HELIX
Environmental Planning

South Shore II Project

General Biological Resources Assessment

August 12, 2013

Prepared for:
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General Biological Resources Assessment

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Report Date: August 12, 2013

Title: General Biological Resources Assessment for South Shore II

Project Location: The approximately 71.7-acre project site is located north of Interstate 15 and east of Lugonia Street in the City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California (Figure 1). The project site is situated northeast of Lake Elsinore (the Lake) and is in Township 6 south, Range 4 west and Section 4 as shown on the Lake Elsinore U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle maps (Figure 2). The study area is comprised of the entire project boundary (Figure 3).

Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs): The project site is comprised of 8 parcels. They are APNs 363-020-002, -003, -011, -012, -013, -014, -015, and -018.

Owner/Applicant: South Shore II, LLC
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Report Summary: The approximately 71.7-acre study area is comprised of undeveloped rugged land that is primarily covered with Riversidean Sage Scrub. The project site occurs within Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Criteria Cell 4459 of Cell Group B' (Figure 3) and proposed project impacts are consistent with the conservation goals of these cells. Biological surveys conducted on the property include a Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool habitat assessment, a general botanical and zoological survey, and a delineation of jurisdictional waters. The Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool habitat assessment revealed the presence of road pools on site. Based on the site assessment, these basins do not meet the definition of vernal pools under the MSHCP. The jurisdictional delineation revealed no jurisdictional waters on the property. Potential impacts from the proposed project were estimated and analyzed.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The South Shore II project is located in the City of Lake Elsinore (City), Riverside County (County), California. The purpose of this report is to (1) document field study findings, and (2) address the requirements of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP; Dudek and Associates [Dudek] 2003). This report covers the entire 71.7 acre project area.

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The approximately 71.7-acre project site is located north of Interstate 15 and east of Lugonia Street in the City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California (Figure 1). The project site is situated southeast of Lake Elsinore (the Lake) and is in Township 6 south, Range 4 west, and Section 4 as shown on the Lake Elsinore U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle maps (Figure 2).

The study area includes the entire 71.7-acre project site (Figure 3) and is comprised of undeveloped rugged hills crossed by several dirt roads that are primarily only passable by off-highway vehicles (OHV). Except for the dirt road, the property is covered with moderate to dense Riversidean sage scrub. The property is bordered by undeveloped land that is similar in vegetative cover and topography. Elevation on the property ranges from 1,525 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in the southern portion of the site to 1,800 feet AMSL in the northern portion of the site.

2.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is an approximately 67.7-acre residential subdivision that would include 147 single-family detached residential units to be constructed on approximately 44 acres of the site. The land surrounding the residential development would include 19.0 acres retained in natural open space, an approximately 3.5-acre public park, and an on-site drainage basin. An extended detention basin would be constructed within the southwestern corner of the project site to manage storm water runoff. Access to the project site would be from the proposed Elsinore Hills Road via Street "C" and Street "D," through the Spyglass Ranch project (Tentative Tract Map No. 35337) that is proposed to be constructed just west of South Shore II.

The project would be built in one phase, with construction anticipated to begin in 2015. Grading is anticipated to occur over a 6-month period, followed by approximately 3 months for construction of streets, utilities, etc., and approximately 3 months for construction of the model home complex. While the rate of home construction would be based on market demands, approximately 50 to 60 homes are anticipated to be constructed annually, which would result in a 3-year build out period.

3.0 REGULATORY CONTEXT

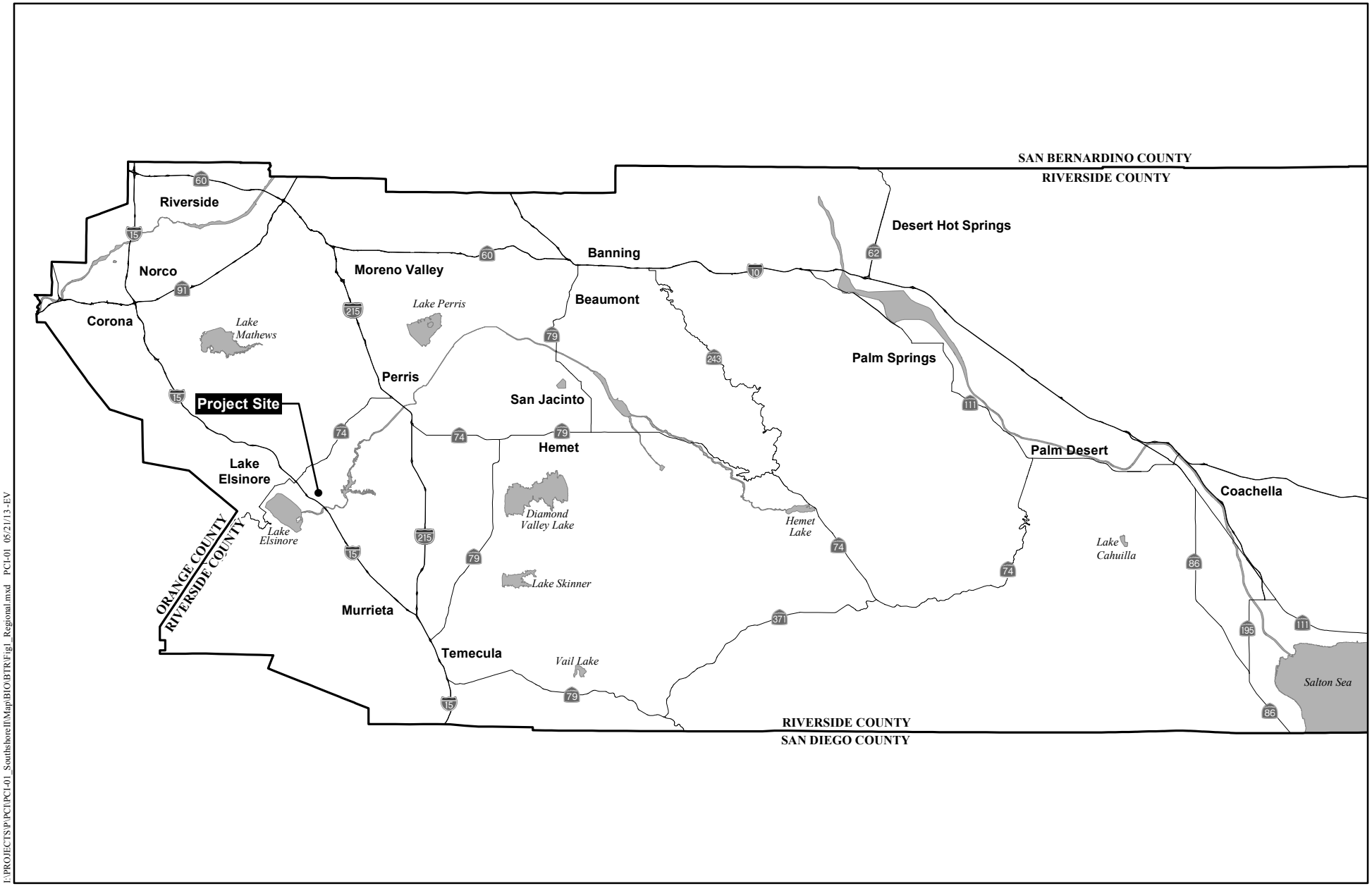
3.1 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides the legal framework for the listing and protection of species (and their habitats) identified as being endangered or threatened with extinction. Actions that jeopardize endangered or threatened species and the habitats upon which they rely are considered a "take" under the ESA. Section 9(a) of the ESA defines take as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct." "Harm" and "harass" are further defined in federal regulations and case law to include actions that adversely impair or disrupt a listed species' behavioral patterns.

Sections 4(d), 7, and 10(a) of the federal ESA regulate actions that could jeopardize endangered or threatened species. Section 7 describes a process of federal interagency consultation for use when federal actions may adversely affect listed species. A biological assessment is required for any major construction activity if it may affect listed species. In this case, take can be authorized via a letter of biological opinion, issued by the USFWS for non-marine related listed species issues. A Section 7 consultation is required when there is a nexus between federally listed species' use of the site and impacts to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdictional areas. Section 10(a) allows issuance of permits for "incidental" take of endangered or threatened species. The term 'incidental' applies if the taking of a listed species is incidental to and not the purpose of an otherwise lawful activity. The MSHCP is the Section 10(a) permit for this portion of Riverside County, including the subject property.

All migratory bird species that are native to the United States or its territories are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), as amended under the MBTA of 2004 (FR Doc. 05-5127). This law is generally protective of migratory birds but does not actually stipulate the type of protection required. In common practice, USFWS places restrictions on disturbances allowed near active nests of raptors, such as red-tailed hawks and burrowing owls.

Federal wetland regulation (non-marine issues) is guided by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and the Clean Water Act. The Rivers and Harbors Act deals primarily with discharges into navigable waters, while the purpose of the Clean Water Act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of all Waters of the U.S. (WUS). Permitting for projects filling WUS (including wetlands and vernal pools) is overseen by the USACE under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Projects may be permitted on an individual basis or may be covered under one of several approved nationwide permits. Individual permits are assessed individually based on the type of action, amount of fill, etc. Individual permits typically require substantial time (often longer than six months) to review and approve, while nationwide permits are pre-approved if a project meets appropriate conditions.



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Regional Location Map

SOUTH SHORE II

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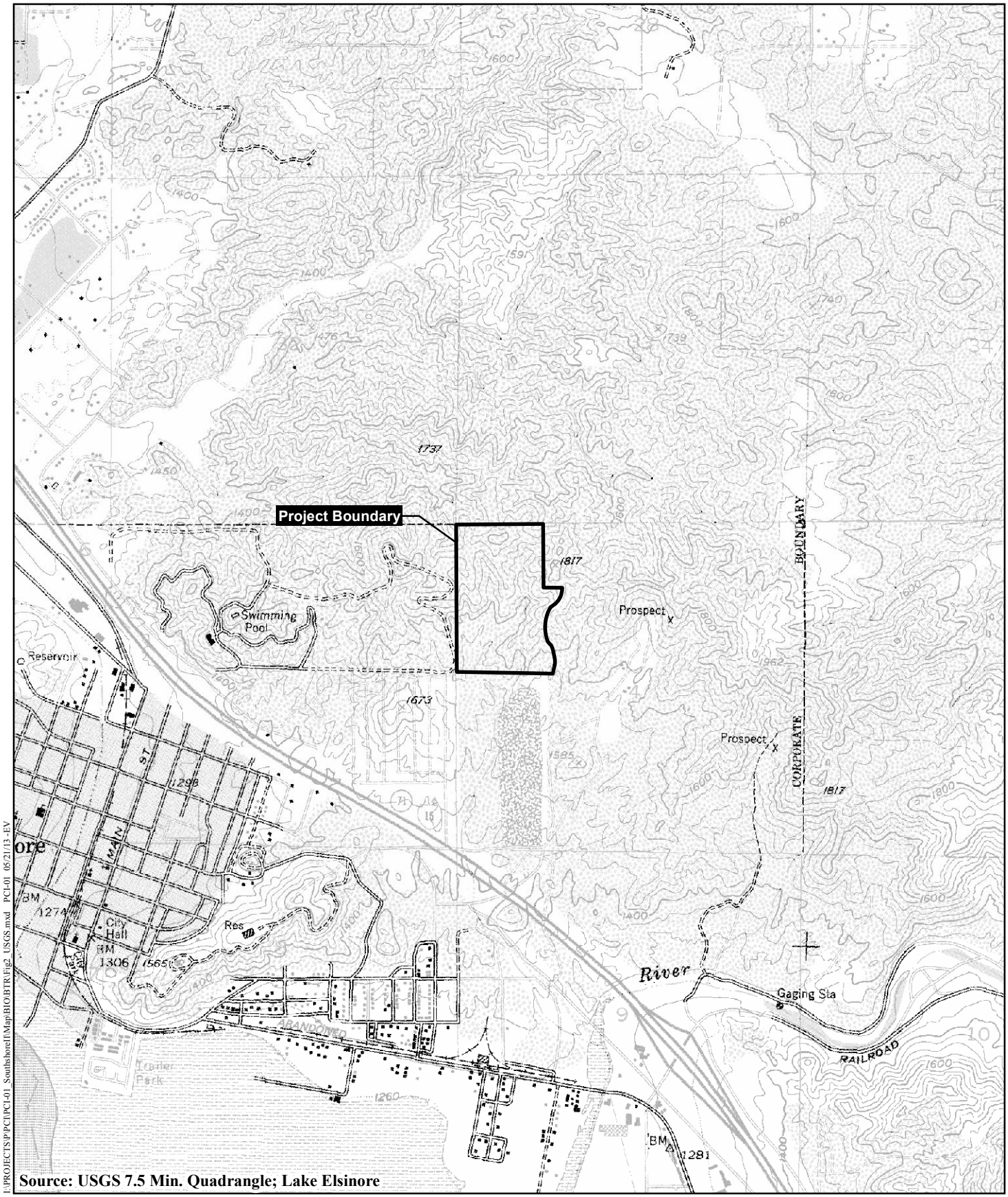
N 0 10 Miles

Figure 1



Source: USGS 7.5 Min. Quadrangle; Lake Elsinore

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Project Location Map

SOUTH SHORE II

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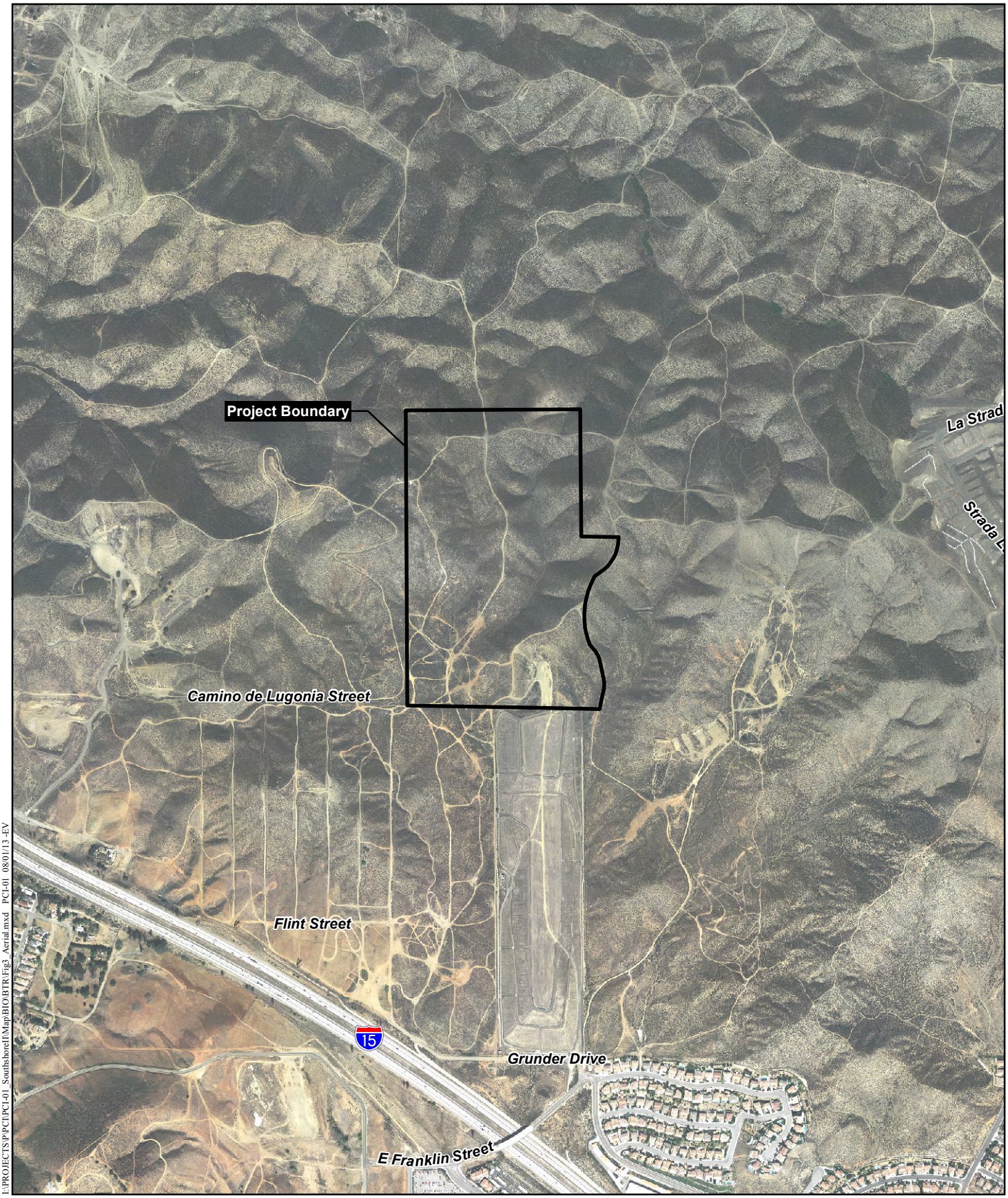
N 0 2,000 Feet

Figure 2



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Aerial Project Location Map

SOUTH SHORE II

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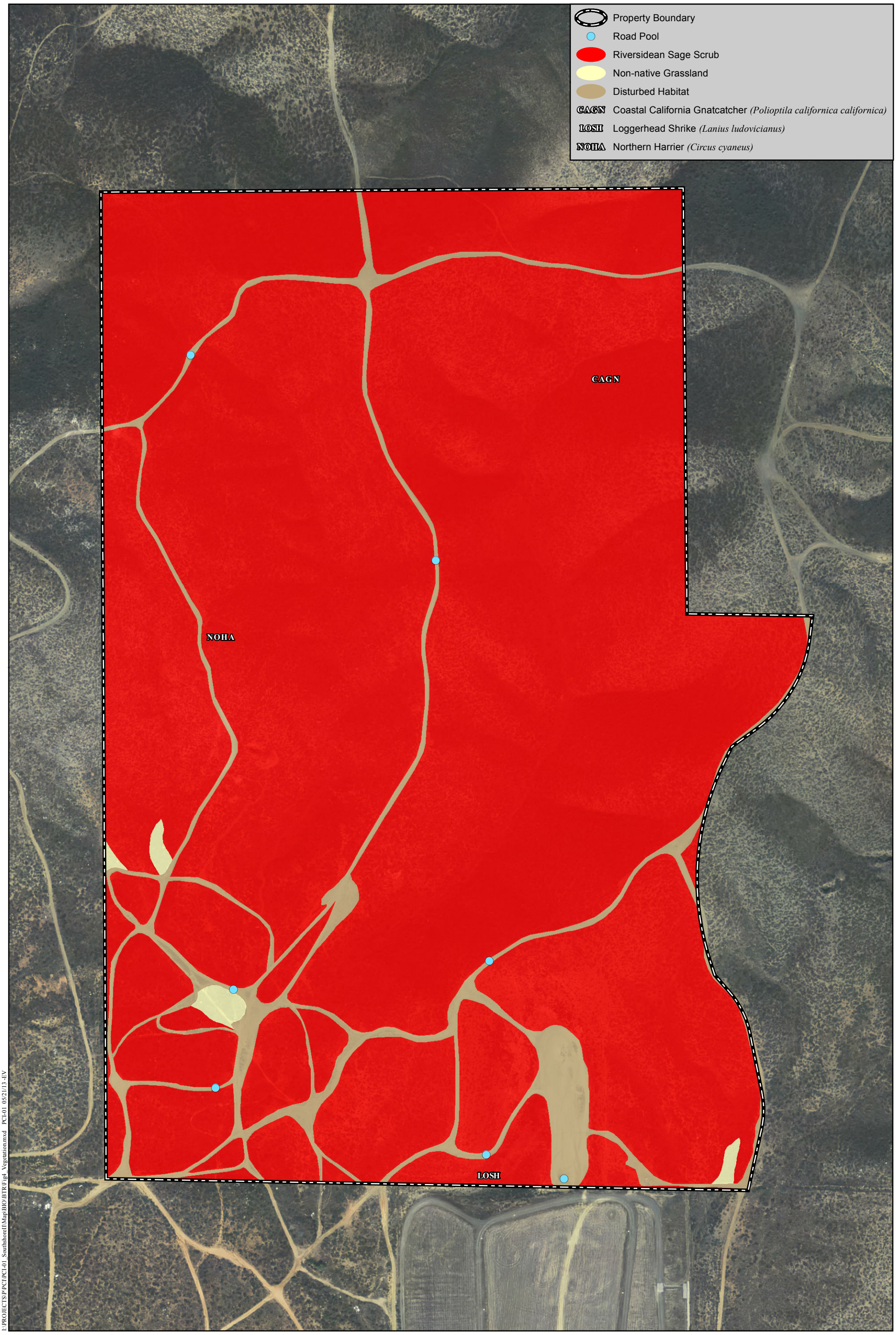
N 0 1,000 Feet

Figure 3



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Vegetation and Sensitive Resources

SOUTH SHORE II

HELIX Environmental Planning

N 0 250 Feet

Figure 4

3.2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The California ESA is similar to the federal ESA in that it contains a process for listing of species and regulating potential impacts to listed species. Section 2081 of the California ESA authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into a memorandum of agreement for take of listed species for scientific, educational, or management purposes. The MSHCP is the regional 2081 for this portion of the County, including the subject property. The golden eagle and white-tailed kite are considered State Fully Protected Species. Fully Protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no state licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting theses species necessary for scientific research and relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock (Fish and Game Code Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515).

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) enacted a process by which plants are listed as rare or endangered. The NPPA regulates collection, transport, and commerce in plants that are listed.

The California ESA followed the NPPA and covers both plants and animals that are determined to be endangered or threatened with extinction. Plants listed as rare under NPPA were designated threatened under the California ESA.

The California Fish and Game Code (Section 1600 et seq.) requires an agreement with CDFW for projects affecting riparian and wetland habitats through issuance of a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

3.3 WESTERN RIVERSIDE MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

The MSHCP is a comprehensive multi-jurisdictional effort that includes Riverside County and multiple cities, including the City in western Riverside County. Rather than address sensitive species on an individual basis, the MSHCP focuses on the conservation of 146 species, proposing a reserve system of approximately 500,000 acres and a mechanism to fund and implement the reserve system (Dudek 2003). Most importantly, the MSHCP allows participating entities to issue take permits for listed species so that individual applicants need not seek their own permits from the USFWS and/or CDFW. The MSHCP was adopted on June 17, 2003, by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. The Incidental Take Permit was issued by both the USFWS and CDFW on June 22, 2004. As this property is in the City, the City is the lead agency/permittee.

The proposed project site is located with Subunit 5 (Ramsgate) of the Elsinore Area Plan of the MSHCP. The entire project site occurs within MSHCP Criteria Cell 4459 of Cell Group B' (Figure 3, Table 1).

Table 1 ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER MSHCP LOCATION					
APN	**CELL**	**CELL GROUP**	**ACRES**	**AREA PLAN**	**SUB UNIT**
363020002	4459	B'	5.9	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020003	4459	B'	6.1	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020011	4459	B'	4.0	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020012	4459	B'	5.4	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020013	4459	B'	5.0	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020014	4459	B'	6.9	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020015	4459	B'	23.4	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
363020018	4459	B'	15	Elsinore	SU5 - Ramsgate
		TOTAL	**71.7**		

4.0 METHODS

Project site evaluation involved a literature review, delineation of jurisdictional waters, a Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool habitat assessment, burrowing owl habitat assessment, and vegetation mapping, along with a general habitat assessment of the potential for sensitive species to occur on the property. The methods used to evaluate the biological resources present in the study area are discussed in this section. Plant and animal species observed or detected in the study area are listed in Appendices A and B, respectively. Appendix C contains definitions of plant and animal species designations used in this report.

4.1 NOMECLATURE AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Nomenclature for this report follows Baldwin et al. (2012) for plants and the MSHCP (Dudek 2003) for vegetation community classifications, with additional vegetation community information taken from Holland (1986). Animal nomenclature follows Emmel and Emmel (1973) for butterflies, Center for North American Herpetology (Collins and Taggart 2012) for reptiles and amphibians, American Ornithologists' Union (2012) for birds, and Baker et al. (2003) for mammals. Sensitive plant and animal status is taken from the CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (2011; 2013a through d) and the California Native Plant Society rare plant inventory (CNPS 2013). Soils classifications are obtained from Knecht (1971) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (2005).

4.2 FIELD SURVEYS

4.2.1 Vegetation Mapping

HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. (HELIX) Biologists Rob Hogenauer and Stacy Nigro walked the study area and mapped vegetation on aerial photographs (1"=200' scale). Vegetation communities were mapped according to vegetation community classifications in the MSHCP (Dudek 2003) and according to Holland (1986). Vegetation communities were mapped to one tenth of an acre (0.1 acre) with the exception of wetland communities that were mapped to one hundredth of an acre (0.01 acre).

4.2.2 Jurisdictional Delineation

A jurisdictional delineation was conducted by Mr. Hogenauer and Ms. Nigro. Ms. Nigro and Mr. Hogenauer collected data in areas that were suspected to be habitats under either U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or CDFW on February 20, 2013, with additional data collection by Mr. Hogenauer on March 18, 2013. The formal jurisdictional delineation was conducted on the entire 71.7 acre project site.

The USACE wetland boundaries were determined using the three criteria (vegetation, hydrology, and soils) established for wetland delineations, as described within the Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and Arid West Regional Supplement (USACE 2008a).

The results presented here are also consistent with recent court decisions (i.e., Rapanos v. United States, Carabell v. United States, and Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. USACOE), as outlined and applied by the USACE (USACE 2007; Grumbles and Woodley 2007); and USACE and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA 2007); and EPA and USACE (2007). These publications explain that the EPA and USACE will assert jurisdiction over traditional navigable waters (TNW) and tributaries to TNWs that are a relatively permanent water body (RPW), which has year-round or continuous seasonal flow. For water bodies that are not RPWs, a significant nexus evaluation is used to determine if the non-RPW is jurisdictional.

Areas were determined to be non-wetland waters of the U.S. (WUS) if there was evidence of regular surface flow (e.g., bed and bank), but neither the vegetation nor soils criterion was met. Jurisdictional limits for these areas were defined by the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), which is defined in 33 CFR Section 329.11 as "that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of the soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter or debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas."

The CDFW jurisdictional boundaries were determined based on the presence of riparian vegetation or regular surface flow. Streambeds within CDFW jurisdiction were delineated based on the definition of streambed as "a body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supporting fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports riparian vegetation"

(Title 14, Section 1.72). Riparian habitat is not defined in Title 14, but the section refers to vegetation and habitat associated with a stream. The CDFW jurisdictional habitat includes all riparian shrub or tree canopy that may extend beyond the banks of a stream.

4.2.3 Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool Habitat Assessment

The MSHCP defines Riparian/Riverine habitat "as lands which contain Habitat dominated by [trees], shrubs, persistent emergents, or emergent mosses and lichens, which occur close to or which depend upon soil moisture from a nearby fresh water source; or areas with fresh water flow during all or a portion of the year." The MSHCP defines Vernal Pools as "seasonal wetlands that occur in depression areas that have wetlands indicators of all three parameters (soils, vegetation, and hydrology) during the wetter portion of the growing season but normally lack wetlands indicators of hydrology and/or vegetation during the drier portion of the growing season" (Dudek 2003). The property was assessed for the presence of Riparian/Riverine and vernal pool habitats through a review of literature sources and an on-site evaluation. Aerial photographs, topographic maps, and soils maps were reviewed for signs of flowing or ponded water, topographic depressions, and drainage features. The on-site evaluation consisted of a directed search for field characteristics indicative of Riparian/Riverine or vernal pool habitats. Field indicators include certain plants, drainage courses, drainage patterns, ponded water, changes in soil character, changes in vegetation character, and deposits of water-borne debris.

In accordance with the MSHCP, Mr. Hogenauer and Ms. Nigro conducted a Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool habitat assessment on February 20, 2013, concurrently with the wetland delineation field effort with a follow up visit by Mr. Hogenauer on March 18, 2013. All Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool habitats (if present on site) were mapped on an aerial photograph (1"=200' scale).

Riparian Birds

The study area was assessed for habitat that could support the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), and western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*). Typical habitat for least Bell's vireo consists of well-developed riparian scrub, woodland, or forest dominated by willows (*Salix* spp.), mule fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), and western cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*). Least Bell's vireo will also use small patches of trees adjacent to dense riparian habitat. Southern willow flycatcher and the western yellow-billed cuckoo require mature riparian forest with a stratified canopy and nearby water. The MSHCP requires surveys to be conducted for projects that have impacts to suitable habitat for the aforementioned riparian birds. No suitable habitat occurs within the impact area for these species, and no focused surveys were conducted.

Fairy Shrimp

There are 3 species of sensitive fairy shrimp that occur in western Riverside County: Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), Santa Rosa Plateau fairy shrimp (*Linderiella santarosae*), and vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*). The study area was surveyed for habitat, such as vernal pools or ephemeral ponds, which could support fairy shrimp.

Indicators of potential fairy shrimp habitat that were searched for include basins, ruts, cracked mud, algal mats, and drift lines. No vernal pools occur within the project area, however 7 road pools were observed. The pools were checked for ponded water following a rain event. None of the on-site pools had standing water 10 days following a rain event.

4.2.4 Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment

A burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) survey was conducted by Mr. Hogenauer on February 20, 2013. In accordance with the MSHCP burrowing owl survey instructions (County 2006), the study area was assessed for potential burrowing owl habitat by Mr. Hogenauer. Basic burrowing owl habitat requirements include open expanses of sparsely vegetated areas (less than 30 percent canopy cover for trees and shrubs), gently rolling or level terrain, an abundance of small mammal burrows (especially those of California ground squirrel [*Spermophilus beecheyi*]), and/or fence posts, rock, or other low perching locations. No suitable habitat occurs within the project site for this species, and no focused surveys were conducted.

5.0 RESULTS

Research and survey results are reported here, with their relevance discussed in Section 6 of this document. The lists of plant and animal species observed are included as Appendices A and B.

5.1 SOILS

The MSHCP lists 9 sensitive soil types as occurring within the Plan Area (Dudek 2003). None of the MSHCP sensitive soils occurs on the property. Cajalco rocky fine sandy loam occurs on the western third of the property and Lodo rocky loam occurs on the remainder of the property. These soil types can have clay inclusions.

5.2 VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

The study area consists of 3 vegetation communities including Riversidean sage scrub, non-native grassland, and disturbed habitat (Table 2). The Riversidean sage scrub comprises over 90 percent of the study area vegetation (Figure 4).

5.2.1 Riversidean Sage Scrub

Riversidean sage scrub is dominated by a characteristic suite of low-statured, aromatic, drought-deciduous shrubs and subshrub species. Composition varies substantially depending on physical circumstances and the successional status of the vegetation community; however, characteristic species include California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), brittle bush (*Encelia farinosa*), and several species of sage (e.g., *Salvia mellifera, S. apiana*; [Holland 1986]).

Dominant species in this vegetation community on site are brittle bush, California sagebrush, and California buckwheat. Approximately 66.8 acres of Riversidean sage scrub occur within the project area (Table 1; Figure 4).

5.2.2 Non-native Grassland

Non-native grassland is a dense to sparse cover of annual grasses, often associated with numerous species of showy-flowered native annual forbs. Characteristic species include oats (*Avena* sp.), red brome (*Bromus rubens*), ripgut grass (*B. diandrus*), ryegrass (*Lolium* sp.), and mustard (*Brassica* sp.). Most of the annual introduced species that comprise the majority of species and biomass within the non-native grassland originated from the Mediterranean region, an area with a long history of agriculture and a climate similar to California. These two factors, combined with intensive grazing and agricultural practices in conjunction with severe droughts, contributed to the successful invasion and establishment of these species and the replacement of native grasslands with annual-dominated non-native grassland (Jackson 1985).

The dominant species in this vegetation community on the project site is wild oat (*Avena* sp.). Other species in the non-native grassland are tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*), red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), short pod mustard (Hirshfeldia incana), and fiddle neck (*Amsinkia menzeisii*). Approximately 0.4 acre of non-native grassland occurs on the project site (Table 1; Figure 4).

5.2.3 Disturbed Habitat

Disturbed habitat includes land cleared of vegetation (e.g., dirt roads), land containing a preponderance of non-native plant species such as ornamentals or ruderal exotic species that take advantage of disturbance (previously cleared or abandoned landscaping), or land showing signs of past or present animal usage that removes any capability of providing viable habitat.

The disturbed habitat mapped on site consists of dirt roads. When vegetation is present, it typically consists of tocalote, red-stemmed filaree, and short-pod mustard. Disturbed habitat totals approximately 4.5 acres in the project area (Table 1; Figure 4).

Table 2
VEGETATION COMMUNITIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

HABITAT	ACRES
Riversidean sage scrub	66.8
Non-native grassland	0.4
Disturbed habitat	4.5
TOTAL	**71.7**

5.3 JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION

No jurisdictional habitats occur within the project area. The jurisdictional delineation revealed that no habitat or water features jurisdictional to USACE or CDFW occur within the project area.

5.3.1 Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool Habitat Assessment

The identification of Riparian/Riverine habitats is based on potential for the habitat to support Riparian/Riverine Covered Species, which are identified in MSHCP Section 6.1.2. The MSHCP states that "areas demonstrating characteristics [of Riparian/Riverine habitat] which are artificially created are not included in these definitions" of Riparian/Riverine habitat.

No Riparian/Riverine habitat occurs within the study area, and no vernal pool habitats occur. There are 7 road pools that occur on the project site. The road pools all consisted of road ruts located in the dirt roads on the projects site. None of them held standing water 10 days after a rain event consisting of 0.60 inches of rainfall. Riverside fairy shrimp require warm long-lived pools, vernal pool fairy shrimp prefer cool short-lived pools, and the Santa Rosa plateau fairy shrimp is restricted to the Santa Rosa plateau. The pools are shallow (1 to 2 inches at maximum) and do not hold water long enough to support sensitive fairy shrimp; therefore, focused surveys are not required and were not conducted.

5.4 MSHCP FOCUSED SURVEYS

5.4.1 Burrowing Owl Habitat Assessment

The burrowing owl prefers habitat that has less than 30 percent cover of shrubs and over 99 percent of the study area is covered with either dense vegetation or is comprised of dirt or paved roads. Burrowing owls also prefer flat to gentle rolling hills and are known to occasionally use cliffs adjacent to open habitat. The 0.4 acre of grassland present on site occurs adjacent to dirt roads and does not comprise habitat with potential to support burrowing owls. It was determined that burrowing owl habitat does not occur in the study area and focused surveys for burrowing owl are not required.

5.4.2 Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool Species Assessment

The study area was assessed for the presence of Riparian/Riverine and vernal pool habitats and the species that may occur in these areas.

Vernal Pool and Fairy Shrimp

The study area was surveyed for vernal pools and vernal pool indicators. Clay soils are not shown to occur on the property but clay inclusions have potential to occur on site. No vernal pools occur on site but 7 road pools were observed. On March 8, 2013, the Lake Elsinore area received approximately 0.60 inches of rainfall (weatherunderground 2013). The road pools were inspected 10 days following this rain event and none of the road pools had standing water. The pools do not hold water long enough to support sensitive fairy shrimp.

The road pools on site are all shallow, as is common with road pools. The pools do not have potential to support Riverside fairy shrimp due to their shallow nature. Vernal pool fairy shrimp can occur in shallow pools, but the road pools on site do not hold water long enough (at least 10 days) to support this species. No fairy shrimp surveys were conducted and they are not required.

Riparian/Riverine Avian Habitat

The project site does not support riparian woodland. No habitat with potential to support sensitive riparian birds such as the least Bell's vireo occurs on site. No surveys for riparian bird species are required.

5.5 OTHER SENSITIVE SPECIES

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was conducted along with an in-house database for sensitive plants and animals that have potential to occur in the project vicinity. There are 13 sensitive plant species, 6 of which are federally and/or state listed species, which were determined to have potential to occur in the project vicinity (Table 3). These include the federal and state listed as endangered slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*), California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*), federally listed as endangered and state listed as threatened Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*), federally listed as endangered San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*), San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*), and the federally listed as threatened and state listed as endangered thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filafolia*).

Munz's onion and thread-leaved brodiaea have a low potential to occur on site, the remainder of the listed species do not have any potential to occur on site. The project site is not within an area that requires rare plant surveys under the MSHCP. Munz's onion and thread-leaved brodiaea are covered species and no mitigation is required for potential impacts as long as the project is in compliance with the MSHCP.

Table 3
STATUS OF SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES
ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*)	FE/SE CNPS List 1B.1	Chaparral, woodland, scrub, sandy soil on drought prone alluvial benches that seldom flood.	Not expected. No flood plain habitat on site.
California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*)	FE/SE CNPS List 1B	Vernal pools	Not expected. No vernal pools on site.

Table 3 (cont.)
STATUS OF SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
Munz's onion (*Allium munzii*)	FE/ST CNPS List 1B	Clay soils, opening in grassland, sage scrub	Low. Clay soils not mapped on site. Some potential for clay inclusions.
San Jacinto Valley crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *notatior*)	FE/-- CNPS List 1B.1	Occurs in playas, chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools. From 1,250 to 1,805 feet in elevation.	Not expected. Preferred habitat does not occur on site.
San Diego ambrosia (*Ambrosia pumila*)	FE/-- CNPS List 1B.1	Floodplain terraces and vernal pool margins	Not expected. Preferred habitat does not occur on site.
thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*)	FT/SE CNPS List 1B	Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodlands, coastal scrub, playas, vernal pools, and valley and foothill grasslands, usually in clay soils. From 80 to 2,820 feet in elevation.	Low. Clay soils not mapped on site. Some potential for clay inclusions.
Palmer's grapplinghook (*Harpagonella palmeri*)	--/-- CNPS List 4.2	Clay soil, chaparral, sage scrub and grassland	Low. Sage scrub on site, but low potential for clay soils.
Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*)	--/-- CNPS List 1B.1	Alkaline habitats associated w/Travers soil	Not expected. No travers soil or alkaline habitat on site.
round-leaved filaree (*California macrophylla*)	--/-- CNPS List 1B.1	Clay soils, woodland and grassland	Not expected. No clay soils mapped on site. No woodland and only 0.4 acre of disturbed grassland.

Table 3 (cont.)
STATUS OF SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
smooth tarplant (*Centromadia pungens* spp. *laevis*)	--/-- CNPS List 1B	Riparian/watercourses, grassland, alkali scrub	Not expected. No riparian habitat on site, and only 0.4 acre of disturbed grassland.
Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*)	--/-- CNPS List 3	Openings in chaparral and sage scrub, sandy, or rocky soil	Moderate. Sage scrub and rocky soils occur on site.
long-spined spineflower (*Chorizanthe polygonoides* var. *longispina*)	--/-- CNPS List 1B	Chaparral, sage scrub, grassland, often in clay soils	Low. Sage scrub occurs on site, low potential for clay soils.
many-stemmed dudleya (*Dudleya multicaulis*)	--/-- CNPS List 1B	Clay soils in barren, rocky areas with limited vegetation	Not expected. Site has relative dense vegetative cover.

There are 26 sensitive animals with potential to occur within the study area, 3 of which were observed on site (Table 5). The coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) is a federally listed as threatened species, and a single individual was observed singing on the northeastern portion of the site (Figure 4). Northern harrier and loggerhead shrike are California state species of concern, and were observed in the study area. All of these species are fully covered under the MSHCP and require no mitigation other than compliance with the MSHCP. Of the remaining 23 species, 7 are listed at the federal and/or state level: the federal and state listed as endangered least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher; the federally listed as endangered and state listed as threatened Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*); the federally listed as endangered Riverside fairy shrimp (*Strephtocephalus wootonii*) and Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and the federally listed as threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchii*) and western snowy plover (*Charadrus alexandrinus nivosus*).

None of the listed animal species has potential to occur within the proposed impact area except for the aforementioned coastal California gnatcatcher and the Quino checkerspot butterfly. Both are fully covered by compliance with the MSHCP; no surveys or additional mitigation are required.

Table 4
STATUS OF SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
Least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*)	FE/SE	Riparian areas with dense ground cover and stratified canopy, prefers willows	Not expected. No riparian habitat on site.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)	FE/SE	Dense mature riparian woodland with willows and/or cottonwoods	Not expected. No riparian habitat on site.
Stephen's kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*)	FE/ST	Open areas with sparse perennial cover and loose soil	Not expected. Sage scrub on site too dense for typical habitat of species.
Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*)	FE/SSC	Open areas, sparse vegetation, flowers. Host plants include *Plantago* spp., *Antirrhinum coulterianum*, *Cordylanthus rigidus*	Low. Host plant (plantago) present, but shrubs relatively dense.
Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus wootonii*)	FE/--	Deep vernal pools or seasonal ponds; preferred soils are Murrieta stony clay loams, Las Posas series, Wyman clay loam, and willows	Not expected. No vernal pools, or deep ephemeral ponds on site.
Vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*)	FT/--	Short lived cool water vernal pools	Not expected. No vernal pools on site. Road pools are short lived, shallow, warm pools.
Western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*)	FT/SSC	Coastal beaches, sand dune beaches, river mouths, estuaries	Not expected. No beaches or other riparian habitat on site.

Table 4 (cont.)
STATUS OF SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*)	FT/SSC	Coastal sage and other low scrub	**Present.** Species observed on site.
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus califonrinicus bennettii*)	--/SSC	Primarily open scrub with short grasses	High. Species locally common, scrub habitat occurs on site.
Bell's sage sparrow (*Amphispiza belli belli*)	--/SSC	Evenly spaced sage scrub	High. Sage scrub habitat occurs on site.
Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*)	--/SSC	Grassland, fallow agriculture, areas of sparse cover, preferable with burrows of fossorial mammals	Not expected. Scrub on site dense, site not typical of species preferred habitat.
Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei*)	--/SSC	Grassland, scrub, chaparral, and woodland	Moderate. Scrub habitat occurs on site. Species locally common.
Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*)	--/SSC	Forest and woodland habitats; will forage in grasslands	Not expected. Woodland habitat not on site. Grassland habitat not large enough for forrage.
Northern red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*)	--/SSC	Heavy brush, boulders, can use a variety of habitats; prey density determining factor	Moderate. Rocky, brushy habiatat on site. Species locally common.
Orange-throated whiptail (*Cnemidophorus hyperthrus*)	--/SSC	Chaparral, sage scrub, grassland, woodland, and riparian areas	Moderate. Scrub habitat occurs on site.
white-faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)	--/SSC	Shallow marshes, spoils banks, meadows, marshes	Not expected. Species habitat does not occur on site.

Table 4 (cont.)
STATUS OF SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

SPECIES	SENSITIVITY STATUS*	HABITAT	STATUS ON SITE
Southern California rufous crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*)	--/SSC	Hillsides, with grassland, sage scrub, or chaparral	High. Scrub habitat and hills occur on site.
coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*)	--/SSC	Coastal and desert scrub, chaparral, washes. A generalist.	low. Species uncommon, scrub habitat does occur on site, no washes.
western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*)	--/SSC	Grassland, sage scrub or occasionally chaparral. Standing water, puddles, vernal pools, needed for reproduction.	Low. Road pools do occur, but are short lived and not sufficient for breeding.
Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*)	--/SSC	Grassland, fallow agriculture, and areas of sparse cover, preferably with burrows of fossorial mammals	Not expected. Preferred habitat does not occur on site.
San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax fallax*)	--/SSC	Sparse Sage scrub and grassland, sandy soils	Low. Sage scrub occur on site but has moderate to dense cover.
northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)	--/SSC Nesting habitat protected	Meadows, grassland, scrub, rarely in woodland. Roosts on ground.	**Present.** Species observed foraging on site.
loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*)	--/SSC	Open grassland or shrubland with trees, utility poles, fence post or other perch sites	**Present.** Species observed on southern edge of site at fence line.
California horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris actia*)	--/SSC	Grassland, agriculture fields, and disturbed fields	Not expected. Species prefers open habitat that is not present on site.

Table 4 (cont.) **STATUS OF SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE**			
SPECIES	**SENSITIVITY STATUS***	**HABITAT**	**STATUS ON SITE**
rosy boa (*Lichanura trivirgata*)	--/--	Rocky chaparral hillsides canyons, desert scrub.	Low. Rocky slopes on site with sage scrub but no canyons or chaparral.
white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*)	--/--	Grassland, agriculture wi nearby woodland for nesting	Not expected. No woodland habibat on site. grassland limited to 0.4 acre

6.0 MSHCP ANALYSIS

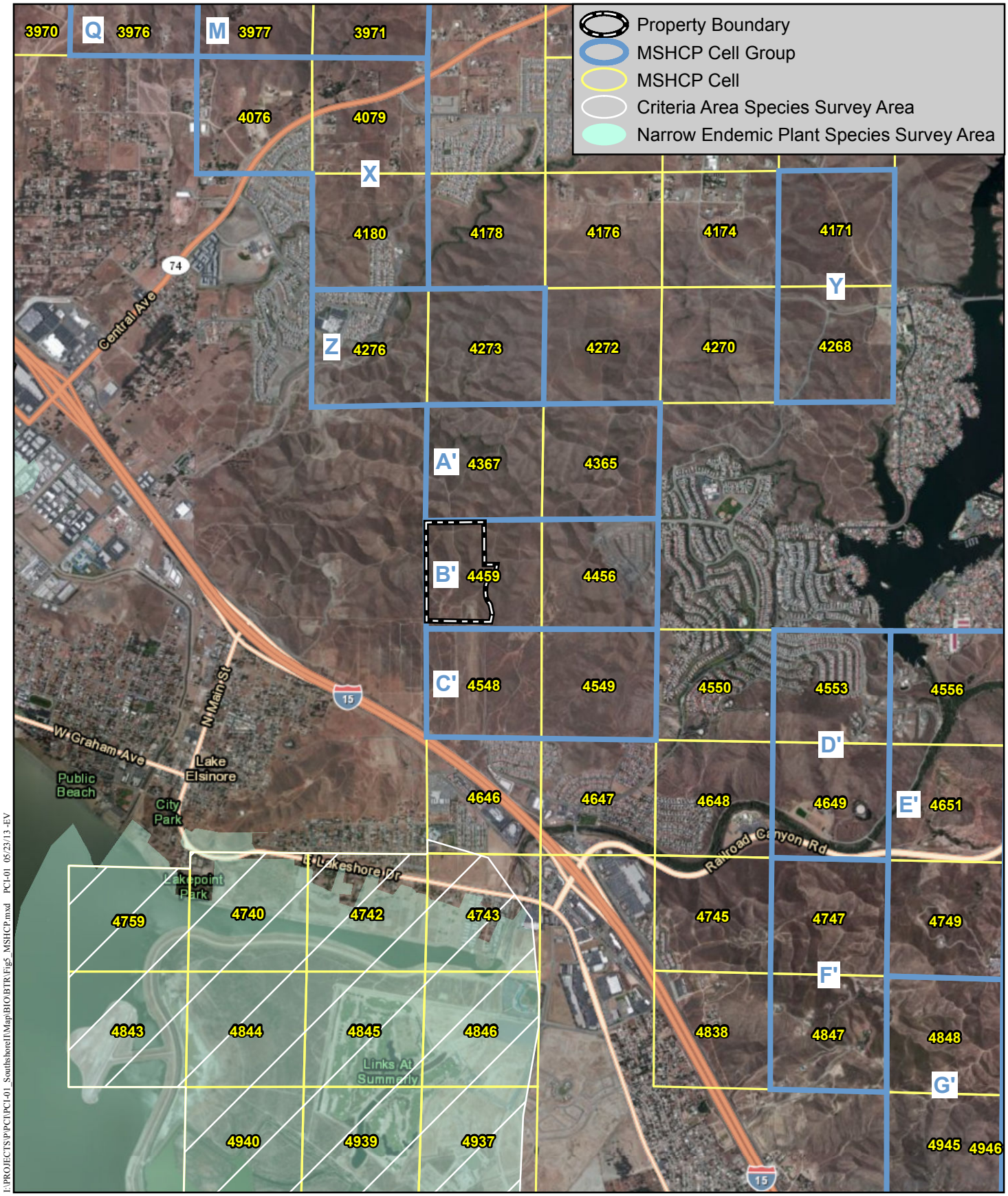
This project has been previously reviewed with respect to the MSHCP prior to the implementation of the MSHCP. The review was conducted in anticipation of the approval of the MSHCP and to provide the City of Lake Elsinore with the preliminary findings of project consistency with the MSHCP (Sauls Company and HELIX 2004). The project was found to be consistent with the conservation goals of the MSHCP and no conservation was required on the project site.

6.1 MSHCP CRITERIA CELLS

The proposed project site is located with Subunit 5 (Ramsgate) of the Elsinore Area Plan of the MSHCP. The entire 71.7-acre property occurs within Criteria Cell 4459 of Cell Group B' (Figure 5). Cell 4459 is the western cell of the 2-cell Cell Group.

The conservation concerns of Subunit 5 of the Elsinore area plan relevant to the project include:

- Provide a northwest-southeast connection along the hills between Estelle Mountain and Sedco Hills, primarily for coastal California gnatcatchers, but also other sage scrub species.
- Conserve clay soils supporting Munz's onion.
- Conserve foraging habitat for raptors, including grasslands and a sage scrub-grassland ecotone.
- Maintain Core and Linkage Habitat for bobcat.
- Maintain Core and Linkage Habitat for Stephens' kangaroo rat.



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MSHCP Criteria Map

SOUTH SHORE II

HELIX Environmental Planning

N

0 3,000 Feet

Figure 5

- Maintain linkage area for western pond turtle.

- Maintain opportunities for linkage area for Quino checkerspot butterfly.

Each Criteria Cell in the MSHCP is comprised of approximately 160 acres and has a conservation goal associated with all or part of the cell (Table 6). Cell Group B' is a 2-cell group that totals 320 acres. The project site includes 74 acres that occur on the western 22 percent of the Cell Group. The Cell Group B' criteria states that 70 to 80 percent of the group is targeted for conservation focusing on the eastern portion of the group. The conservation in Cell Group B' should connect conservation targeted to occur in Cell Group A' to the north and Cell Group C' to the south.

Table 5
CONSERVATION REQUREMENT OF THE MSHCP CRITERIA CELLS

CELL GROUP	CRITERIA CELL	CONSERVATION CRITERIA
B'	4456	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Linkage 8. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on chaparral, coastal sage scrub and grassland habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell Groups A' to the north and C' to the south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 70 percent to 80 percent of the Cell Group focusing in the eastern portion of the Cell Group.
	4459	

7.0 IMPACTS

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, project impacts to biological resources would be considered significant if they would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW and/or USFWS.

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

- Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

- Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

7.1 VEGETATION COMMUNTIES

The proposed project will result in 55.2 acres of vegetation impacts comprised of 50.8 acres of Riversidean sage scrub, 0.4 acre of non-native grassland, and 4.0 acres of disturbed habitat (Table 6; Figure 6). The proposed project will result in preservation of 16.5 acres of habitat (Table 6).

Table 6
VEGETATION IMPACTS FOR SOUTH SHORE II

HABITAT	IMPACTED	AVOIDED/CONSERVED
Riversidean Sage Scrub	50.8	16.0
Non-native grassland	0.4	0
Disturbed habitat	4.0	0.5
TOTAL	**55.2**	**16.5**

Impacts to disturbed habitat and non-native grassland are considered less than significant because of the small area of impact. Impacts to Riversidean sage scrub are considered significant.

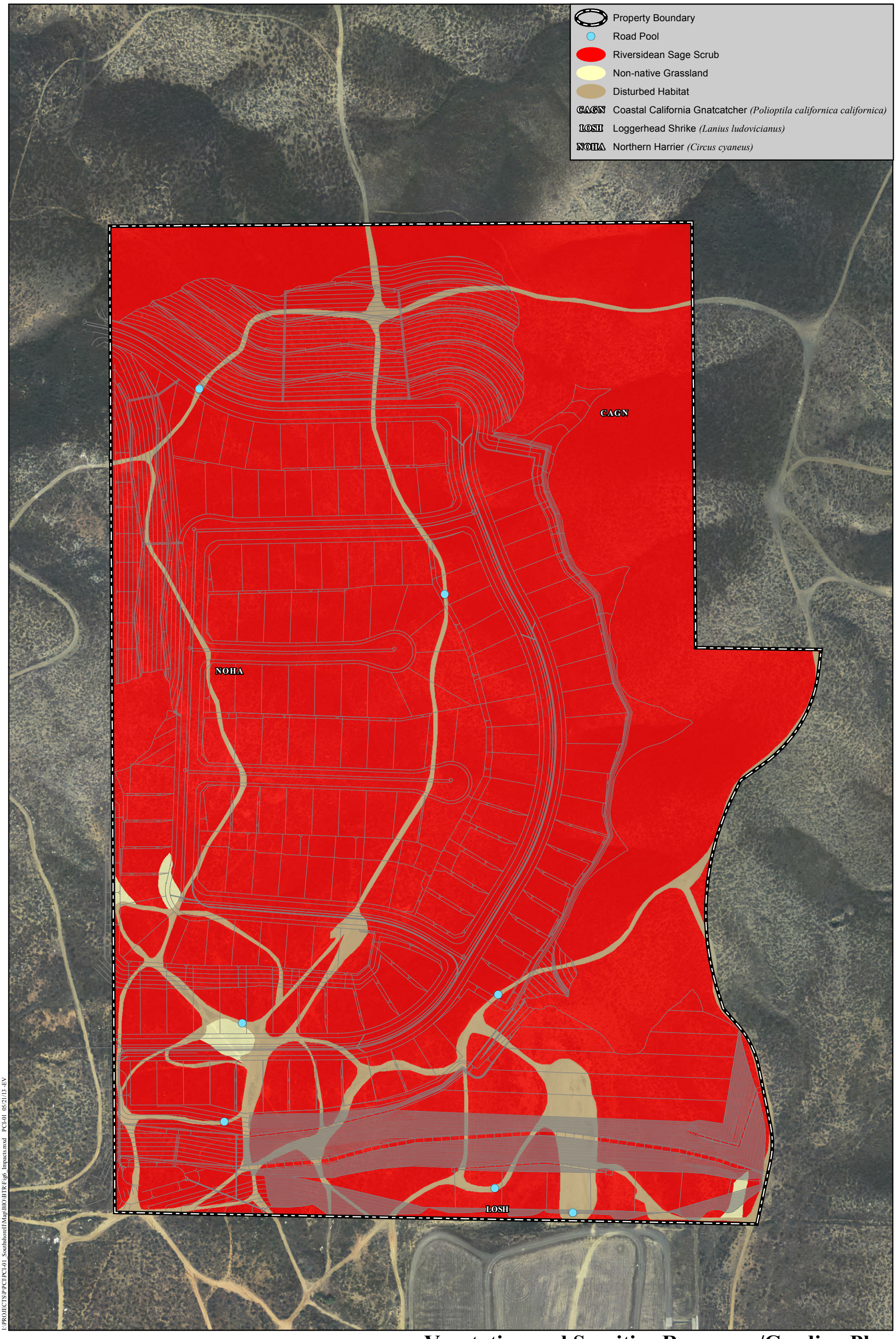
7.2 JURSIDICTIONAL WATERS IMPACTS

No federal or state jurisdictional waters occur on the project site; therefore, no impacts to jurisdictional waters will occur.

7.3 MSHCP IMPACTS

7.3.1 Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool Impacts

There are no Riparian/Riverine or vernal pool resources on site and as a result, there are no impacts to these resource types.



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Vegetation and Sensitive Resources/Grading Plan

SOUTH SHORE II

HELIX Environmental Planning

0 200 Feet

Figure 6

7.3.2 Criteria Cell/Cell Group Impacts

The project proposes impacts to 55.2 acres of habitat that occurs within MSHCP Criteria Cell 4459 of Cell Group B'. The Cell Group criteria states that 70 to 80 percent of the cell group is targeted for conservation focusing on the western portion of the cell. The project impacts occur on the western 17 percent of the cell group a majority of the eastern portion of the cell group available to contribute to the MSHCP reserve. The La Strada Project (TR 32077) has developed 64.5 acres in the eastern portion of the cell group and conserved approximately 75.5 acres within the cell group.

The cell group conservation goals allow for impacts of 20 to 30 percent of the western portion of the cell group. As the proposed project will result in impacts to 17 percent of the western portion of the cell group, the project design complies with the conservation goals of the cell group. The proposed project will result in conservation of 16.5 acres on the project that is contiguous with remaining 155.5 acres of undeveloped land on the central portion of the cell group.

The project will also meet the overall conservation goals for the cell group of providing a northwest-southeast connection along the hills between Estelle Mountain and Sedco Hills for the coastal California gnatcatchers and other sage scrub species. Additional goals are noted below along with how the project proposes to meet these goals.

Conserve clay soils supporting Munz's onion – No clay soils occur on the site and the project lies outside of the Munz's onion survey area.

Conserve foraging habitat for raptors, including grasslands and a sage scrub-grassland ecotone – The project will conserve 16.5 acres of potential foraging habitat for raptors.

Maintain Core and Linkage Habitat for bobcat – The approximately 172 acres of open space between the proposed project and TR 32077 will provide Core and Linkage Habitat for the bobcat.

Maintain Core and Linkage Habitat for Stephens' kangaroo rat – The approximately 172 acres of open space between the proposed project and TR 32077 will provide Core and Linkage Habitat for the Stephens' kangaroo rat.

Maintain linkage area for western pond turtle – There are no potential pond turtle breeding sites in the vicinity of the project although the approximately 172 acres of open space between the proposed project and TR 32077 will provide Linkage Habitat for the western pond turtle.

Maintain opportunities for linkage area for Quino checkerspot butterfly – The approximately 172 acres of open space between the proposed project and TR 32077 will provide Linkage Habitat for the Quino checkerspot butterfly.

All projects that occur within an MHSCP criteria cell are required to go through the Habitat Acquisition and Negotiation Strategy (HANS) process. Impacts to MSHCP Criteria Cells are considered less than significant.

This project has been previously reviewed, along with 15 other projects in the Elsinore area plan, with respect to the MSHCP prior to the implementation of the MSHCP. The review was conducted in anticipation of the approval of the MSHCP and to provide the City of Lake Elsinore with the preliminary findings of project consistency with the MSHCP (Sauls Company and HELIX 2004). The project was found to be consistent with the conservation goals of the MSHCP and conservation was not required on the project site. The current analysis of the project concurs with the previous conclusion that the proposed project is consistent with the conservation goals of the MSHCP and conservation is not required on the project site.

7.4 NESTING BIRDS

Development of the proposed project could disturb or destroy active migratory bird nests if vegetation and ground disturbance occurs during the breeding season of February 1 to August 31. Disturbance to or destruction of migratory bird nests are in violation of the MBTA and are, therefore, considered to be a potentially significant impact.

7.5 CONSISTENCY WITH MSHCP SECTION 6.1.4/INDIRECT IMPACTS

The following measures would be implemented by the project to minimize the identified potential indirect impacts and ensure compliance with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP, including:

- All project runoff would be treated prior to exiting the site to reduce toxins.

- The detention basin proposed within the project footprint would ensure that there is no increase in flows from the project into off-site drainages.

- All project lighting (including that belonging to private property owners) would be required to be selectively placed, directed, and shielded away from conserved habitats along the northern and western portion of the site. In addition, large spotlight-type backyard lighting directed into conserved habitat would be prohibited.

- No plants included on the California Invasive Plant Council's list of invasive species (or in Table 6-2 of the MSHCP) would be used anywhere on the site, and only native species or non-invasive non-native species would be planted adjacent to conservation areas. A list of prohibited species would be provided to homebuyers.

- The proposed project has been designed so that no additional take of conserved habitat would be necessary for fuel modification purposes.

- Enclosure fences (wood, tubular steel) would be installed along the interface where residential development abuts conserved habitat. Signs would be posted at potential access points into the MSHCP conservation area informing residents of the wildlife habitat value of the open space to minimize intrusions.

- Manufactured slopes associated with the proposed site development would not extend into the MSHCP conservation area.

The above measures would serve to minimize the adverse effects of the project on conservation configuration and would minimize management challenges that can arise from development located adjacent to conserved habitat.

8.0 MITIGATION

8.1 PROPOSED MITIGATION

Impact 8.1.1 Impacts to50.8 acres of Riversidean sage scrub are considered significant.

MM 8.1.1 Impacts to Riversidean sage scrub shall be mitigated through payment of the MSHCP Local Mitigation Development Fee. The MSHCP Local Mitigation Development Fee in the amount of $1,938 per dwelling unit must be paid at the time a certificate of occupancy is issued for the residential unit or development project or upon final inspection (whichever occurs first).

Impact 8.1.2 Impacts to breeding birds are considered significant.

MM 8.1.2 Clearing and grubbing shall occur outside of the bird breeding season (February 1 to August 31), unless a qualified biologist demonstrates to the satisfaction of the City that all nesting is complete through completion of a Nesting Bird Clearance Survey. A Nesting Bird Clearance Survey report shall be submitted to the City for review and approval prior to initiating clearing and grubbing during the breeding season.

No species on List 6.2 of the MSHCP shall be utilized on the site (including any hydroseed mix used for interim erosion control) in order to be consistent with Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP.

8.2 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

With implementation of the mitigation measures listed in Section 8.0 for significant impacts to sensitive biological resources, impacts from construction and occupation of the proposed project would be rendered less than significant.

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Appendix A

PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED

Appendix A
PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED ON THE SOUTH SHORE II PROJECT SITE

FAMILY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
Dicotyledons		
Asteraceae	*Artemisia californica*	California sagebrush
Asteraceae	*Centaurea melitensis*	tocalote
Asteraceae	*Chaenactis* sp.	pincushion
Asteraceae	*Encelia farinosa*	brittlebush
Asteraceae	*Gutierrezia sp*	matchweed
Boraginaceae	*Amsinckia menziesii var. intermedia*	Common fiddleneck
Boraginaceae	*Cryptantha spp.*	popcorn flower
Boraginaceae	*Plagiobothrys sp.*	popcorn flower
Brassicaceae	*Descurainia pinnata*	tansy mustard
Brassicaceae	*Hirschfeldia incana* *	short pod mustard
Brassicaceae	*Lepidium nitidum*	shining pepperweed
Cactaceae	*Cylindropuntia spp.*	cholla
Cucurbitaceae	*Marah macrocarpus*	wild cucumber
Cuscutaceae	*Cuscuta sp.*	dodder
Fabaceae	*Acmispon glaber*	deer weed
Fabaceae	*Lupinus bicolor*	miniature lupine
Fabaceae	*Lupinus truncatus*	chaparral lupine
Geraniaceae	*Erodium cicutarium**	red-stem filaree
Hydrophyllaceae	*Nemophila menziesii*	baby blue-eyes
Hydrophyllaceae	*Phacelia sp.*	phacelia
Lamiaceae	*Salvia apiana*	white sage
Malvaceae	*Malva parviflora* *	cheeseweed
Malvaceae	*Sidalcea malviflora*	checkerbloom
Nyctaginaceae	*Mirabilis laevis*	desert wishbone-bush
Onagraceae	*Camissonia bistorta*	southern suncup
Papaveraceae	*Eschscholzia californica*	California poppy
Plantaginaceae	*Plantago erecta*	dwarf Plantain
Polygonaceae	*Eriogonum fasciculatum*	California buckwheat
Monocotyledones		
Liliaceae	*Dichelostemma capitatum*	blue dicks
Poaceae	*Avena sp.* *	oat
Poaceae	*Leymus sp.*	wild rye

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Appendix B

ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED OR DETECTED

Appendix B
ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED OR DETECTED – SOUTH SHORE II

FAMILY	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
INVERTEBRATES		
Apiidae	*Apis melifera*	honey Bee
Formicidae	*Pogonomyrex* sp.	harvester ant
Nymphalinae	*Vannessa annabella*	west coast lady butterfly
Riodinidae	*Apodemia vergulti*	Behr's metalmark butterfly
Tenebrionidae	*Eleodes* sp.	darkling beetle
Nymphalinae	*Vanessa cardui*	painted lady butterfly
VERTEBRATES		
Reptiles		
Phrynosomatidae	*Uta stansburiana*	common side-blotched lizard
Birds		
Accipitridae	*Buteo jamaicensis*	red-tailed hawk
Aegithalidae	*Psaltriparus minimus*	bushtit
Emberizidae	*Zonotrichia leucophyrys*	white-crowned sparrow
Tyrannidae	*Tyrannus vociferans*	Cassin's kingbird
Cathartidae	*Cathartes aura*	turkey vulture
	Corvus corax	common raven
Cuculidae	*Geococcyx californianus*	greater road runner
Emberizidae	*Pipilo crissalis*	California towhee
Fringillidae	*Carpodacus mexicanus*	house finch
Icteridae	*Sturnella neglecta*	western meadowlark
Odontophoridae	*Callipepla californica*	California quail
Sylviidae	*Polioptila californica californica*†	coastal California gnatcatcher
Trochilidae	*Calypte anna*	Anna's hummingbird
		Loggerhead shrike
Troglodytidae	*Thryomanes bewickii*	Bewick's wren
Falconidae	*Falco sparverius*	American kestrel
Accipitridae	*Circus cyaneus*	northern harrier
Mammals		
Canidae	*Canis latrans*	coyote
Geomyidae	*Thomomys bottae*	Botta's pocket gopher
Leporidae	*Lepus californicus bennettii*†	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit
	Sylvilagus audubonii	desert cottontail
Cervidae	*Odocoileus hemionus*	mule deer

†Sensitive or listed species

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Appendix C

EXPLANATION OF STATUS CODES FOR PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

BCC Birds of Conservation Concern
FE Federally listed endangered
FT Federally listed threatened

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)

SE State listed endangered
ST State listed threatened
SSC State species of special concern

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Covered

MSHCP Covered indicates that the species is part of a proposed list of species (146 total) considered at this time to be adequately conserved by the Western Riverside MSHCP, provided that participants meet all conditions listed in the Final MSHCP.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Codes

Lists

1A = Presumed extinct.

1B = Rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. Eligible for state listing.

2 = Rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere. Eligible for state listing.

3 = Distribution, endangerment, ecology, and/or taxonomic information needed. Some eligible for state listing.

4 = A watch list for species of limited distribution. Needs monitoring for changes in population status. Few (if any) eligible for state listing.

List/Threat Code Extensions

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

.2 = Fairly endangered in California (20 to 80 percent occurrences threatened)

.3 = Not very endangered in California (less than 20 percent of occurrences threatened, or no current threats known)

A CA Endemic entry corresponds to those taxa that only occur in California.

All List 1A (presumed extinct in California) and some List 3 (need more information; a review list) plants lacking threat information receive no threat code extension. Threat Code guidelines represent only a starting point in threat level assessment. Other factors, such as habitat vulnerability and specificity, distribution, and condition of occurrences are considered in setting the Threat Code.

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