | G3 | S3 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Myotis evotis</i> long-eared myotis | AMACC01070 | None | None | G5 | S3 | |
| <i>Myotis thysanodes</i> fringed myotis | AMACC01090 | None | None | G4 | S3 | |



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>Myotis volans</i> long-legged myotis | AMACC01110 | None | None | G5 | S3 | |
| <i>Myotis yumanensis</i> Yuma myotis | AMACC01020 | None | None | G5 | S4 | |
| <i>Navarretia peninsularis</i> Baja navarretia | PDPLM0C0L0 | None | None | G3 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Neotamias speciosus speciosus</i> lodgepole chipmunk | AMAFB02172 | None | None | G4T2T3 | S2S3 | |
| <i>Packera bernardina</i> San Bernardino ragwort | PDAST8H0E0 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Pebble Plains</i> Pebble Plains | CTT47000CA | None | None | G1 | S1.1 | |
| <i>Perideridia parishii ssp. parishii</i> Parish's yampah | PDAPI1N0C2 | None | None | G4T3T4 | S2 | 2B.2 |
| <i>Phlox dolichantha</i> Big Bear Valley phlox | PDPLM0D0P0 | None | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Physaria kingii ssp. bernardina</i> San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod | PDBRA1N0W1 | Endangered | None | G5T1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Poa atropurpurea</i> San Bernardino blue grass | PMPOA4Z0A0 | Endangered | None | G2 | S2 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Pyrrocoma uniflora var. gossypina</i> Bear Valley pyrrocoma | PDASTDT0K1 | None | None | G5T1 | S1 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Rana muscosa</i> southern mountain yellow-legged frog | AAABH01330 | Endangered | Endangered | G1 | S1 | WL |
| <i>Saltugilia latimeri</i> Latimer's woodland-gilia | PDPLM0H010 | None | None | G3 | S3 | 1B.2 |
| <i>Sidalcea pedata</i> bird-foot checkerbloom | PDMAL110L0 | Endangered | Endangered | G1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Streptanthus bernardinus</i> Laguna Mountains jewelflower | PDBRA2G060 | None | None | G3G4 | S3S4 | 4.3 |
| <i>Taraxacum californicum</i> California dandelion | PDAST93050 | Endangered | None | G1G2 | S1S2 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> two-striped gartersnake | ARADB36160 | None | None | G4 | S3S4 | SSC |
| <i>Thelypodium stenopetalum</i> slender-petaled thelypodium | PDBRA2N0F0 | Endangered | Endangered | G1 | S1 | 1B.1 |
| <i>Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea</i> grey-leaved violet | PDVIO04431 | None | None | G4G5T3 | S3 | 1B.3 |

Record Count: 60

Plant List

Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

2 matches found. [Click on scientific name for details](#)

Search Criteria

California Rare Plant Rank is one of [1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3], FESA is one of [Endangered, Threatened, Candidate], CESA is one of [Endangered, Threatened, Rare], Found in Quad 3411638

[Modify Search Criteria](#)
[Export to Excel](#)
[Modify Columns](#)
[Modify Sort](#)
[Remove Photos](#)

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Family | Lifeform | Blooming Period | CA Rare Plant Rank | State Rank | Global Rank | Photo |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Sidalcea pedata | bird-foot checkerbloom | Malvaceae | perennial herb | May-Aug | 1B.1 | S1 | G1 |  <p>2008 Thomas Stoughton</p> |
| Thelypodium stenopetalum | slender-petaled thelypodium | Brassicaceae | perennial herb | May-Sep | 1B.1 | S1 | G1 |  <p>2008 Thomas Stoughton</p> |

Suggested Citation

California Native Plant Society, Rare Plant Program. 2019. Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California (online edition, v8-03 0.39). Website <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org> [accessed 20 March 2019].

Search the Inventory

[Simple Search](#)
[Advanced Search](#)
[Glossary](#)

Information

[About the Inventory](#)
[About the Rare Plant Program](#)
[CNPS Home Page](#)
[About CNPS](#)
[Join CNPS](#)

Contributors

[The Calflora Database](#)
[The California Lichen Society](#)
[California Natural Diversity Database](#)
[The Jepson Flora Project](#)
[The Consortium of California Herbaria](#)
[CalPhotos](#)

Questions and Comments

rareplants@cnps.org



[Printable Version](#) |
 [Add to Shopping Cart](#)

Search

Map Unit Legend

San Bernardino National Forest Area, California (CA777)

San Bernardino National Forest Area, California (CA777)

| Map Unit Symbol | Map Unit Name | Acres in AOI | Percent of AOI |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|----------------|
| BoE | Morical, very deep-Hecker families complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes | 4.6 | 100.0% |
| Totals for Area of Interest | | 4.6 | 100.0% |

Soil Map

Scale (not to scale)



Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

**Appendix B:
Sensitive Species Tables**

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

B.1 - Special-Status Plant Species Table

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Table 1: Special-status Plant Species Potentially Occurring within the Project

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | | Habitat Description ⁴ | Potential to Occur and Rationale | Included in Impact Analysis |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | USFWS ¹ | CDFW ² | CNPS ³ | | | |
| <i>Acanthoscyphus parishii</i> var. <i>goodmaniana</i> Cushenbury oxytheca | FE | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in limestone, pinyon and juniper woodland habitat. Found in limestone talus and rocky slopes. 1400-2350 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks limestone talus or rock outcroppings. | No |
| <i>Astragalus albens</i> Cushenbury milk-vetch | FE | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in Joshua tree woodland, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland. Prefers sandy or stony flats, rocky hillsides, canyon washes and fans, on carbonate or mixed granitic-calcareous debris. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks carbonate soils or rock outcroppings. | No |
| <i>Castilleja cinerea</i> ash-gray paintbrush | — | ST | 1B.2 | Dicot found in pebble plains, upper montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, meadows and seeps, pinyon and juniper woodland. Endemic to the San Bernardino Mountains, in clay openings, often in meadow edges. 725-2860 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The project site lacks pebble plain habitat. | No |
| <i>Eremogone ursina</i> Big Bear Valley sandwort | FT | — | 1B.2 | Dicot found in pebble plains, pinyon and juniper woodland, meadows and seeps. Found in mesic, rocky sites. 1795-2895 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The project site lacks pebble plain habitat. | No |
| <i>Erigeron parishii</i> Parish's daisy | FT | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland. Often found on carbonate, limestone mountain slopes. Often associated with drainages. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks limestone slopes and is located outside of the elevation range. | No |
| <i>Eriogonum kennedyi</i> var. <i>austromontanum</i> southern mountain buckwheat | FT | — | 1B.2 | Dicot found in pebble (pavement) plain, lower montane coniferous forest. 1765-3020 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks pebble plain habitat. | No |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | | Habitat Description ⁴ | Potential to Occur and Rationale | Included in Impact Analysis |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| | USFWS ¹ | CDFW ² | CNPS ³ | | | |
| <i>Eriogonum ovalifolium</i> var. <i>vineum</i> Cushenbury buckwheat | FE | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, Joshua tree woodland. Found on limestone mountain slopes, dry, usually rocky places. 1430-2440 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks limestone slopes or rock outcroppings | No |
| <i>Physaria kingii</i> ssp. <i>bernardina</i> San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod | FE | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in limestone, pinyon and juniper woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, subalpine coniferous forest. Dry sandy to rocky carbonate soils. 1850-2700 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks carbonate soils. Nearest recorded occurrence is approximately 4.5 miles from the project site. | Yes |
| <i>Poa atropurpurea</i> San Bernardino blue grass | FE | — | 1B.2 | Monocot found in meadows and seeps, wetlands. Found in mesic meadows of open pine forests and grassy slopes, loamy alluvial to sandy loam soil. 1255-2655 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks meadows and the soil requirements needed for this species. | No |
| <i>Sidalcea pedata</i> bird-foot checkerbloom | FE | SE | 1B.1 | Dicot found in meadows and seeps, vernal mesic sites in meadows or pebble plains. 1840-2305 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks pebble plain or meadows. | No |
| <i>Taraxacum californicum</i> California dandelion | FE | — | 1B.1 | Dicot found in meadows and seeps, mesic meadows, usually free of taller vegetation. 1620-2590 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks moist meadows. | No |
| <i>Thelypodium stenopetalum</i> slender-petaled thelypodium | FE | SE | 1B.1 | Dicot found in wetlands, meadows and seeps, seasonally moist alkaline clay soils. Associated with seeps and springs in pebble plains. 2045-2240 m. | Unlikely to occur: No suitable habitat is present on the project site. The site lacks wetlands, meadows, or seeps. | No |

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | | Habitat Description ⁴ | Potential to Occur and Rationale | Included in Impact Analysis |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | USFWS ¹ | CDFW ² | CNPS ³ | | | |
| Code Designations | | | | | | |
| ¹ Federal Status: 2018 USFWS Listing | | | | ² State Status: 2018 CDFW Listing | | |
| ESU = Evolutionary Significant Unit is a distinctive population. FE = Listed as endangered under the FESA. FT = Listed as threatened under the FESA. FC = Candidate for listing (threatened or endangered) under FESA. FD = Delisted in accordance with the FESA. FPD = Federally Proposed to be Delisted. MBTA = protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act — = Not federally listed | | | | SE = Listed as endangered under the CESA. ST = Listed as threatened under the CESA. SSC = Species of Special Concern as identified by the CDFW. FP = Listed as fully protected under FGC. CFG = FGC =protected by FGC 3503.5 CR = Rare in California. — = Not state listed | | |
| ³ Habitat description: Habitat description adapted from CNDDDB (CDFW 2019a). | | | | | | |

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

B.2 - Special-Status Wildlife Species Table

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Table 2: Special-status Wildlife Species Potentially Occurring within the Project

| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Description ³ | Potential to Occur and Rationale | Included in Impact Analysis |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | USFWS ¹ | CDFW ² | | | |
| Reptiles | | | | | |
| <i>Charina umbratica</i> southern rubber boa | — | ST | Known from the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountains. Found in a variety of montane forest habitats, within the vicinity of streams or wet meadows. Requires moist soil for burrowing and seeks cover in rotting logs, outcrops, and under surface litter. | Unlikely to occur: The project site provides habitat in the form of downed logs, and leaf litter. However, the proximity to the active RV park and neighboring developments likely preclude the presence of this species. Nearest recorded occurrence approximately 2.5 miles from project site. | Yes |
| <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i> two-striped gartersnake | — | SSC | Found in coastal California from the vicinity of Salinas to northwest Baja California. Highly aquatic, found in or near permanent fresh water. Often found along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth. | Unlikely to occur: The project site lacks the habitat requirements for this species. The site lacks a permanent source of fresh water. Nearest recorded occurrence approximately 3 miles from project site. | No |
| Amphibians | | | | | |
| <i>Rana muscosa</i> southern mountain yellow-legged frog | FE | SE | Federal listing refers to populations in the San Gabriel, San Jacinto, and San Bernardino mountains (Southern DPS). Always encountered within a few feet of water. Tadpoles may require 2-4 years to complete their aquatic development. | Unlikely to occur: The project site lacks the habitat requirements for this species. While there is a drainage present on the periphery of the site, it does not contain perennial water needed for breeding. Nearest recorded occurrence, approximately 4 miles from the project site, within Caribou Creek. | No |
| Birds | | | | | |
| <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> bald eagle | — | SE | Found near ocean shores, lake margins, and rivers for both nesting and wintering. Most nests are within 1 mile of water. Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live tree with open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Roosts communally in the winter. | Potential to occur: The project site is located within 1 mile of Big Bear Lake which provides suitable foraging habitat. The site contains mature, old-growth trees, albeit fragmented. Nearest recorded occurrence approximately 5 miles from project site, within Grout Bay campground. | Yes |

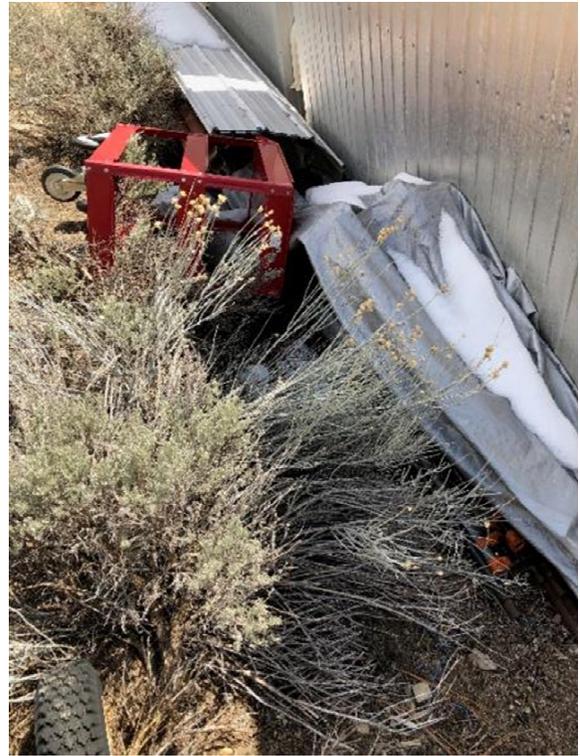
| Scientific Name Common Name | Status | | Habitat Description ³ | Potential to Occur and Rationale | Included in Impact Analysis |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | USFWS ¹ | CDFW ² | | | |
| Mammals | | | | | |
| <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i> Townsend's big-eared bat | — | SSC | Found throughout California in a wide variety of habitats. Most common in mesic sites. Roosts in the open, hanging from walls and ceilings. Roosting sites limiting. Extremely sensitive to human disturbance. Found in broadleaved upland forest, chaparral, chenopod scrub, and Great Basin grassland. | Unlikely to occur: The project site contains marginal rooting in the form of trees and buildings; however, the project site is made up of an active R/V adjacent to a highly trafficked road. Preferential roosting habitat can be found within undeveloped areas with no human disturbance. Nearest recorded occurrence approximately 7 miles north of project site. | No |
| <i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i> pallid San Diego pocket mouse | — | SSC | Found in desert wash, pinon and juniper woodlands, Sonoran desert scrub. Found in sandy, herbaceous areas, in association with rocks and coarse gravel. | Unlikely to occur: The project site lack the habitat features needed to support this species. No recorded occurrences have been documented in the Fawnskin quadrangle. | No |
| <i>Glaucomys oregonensis californicus</i> San Bernardino flying squirrel | — | SSC | Found in black oak or white fir dominated woodlands between 5200-8500 feet in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto ranges. This species needs cavities in trees or snags for nests and cover. | Unlikely to occur: The project site has been subject to past disturbance events which have reduced the potential nesting and foraging habitat. No recorded occurrences have been documented in the Fawnskin quadrangle. | Yes |
| Code Designations | | | | | |
| ¹ Federal Status: 2018 USFWS Listing | | | ² State Status: 2018 CDFW Listing | | |
| ESU = Evolutionary Significant Unit is a distinctive population. FE = Listed as endangered under the FESA. FT = Listed as threatened under the FESA. FC = Candidate for listing (threatened or endangered) under FESA. FD = Delisted in accordance with the FESA. FPD = Federally Proposed to be Delisted. MBTA = protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act — = Not federally listed | | | SE = Listed as endangered under the CESA. ST = Listed as threatened under the CESA. SSC = Species of Special Concern as identified by the CDFW. FP = Listed as fully protected under FGC. CFG = FGC =protected by FGC 3503.5 CR = Rare in California. — = Not state listed | | |
| ³ Habitat description: Habitat description adapted from CNDDDB (CDFW 2019a). | | | | | |

**Appendix C:
Site Photographs**

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



Photograph 1: Parking lot/storage area; northeastern portion of the project site, looking northeast.



Photograph 2: Close up of items found within parking lot/storage area.



Photograph 3: View of fencing that surrounds project site.



Photograph 4: View of access road within northwestern portion of project site, facing west.



Photograph 5: View of central development area, facing west.



Photograph 6: View of southeastern development area, facing south. Entrance to RV park in background.



Photograph 7: View of southwestern development area, facing west. Entrance to RV park on left.



Photograph 8: View of southwestern development area, facing east.