

BIOLOGICAL TECHNICAL REPORT: BATES SPECIFIC PLAN, CITY OF ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for:
LILBURN CORPORATION
1905 Business Center Dr.
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Prepared by:
Scott D. White
SCOTT WHITE BIOLOGICAL CONSULTING
201 North First Ave., No 102, Upland, CA 91786
(909) 949-3686

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INTRODUCTION

This report evaluates impacts to biological resources that may result from approval and construction of the proposed Bates Specific Plan at the southwest corner of the I-10 Freeway and Haven Avenue (Township 1 South, Range 7 West, portion of Section 24, shown on the USGS 7½- minute Guasti topo quad, see Figure 1). Elevation is about 970 feet. There is an industrial building on the site, and much of the site is in industrial use for building materials storage and transfer, and truck traffic in and out of the site is heavy. Vacant land on the site has been disturbed by previous agricultural uses and is evidently mown or disced for weed abatement.

METHODS

Scott D. White reviewed available literature to identify special status plants, animals, or plant communities known from the project site and vicinity. Literature reviewed included the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CDFG 2006a; USGS 7½' Guasti, Ontario, and Fontana quadrangles), California Native Plant Society's *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* (Tibor 2001) the CNPS On-line Electronic Inventory (2006, for the same quadrangles), and compendia of special status species published by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (2004) and California Department of Fish and Game (2006b, 2006c). We also reviewed a Delhi Sands flower-loving fly habitat evaluation for the property, prepared in 2002 by Scott D. Cameron of Ecological Sciences, Inc. Many of the special status species identified during this literature review occur only in wetlands or other specialized habitats. These species are not considered further in this report, but are listed in Appendix 1 with brief explanations for their exclusion. The remaining special status plants and animals are addressed in Appendix 2, with summaries of their natural history, agency status, and occurrence probability on-site.

White visited the project area on 7 September 2006 with Justin Wood (of Scott White Biological Consulting). We spent about four person-hours walking over all accessible vacant land on the project site to describe vegetation and habitat, document plants and animals occurring there, and evaluate habitat suitability for special status plants and animals known from the region.

RESULTS

Vegetation and Habitat

The site provides no natural habitat. Most of the property is un use for materials storage and heavy truck access. Undeveloped land on the site was formerly in use as a vineyard, evidenced by remnant irrigation structures and one persisting vine. This vacant land shows furrows of previous discing and clearly had been disced or mown following the 2006 spring growing season. Ecological Sciences, Inc. (2002) reported similar mowing or discing several years earlier. Apparently, the property is disced annually for weed abatement. Plants growing in parking areas and vacant parts of the site are best characterized as “ruderal” (i.e, weedy plants of disturbed places). These include non-native annual grasses (*Bromus* spp., *Schismus barbatus*), weedy mustards (*Brassica* spp.), and native species adapted to disturbed sites, such as “horseweed” (*Conzya canadensis*). There are Eucalyptus windrows along the northern and eastern materials yard boundaries and a other ornamental trees near the southern and western site boundaries. A few Eucalyptus have naturalized in a minor runoff ditch along the eastern boundary.

Special Status Species

Plants or animals may be considered “sensitive” due to declining populations, vulnerability to habitat change, or restricted distributions. Certain sensitive species have been listed as threatened or endangered under state or federal Endangered Species Acts. Others are included in lists compiled by the California Dept. of Fish and Game, US Fish and Wildlife Service, or private conservation organizations.

Special Status Plants: Four state or federally listed threatened or endangered plants occur or have occurred in the general region: marsh sandwort, salt marsh bird’s beak, slender-horned spineflower, and Santa Ana River woolly-star (Appendix 1). Special status plants not listed as threatened or endangered are also described in Appendix 1. There is no suitable habitat for any of these plants on the Bates Specific Plan project site, and we conclude that none of them would occur there.

Marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*) occurs in perennial freshwater marshes and swamps below about 1000 feet elevation . It is listed as endangered under the state and federal Endangered Species Acts. Historically, it occurred in widely scattered locations along the Pacific Coast (Mason 1957, Munz 1974), with one occurrence in marshland Colton. The only known extant California occurrences are in Mendocino and San Luis Obispo counties (Tibor 2001). There is no suitable wetland habitat for marsh sandwort on the project site.

Salt marsh bird's beak (*Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *maritimus*) is an endangered plant occurring in coastal salt marsh habitats. Historically, it occurred from San Luis Obispo County to northern Baja California. and at a few inland valley locations around San Bernardino. There are no known extant interior valley occurrences, and herbarium labels are too vague to be certain where the historic collections were made. They probably came from wetland areas around San Bernardino, which have since been urbanized. There is no suitable saline wetland habitat for salt marsh bird’s beak on the project site.

Slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) and Santa Ana River woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*) are listed endangered plants occurring in riverwash, floodplains, and alluvial benches. The Santa Ana River woollystar is locally endemic to the Santa Ana River, and slender-horned spineflower is more widespread in southern California. There is no suitable wash or alluvial bench habitat for either plant on the Ontario project site.

Special Status Wildlife: Four state or federally listed wildlife species are reported from the Colton area: Delhi sands flower-loving fly, Santa Ana sucker, California gnatcatcher, and San Bernardino kangaroo rat (Appendix 1). Special status wildlife not listed as threatened or endangered are also described in Appendix 1. There is no suitable habitat for any of these species on the Bates Specific Plan project site, and we conclude that none of them would occur there.

Delhi sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) was addressed by Ecological Sciences, Inc. (2000), who concluded that the site “does not likely contain habitat suitable to support or sustain a viable DSF [Delhi Sand fly] population.” This conclusion was based on a habitat suitability evaluation in 2002 and on focused presence/absence surveys on the site in 1999 and 2000 (negative results both years).

Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*) is a fish endemic to several southern California stream systems. There is no aquatic habitat on the site and we conclude that Santa Ana sucker does not occur. California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica*) is a threatened bird occurring in native shrublands (coastal sage scrub) throughout much of southern California. There is no suitable habitat on the site and we conclude that California gnatcatcher does not occur there. San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) occurs in open riverwash habitats as described for slender-horned spineflower and Santa Ana River woollystar, above. No suitable habitat occurs along the proposed alignment.

No other special status wildlife species would be expected to nest, den, or breed on the site. Several special status raptors might forage over the area, particularly during winter, but would not nest there. These include black-shouldered kite, northern harrier, golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper’s hawk, merlin, and prairie falcon. Several bat species could also forage over the property, but none would nest or roost on the site. None of these species is listed, proposed for listing, or a candidate for listing as threatened or endangered under state or federal Endangered Species Acts, though some are included in the California Department of Fish and Game’s “Special Animals” list.

PROJECT IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDED MITIGATION

Under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines a lead agency must conclude that a project would have a significant effect on the environment if any of the following would occur (*italics added*):

(a) The project has the potential to . . . *substantially reduce the habitat of a fish and wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species* . . .

(b) The project has the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.

(c) The project has possible environmental effects which are individually limited but cumulatively considerable. “Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of probable future projects as defined in Section 15130 [of CEQA].

CEQA guidelines provide several definitions of endangered, rare, or threatened as they apply here, including listing as threatened or endangered under either state or federal Endangered Species Acts or meeting criteria for listing, quoted below:

- (b) A species of animal or plant is:
- (1) "Endangered" when its survival and reproduction in the wild are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, disease, or other factors; or
 - (2) "Rare" when either:
 - (A) Although not presently threatened with extinction, the species is existing in such small numbers throughout all or a significant portion of its range that it may become endangered if its environment worsens; or
 - (B) The species is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and may be considered "threatened" as that term is used in the Federal Endangered Species Act.
- (c) A species of animal or plant shall be presumed to be endangered, rare or threatened, if it is listed in:
- (1) Sections 670.2 or 670.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations [i.e., state Endangered Species Act]; or
 - (2) Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations Section 17.11 or 17.12 pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act as rare, threatened, or endangered.
- (d) A species not included in any listing identified in subsection (c) shall nevertheless be considered to be endangered, rare or threatened, if the species can be shown to meet the criteria in subsection (b).

Thus, a species need not be listed as rare, threatened, or endangered to meet these criteria for a mandatory finding of significance in terms of CEQA, but its rarity or vulnerability to extinction must be similar to listing criteria under the state and federal Endangered Species Acts. These criteria are generally met for species included on the Fish and Wildlife Service's list of candidate species (2004) or in special cases where new information becomes available (e.g., when a previously unknown threat is identified or when a species formerly considered extinct is rediscovered). Adverse impacts to other special status plants and animals (e.g., the Department of Fish and Game's "species of special concern," or many of the California Native Plant Society's "List 1B" plants) generally do not meet these CEQA criteria for mandatory findings of significance, though lead agencies may develop their own significance criteria for CEQA implementation.

Impacts to Sensitive Plants: Project development would not affect any listed species or other special status plants.

Impacts to Sensitive Wildlife: Project development would not affect any listed wildlife species; it has only a minimal likelihood of affecting any other species, and any such effects would not be significant in terms of CEQA.

CONCLUSION

CEQA requires the lead agency to reach findings regarding potentially significant impacts to biological resources. CEQA guidelines recommend addressing the six questions quoted below.

Would the project:

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

No.

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

No.

c) have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No.

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

No.

e) conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No known conflict.

f) conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No known conflict.

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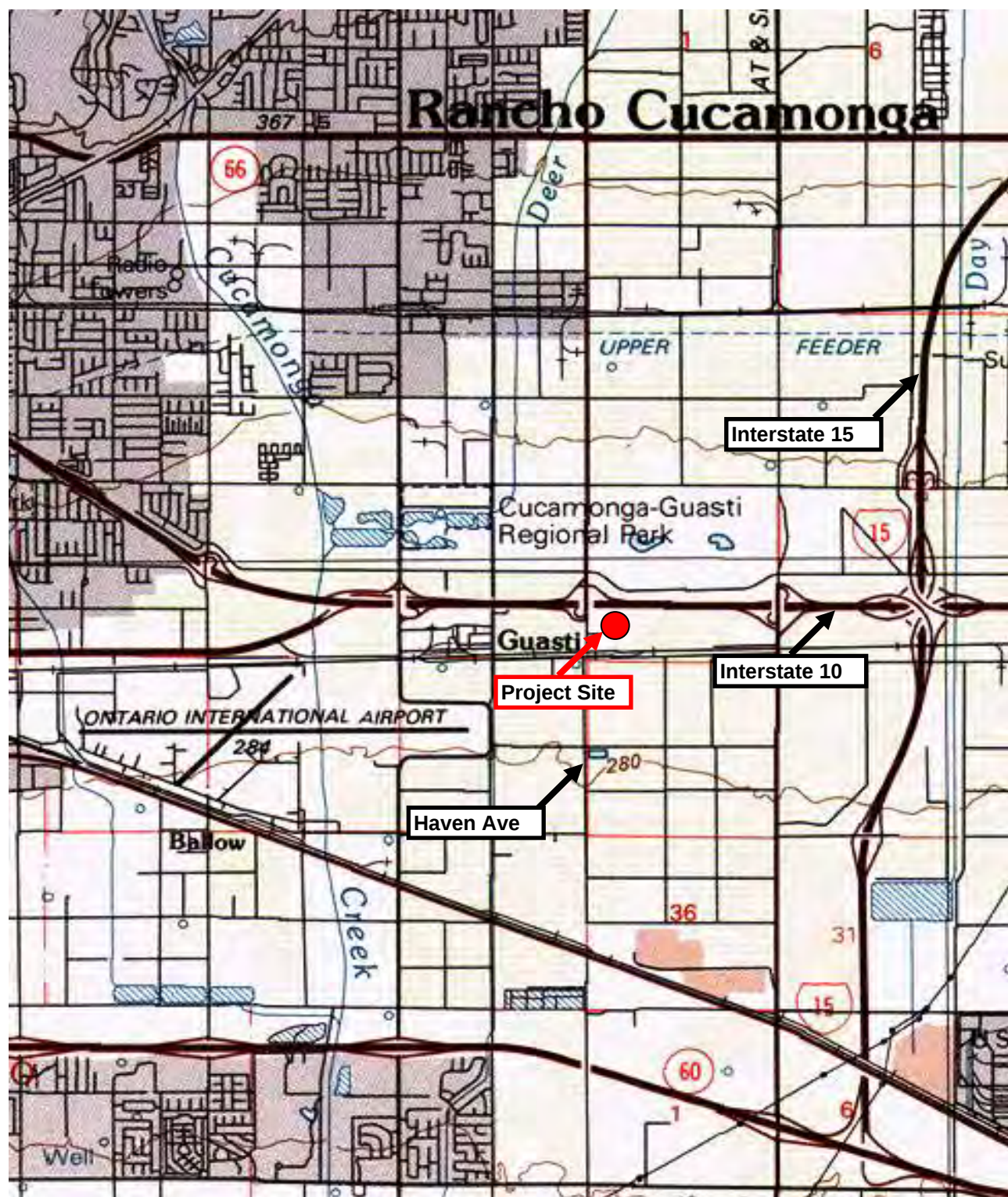
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Figures



Bates Specific Plan

Figure 1: Vicinity Map

Scott White Biological Consulting

Map source: TOPOI, 7½ minute topographic: Guasti, CA.
JW: 19 Sept. 2006



NORTH



Bates Specific Plan

Figure 2: Aerial Photo and Project Boundary Overlay
Scott White Biological Consulting

Map source: Google Earth
JW: 19 Sept. 2006



NORTH

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Special status species of the Ontario area.

Special Status Plants	Habitat and Distribution	Flower season	Status Designation	Occurrence Probability
<i>Abronia villosa</i> var. <i>aurita</i> Chaparral sand verbena	Perennial herb; sand, mostly broad alluvial fans and benches, below about 5000 ft. elev., Inland Empire, adj. Colorado Des., and interior San Diego Co.	Feb. - July	Fed: none Calif: S 2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (poor habitat)
<i>Arenaria paludicola</i> Marsh sandwort	Freshwater marsh and bogs, historically from Wash. thr. LA Co. & SW San Bern. Co.; only extant sites are in SLO Co.; below about 1000 ft. elev.	May - August	Fed: END Calif: S 1.1 END CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Aster bernardinus</i> (<i>A. defolius</i> , <i>Symphyotrichium defoliatum</i>) San Bernardino aster	Perennial herb; wetlands and margins, near sea level to about 6700 ft. elev.; formerly widespread from Kern Co south to San Diego Co. but most sites extirpated	July - Nov	Fed: none Calif: S 3.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Atriplex serenana</i> var. <i>davidsonii</i> (<i>A. davidsonii</i>) Davidson's saltscale	Annual herb; alkaline flats, saltbush scrub; possibly more widely distributed, local reports of <i>A. coulteri</i> and <i>A. pacifica</i> are evidently this plant	March - October	Fed: none Calif: S2? CNPS: List 1B.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Calochortus plummerae</i> Plummer's mariposa lily	Chaparral, alluvial fans, pine forest, below about 5600 ft. elev.; widespread but uncommon throughout S. Calif. mts., foothills & valleys	May - July	Fed: none Calif: S 3.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i> Parry's spineflower	Shrublands; open sandy places on alluvial slopes below about 5600 ft. elev.; Inland Empire and also coastal LA Co., Banning Pass, Cajon Pass	April - June	Fed: none Calif: S 2.1 CNPS: List 3.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Cordylanthus maritimus</i> ssp. <i>maritimus</i> Salt marsh bird's beak	Coastal salt marshes, Baja Calif. to San Luis Obispo Co.; historic inland valley occurrences evidently extinct	May - Oct	Fed: END Calif: S 2.1 END CNPS: List 1B.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Doceahema leptoceras</i> (= <i>Chorizanthe leptocerus</i> , <i>Centrostegia leptocerus</i>) Slender-horned spineflower	Annual; open, sandy alluvial benches in valleys and canyons; San Fernando Valley, Santa Ana River Valley, western Riverside Co.; about 600-2500 ft. elev.	April - June	Fed: END Calif: S 1.1 END CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>sanctorum</i> Santa Ana River woollystar	Shrubland, alluvial fans and plains; endemic to Santa Ana River watershed, primarily in San Bern. Co.; below about 2000 ft. elev.	May - Sept.	Fed: END Calif: S 1.1 END CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Hemizonia laevis</i> (<i>H. pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i> ; <i>Centromadia p.</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>) Smooth tarplant	Seasonally wet low elev. grassland, also fallow fields, drainage ditches; primarily in SW Riv. Co. but a few sites in interior valleys of LA, San Bern., San Diego Cos.	April - Sept	Fed: none Calif: S 2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	Low (marginal habitat, margin of geogr. range)
<i>Hemizonia paniculata</i> (<i>Deinandra paniculata</i>) San Diego tarplant, paniculate tarplant	Annual; grassland, open shrublands, roadsides, etc.; often common in San Diego, Orange, & Riv. Cos; near sea level to about 3100 ft. elev.	May - Nov	Fed: none Calif: S 3.2 CNPS: List 4.2	Low (poor habitat, margin of geogr. range)

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Special Status Plants	Habitat and Distribution	Flower season	Status Designation	Occurrence Probability
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i> ssp. <i>puberula</i> Mesa horkelia	Shrublands, woodlands, gen sandy alluvial plains; SLO to San Diego Co, away from immediate coast; rarely inland to San Bern. Co., about 200-2300 ft. elev.	April - Sep.	Fed: none Calif: S 2.1 CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (poor habitat)
<i>Juglans californica</i> var. <i>californica</i> So. California black walnut	Walnut woodland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, gen. < ±3000 ft. elev.; Ventura, LA, Orange, San Bernardino Cos.	Can be IDd all year	Fed: none Calif: S 3.2 CNPS: List 4.2	Low (unless grown as an ornamental)
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i> Robinson's pepper-grass	Chaparral & coastal sage scrub below about 1700 ft. elev.; LA Co, inland to Riverside & San Bernardino Cos, and S to Baja Calif	Jan - July	Fed: none Calif: S 2.2 CNPS: List 1B.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Lycium parishii</i> Parish's desert thorn	Arid slopes and sand flats, below about 3300 ft. elev.; low desert (Riv. and San Diego Cos., Ariz., Sonora); historic locations in San Bernardino Valley now extinct; Riverside report erroneous	March - April	Fed: none Calif: S2 S3 CNPS: List 2.3	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Monardella pringlei</i> Pringle's monardella	Only historical locations in Colton area, now presumed extinct; probably occurred on windblown sand	May - June	Fed: none Calif: SX CNPS: List 1A	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Navarretia prostrata</i> Prostrate navarretia	Vernal pools; low, often alkaline places in shrublands and grasslands; W Calif., Bay Area thr. San Diego Co.; below about 2300 ft. elev.	April - July	Fed: none Calif: S 2.1? CNPS: List 1B.1	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Senecio aphanactis</i> Rayless ragwort	Drying alkaline flats; western Central Valley, south-central coast, and S Calif., Baja Calif., below about 1300 ft. elev.	Jan. - April	Fed: none Calif: S 1.2 CNPS: List 2.2	Minimal (no habitat)
<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i> Salt spring checkerbloom	Alkaline playas below about 5000 ft. elev.; SW Calif., Baja Calif., SW US, mainl. Mexico	March - June	Fed: none Calif: S2 S3 CNPS: List 2.2	Minimal (no habitat)

General References

Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game 2006a, 2006c; Hickman 1993; Munz 1974; Roberts et al. 2004;Tibor 2001; US Fish and Wildlife Service 2004.

Special Status Wildlife	Habitat and Distribution	Activity season	Status Designation	Occurrence Probability
INVERTEBRATES				
<i>Cicindela tranquebarica viridissima</i> Greenest tiger beetle	Sandy streamsides; Santa Ana River watershed, mountain foothills to Orange Co.; perhaps indistinct from widespread subspecies <i>C. t. vibex</i>	Warm season	Fed: none Calif: S1	
<i>Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis</i> Delhi sands flower-loving fly	Remnant sandy soils (Delhi series) with sparse native vegetation; endemic to Colton and surrounding area	Summer	Fed: END Calif: S1	

APPENDIX 1: Special status species of the Ontario area.

Special Status Wildlife	Habitat and Distribution	Activity season	Status Designation	Occurrence Probability
FISH				
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Major cismontane stream systems in S Calif. incl. Sta Ana Riv., formerly below ± 3000 ft. elev.; extant popns near Riverside and downstream	year - around	Fed: THR Calif: CSC S1	Absent (no aquatic habitat)
<i>Gila orcutti</i> Arroyo chub	Major cismontane stream systems in S Calif. incl. Sta Ana Riv.; extant popns near Riverside and down-stream; introduced populations also occur outside historic native range	year - around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S2	Absent (no aquatic habitat)
<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i> "subspecies 3" Santa Ana speckled dace	Endemic to Santa Ana and San Gabriel Riv. watersheds, historically in Big Tujunga Cyn. Sta Ana Riv populations in lower San Bernardino Mtn foothills and washes	year - around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S1	Absent (no aquatic habitat)
REPTILES				
<i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i> "blainvillei" Coast horned lizard (southern population)	Sandy soils, forest, shrubland or grassland; W Calif. from LA Co through Baja Calif., below ± 6000 ft. elev.	Spring - summer	Fed: none CA: CSC S3S4	Low (poorly suitable habitat)
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> (<i>Cnemidophorus tigris multiscutatus</i>) Coastal western whiptail	Woodlands, shrublands; SW Calif. through much of Baja Calif. , below about 7500 ft. elev.	Spring - summer	Fed: none Calif: S2S3	Low (poorly suitable habitat)
BIRDS				
<i>Elanus leucurus</i> White-tailed kite	Breeds in woodlands and riparian forests, forages over open terrain; Pacific Coast (Calif., N Baja, Oregon), other scattered localities worldwide	Spring - summer	Fed: none Calif: S3 (nesting only) fully protected	Nesting: Absent Foraging: High (rare)
<i>Circus cyaneus</i> Northern harrier	Breeds colonially in grasslands and wetlands; forages over open terrain; N America and Eurasia	Winter; rare in summer	Fed: none Calif: CSC S3 (nesting only)	Nesting: Absent Foraging: High (rare)
<i>Accipiter striatus</i> Sharp-shinned hawk	Nests and hunts in forests and woodlands, also forages in open areas; throughout N America, parts of S America	Spring - early summer	Fed: none Calif: CSC S3 (nesting only) fully protected	Nesting: Absent Winter: High
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	Nests and hunts in forest and woodland, also forages in open areas; most of US, Central and S America	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S3 (nesting only)	Nesting: Absent Winter: High
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> California yellow-billed cuckoo	Nests in dense riparian forest; rare and local in Calif.; subspecies not recognized as distinct by some authors	Summer	Fed: none Calif: END S1	Absent (no suitable habitat, local occurrences extinct)

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Special Status Wildlife	Habitat and Distribution	Activity season	Status Designation	Occurrence Probability
<i>Speotyto cunicularia</i> (<i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i>) Burrowing owl	Nests in rodent burrows, usually in grasslands; forages in open habitat; increasingly uncommon in S Calif.; occurs through W US and Mexico	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S2 (burrow sites)	
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> Loggerhead shrike	Woodlands, shrublands, open areas with scattered perch sites; widespread in N America	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S4	
<i>Polioptila californica</i> California gnatcatcher	Coastal sage scrub; scattered in Ven and LA Cos; regular in Riv and San Diego Cos. and N Baja Calif; evidently extirpated in San Bern. Mtn. foothills	Year-around	Fed: THR Calif: CSC S2	Minimal (no suitable habitat)
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> Tricolored blackbird	Breeds colonially in freshwater marshes, nomadic among marshes and fields in winter; almost completely endemic to Calif.	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S2 (nesting colony)	Minimal (no suitable habitat)
MAMMALS				
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i> San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	Most habitat types, esp. shrublands; W Calif. and NW Baja Calif.	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S3?	Minimal (isolation & disturbance)
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i> (<i>Perognathus fallax</i>) San Diego pocket mouse	Open shrublands and sandy areas; SW Calif. and NW Baja Calif.	Year-around (?)	Fed: none Calif: CSC S2S3	Minimal (isolation & disturbance)
<i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i> Los Angeles pocket mouse	Open shrublands, grasslands; S Calif. valleys, LA, SW San Bernardino and W Riverside Cos.	Year-around (?)	Fed: none Calif: CSC S1?	Minimal (isolation & disturbance)
<i>Dipodomys merriami parvus</i> San Bernardino Merriam's kangaroo rat	Shrubland on alluvial fans; interior valleys of S Calif., Cajon Pass and San Gorgonio Pass south to Aguanga and west to Colton area	Year-around	Fed: END Calif: CSC S1	Minimal (isolation & disturbance)
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i> San Diego desert woodrat	Chaparral and other shrublands, W Calif., Point Conception south, through NW Baja Calif.	Year-around	Fed: none Calif: CSC S3?	Minimal (no habitat; isolation & disturbance)
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> (<i>Nycteris ega xanthina</i>) Western (Southern) yellow bat	Mexico and Cent. Amer., north to S AZ; Riv., Imperial and San Diego Cos.; riparian and wash habitats; roosts in trees; evidently migrates from Calif. during winter	Spring-summer?	Fed: none Calif: S3	Roosting: Minimal Foraging: Unknown
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i> (<i>Tadarida molossa</i>) Big free-tailed bat	Rocky cliffs, scattered localities in W N. Amer. through Cent. Amer.	Year-around (?)	Fed: none Calif: CSC S2	Roosting: Absent Foraging: Unknown

General References

AOU 1998; Barbour & Davis 1969 (bats); Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game 2006a, 2006b; Garrett & Dunn 1981; Grinnell and Miller 1943; Hall 1981; Ingles 1965; Jennings and Hayes 1994; McKernan 1997 (San Bernardino kangaroo rat); Remsen 1978; Stebbins 2003; Tibor 2001; US Fish and Wildlife Service 2004; Williams 1976; Zeiner et al. 1988-1990.

APPENDIX 1: Special status species of the Ontario area.

Status Designations

Federal designations: (federal Endangered Species Act, US Fish and Wildlife Service). Until 1996, FWS maintained a list of “category 2 candidates,” described as species of concern, but for which insufficient data were available to support listing. This list is no longer maintained and FWS has no “SOC” category, though some agencies continue to cite it.

END: Federally listed, endangered.

THR: Federally listed, threatened.

Candidate: Sufficient data are available to support federal listing, but not yet listed.

Proposed: Formally proposed for federal status shown.

State designations: (California Endangered Species Act, California Dept. of Fish and Game)

END: State listed, endangered.

THR: State listed, threatened.

RARE: State listed as rare (applied to plants only).

CSC: California species of special concern. Considered vulnerable to extinction due to declining numbers, limited geographic ranges, or ongoing threats.

FP: Fully protected. May not be taken or possessed without permit from CDFG.

CDF&G Natural Diversity Data Base Designations: Applied to special status plants and sensitive plant communities; where correct category is uncertain, CDF&G uses two categories or question marks.

S1: Fewer than 6 occurrences or fewer than 1000 individuals or less than 2000 acres.

S1.1: Very threatened

S1.2: Threatened

S1.3: No current threats known

S2: 6-20 occurrences or 1000-3000 individuals or 2000-10,000 acres (decimal suffixes same as above).

S3: 21-100 occurrences or 3000-10,000 individuals or 10,000-50,000 acres (decimal suffixes same as above).

S4: Apparently secure in California; this rank is clearly lower than S3 but factors exist to cause some concern, i.e., there is some threat or somewhat narrow habitat. No threat rank.

S5: Demonstrably secure or ineradicable in California. No threat rank.

SH: All California occurrences “historical” (i.e., no records in > 20 years).

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) designations. Note: According to CNPS (Tibor, ed., 2001 p. 54-55), plants on Lists 1A, 1B, and 2 meet definitions as threatened or endangered and “are eligible” for state listing.

List 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California.

List 1B: Plants rare and endangered in California and throughout their range.

List 2: Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California but more common elsewhere in their range.

List 3: Plants about which we need more information; a review list.

List 4: Plants of limited distribution; a watch list.

CNPS Threat Rank:

.1 Seriously endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)

.2 Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened)

.3 Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened or no current threats known)

Definitions of occurrence probability:

Occurs: Observed on the site by qualified biologists.

High: Habitat is a type often utilized by the species and the site is within the known range of the species.

Moderate: Site is within the known range of the species and habitat on the site is a type occasionally used.

Low: Site is within the species’ known range but habitat is rarely used, or the species was not found during focused surveys covering less than 100% of potential habitat or completed in marginal seasons.

Minimal: No suitable habitat on the site; or well outside the species’ known elevational or geographic ranges; or a focused study covering 100% of all suitable habitat, completed during the appropriate season and during a year of appropriate rainfall, did not detect the species.

Unknown: No focused surveys have been performed in the region, and the species’ distribution and habitat are poorly known.

Latin Name	Common Name
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VASCULAR PLANTS

Alien species indicated by asterisk, special status species indicated by two asterisks. This list includes only species observed on the site. Others may have been overlooked or unidentifiable due to season. Plants were identified using keys, descriptions, and illustrations in Abrams (1923-1951), Hickman (1993), and Munz (1974). Taxonomy and nomenclature generally follow Hickman. Vouchers, indicated by Scott White's collection numbers, will be deposited at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

ASTERACEAE	ASTER FAMILY
<i>Ambrosia acanthicarpa</i>	Annual sandbur
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	Horseweed
<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	Telegraph weed
* <i>Verbesina encelioides</i>	Crownbeard
BRASSICACEAE	MUSTARD FAMILY
* <i>Brassica geniculata</i> (<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>)	Short-pod mustard
* <i>Brassica nigra</i>	Black mustard
EUPHORBIACEAE	SPURGE FAMILY
* <i>Chamaesyce maculata</i> (<i>Euphorbia maculata</i>)	Spotted spurge
<i>Croton californicus</i>	California croton
<i>Eremocarpus setiger</i> (<i>E. setigerus</i> , <i>Croton setiger</i>)	Doveweed
FABACEAE	PEA FAMILY
<i>Lotus purshianus</i> (<i>L. unifolius</i>)	"Spanish" clover
LAMIACEAE	MINT FAMILY
* <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Horehound
MYRTACEAE	EUCALYPTUS FAMILY
* <i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	Ornamental eucalyptus
ONAGRACEAE	EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY
<i>Camissonia bistorta</i> (?)	Suncup
<i>Oenothera</i> sp.	Unid. evening primrose
POLYGONACEAE	BUCKWHEAT FAMILY
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California buckwheat
<i>Eriogonum gracile</i>	Slender buckwheat
SOLANACEAE	NIGHTSHADE FAMILY
* <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco
VITACEAE	GRAPE FAMILY
<i>Vitis girdiana</i>	Wild grape
POACEAE	GRASS FAMILY
* <i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i> (<i>B. rubens</i>)	Red brome
* <i>Schismus barbatus</i>	Mediterranean schismus
* <i>Vulpia myuros</i> (<i>Festuca myuros</i> , <i>F. megalura</i>)	Foxtail fescue

VERTEBRATE WILDLIFE

Species observed or detected on the site only. Non-native species indicated by asterisk, species on CDFG's Special Animals list indicated by two asterisks. Other species may have been overlooked or inactive/absent because of the season. Taxonomy and nomenclature generally follow Stebbins (2003) for amphibians and reptiles, AOU (1998) for birds, and Jones et al. (1992) for mammals.

REPTILIA	REPTILES
PHRYNOSOMATIDAE	PHRYNOSOMATIDS
<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	Side-blotched lizard
AVES	BIRDS
ACCIPITRIDAE	RAPTORS
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Red-tailed hawk
FALCONIDAE	FALCONS
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel
TYTONIDAE	BARN OWLS
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl
COLUMBIDAE	PIGEONS AND DOVES
* <i>Columba livia</i>	Rock dove
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Mourning dove
FRINGILLIDAE	FINCHES
<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	House finch
MAMMALIA	MAMMALS
LEPORIDAE	HARES AND RABBITS
** <i>Lepus californicus</i>	Black-tailed jackrabbit
CANIDAE	DOGS/WOLVES/FOXES
* <i>Canis familiaris</i>	Domestic dog