

**APPENDIX C**  
**Biological Assessment and Jurisdictional Delineation**

Biological Assessment and Jurisdictional Delineation

# Conejo Creek Park

## Southwest Development



City of Thousand Oaks,  
Ventura County, California

PREPARED FOR:

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JANUARY 2019

**CONEJO CREEK PARK SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT  
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND  
JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION**

*City of Thousand Oaks,  
Ventura County, California*

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

Conejo Recreation & Park District (the District or Applicant) engaged Envicom Corporation (Envicom) to complete a biological inventory and jurisdictional delineation for the proposed Conejo Creek Park Southwest Project (project) located north of the Combes Avenue and bisected by Paige Lane, within the City of Thousand Oaks, California (see **Figure 1, Regional Location Map**). The project site is bordered by the residential development to the south, Conejo Creek and its associated riparian woodland habitat to the west and north, and the CA-23 Freeway to the east.

The survey was conducted to provide an inventory of the biological resources at the project site and an analysis of impacts to biological resources for use in preparation of a CEQA document for the proposed project. In addition, this report discusses the existing biological conditions of the drainage courses, and identifies the extent of jurisdictional habitat for those resources, pursuant to the requirements of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The intent of this report is to provide the applicant and their engineers with existing conditions information to design the ultimate conditions, as well as provide a baseline condition for use by the trustee agencies in their review of the proposed impacts. The report first covers the literature reviewed and field surveys conducted to identify the biological resources at the site, followed by a discussion of existing biological conditions and mapped biological resources. The existing conditions discussion is followed by project impacts and recommended mitigation measures to offset the impacts. This impact analysis relies on the Site Plan provided by the Applicant (**Appendix 1**).

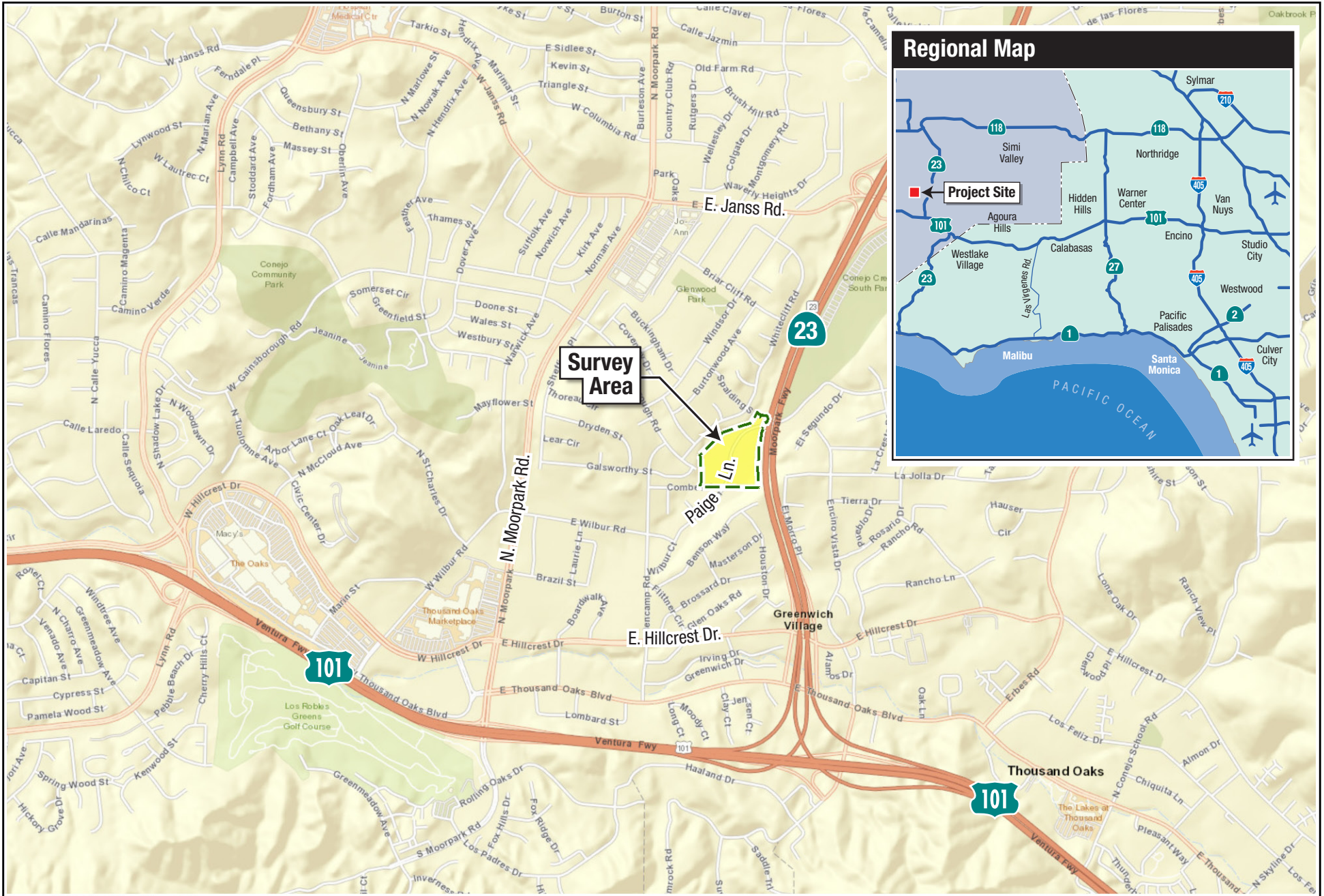
### 1.2 SURVEY AREA

The map location of the project site is within the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 10, T2N, R20W, of the USGS 7.5 Minute Thousand Oaks topographical quadrangle, as shown on Figure 1. Elevation in the survey area ranges from approximately 765 – 790 feet above mean sea level (amsl). The survey area encompasses potential jurisdictional features within portions of Assessor's Parcel Numbers 677-0-110-325, -295, -335, -275, and -365, which includes approximately 14 acres of maintained non-native grasslands within the foothills where the Santa Monica Mountains transition to the Simi Hills. Combes Avenue loosely binds the survey area to the south with the proposed grading envelope binding the remainder of the survey area to the north, east, and west (**Figure 2, Aerial Image and View Locations**).

### 1.3 SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The site is located in the Conejo Groundwater Basin. This groundwater basin underlies Conejo Valley in southern Ventura County. The basin is bounded by surface drainage divides. Ground surface elevation ranges from 300 to 2,300 feet above sea level and surface waters are drained westward by Conejo Creek. The primary water-bearing units in the basin are Quaternary alluvium and the Modelo, Topanga, and Conejo Formations. Ground water in the basin is generally unconfined and generally flows westward. Average annual precipitation ranges from 13 to 17 inches. Recharge to the basin is provided by percolation of rainfall to the valley floor, percolation of surface water from Conejo Creek and its tributaries, and irrigation return (California Department of Water Resources 2004).

Annual average temperature in the vicinity of the study area is 62.65 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). Average low temperature is 51°F and average high temperature is 74.3°F (US Climate Data 2018).



Sources: ESRI, World Street Map, 2016.

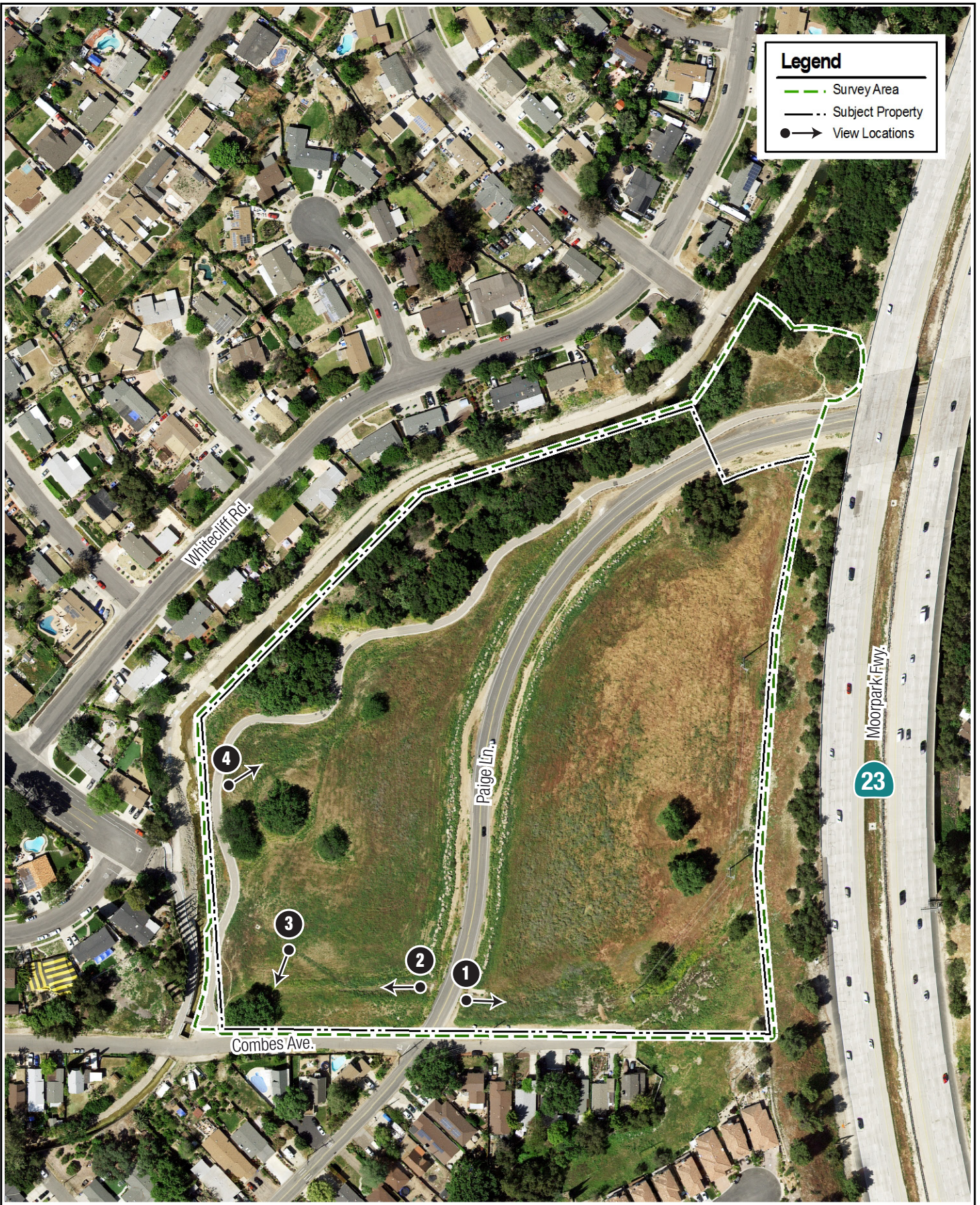
CONEJO CREEK PARK SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT - BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION



Regional Location Map



FIGURE 1

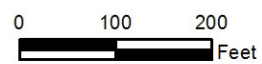


**Legend**

- Survey Area
- Subject Property
- → View Locations

Source: Valtus Imagery Services: Hexagon Imagery Program (HxIP), 2017

# Aerial Image and View Locations



A majority of the area has been modified (i.e., graded or routinely mowed for fuel modification). There are no inhabited dwellings located in the survey area. Several individual trees and woodlands occur in the survey area, especially along Conejo Creek in the western portion of the survey area. In addition, the primary drainage feature is a man-made drainage, which collects waters from upland areas and conveys them via overland flow to Conejo Creek via a culvert. Conejo Creek ties into the Arroyo Conejo, which eventually leads to the Calleguas Creek and the Pacific Ocean. Representative photographs to depict site conditions are presented in **Figure 3, Representative Photographs of the Survey Area**.

### Directions to the Project Site

Directions to the survey area are provided from the ACOE Los Angeles office located at 915 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California to the location where Gilman Street is adjacent to the property entrance.

1. Get on CA-110 N/Harbor Fwy to US 101 N
2. Follow US 101 N to S Rancho Road in Thousand Oaks (Exit 43B)
3. Take Thousand Oaks Blvd and Hodencamp Road to Paige Lane
4. Continue on Paige Lane to the project site.

### Contact Information

The Conejo Recreation and Park District is the Lead Agency for permitting and compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act. Contact information for the District and the biological consultant are provided below.

<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>Biological Consultant</b>
Conejo Recreation and Park District Contact: Andrew Mooney 403 W. Hillcrest Drive Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 Office: (805) 495-6471	Envicom Corporation Contact: Travis Cullen 1465 E. Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Suite 290 Westlake Village, CA 91362 Office: (818) 879-4700





**Photo 1** – View to the east illustrating the concrete swale (Swale 1) and culvert that ties into Swale 2. Overland sheet flow is collected in the swale and conveyed west through the culvert toward Swale 2 and Conejo Creek.



**Photo 2** – View to the west illustrating Swale 2. Swale 2 is vegetated with non-native grasses and mustards. The swale terminates prior to the oak trees in the background.



**Photo 3** – View to the southwest illustrating the point where Swale 2 terminates, and waters are conveyed by overland flow down toward a culvert that ties into Conejo Creek.



**Photo 4** – View to the north illustrating the non-native grassland, patches of southern California black walnut, and the eastern edge of the oak-willow woodland that abuts the limits of the Project.

## 2.0 METHODS

A literature review was performed in preparation for field surveys that included information available in standard biological references (e.g., Baldwin et al. 2012; Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf, and Evens 2009; Reid 2006; Stebbins 2003; and Prigge and Gibson 2013), and relevant lists and databases pertaining to the status and known occurrences of sensitive and special-status resources. Other sources of information included aerial photographs, topographic maps, soil survey maps, climatic data, and relevant policy and planning documents. The following sources were among those reviewed in preparation for field surveys and/or during preparation of this report (for a complete list see Section 5. References):

- *Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS)*, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), data as of October 17, 2018;
- *California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Rarefind 5* report for the 7.5' United States Geological Survey (USGS) Thousand Oaks quadrangle and eight surrounding quadrangles, CDFW, data as of October 17, 2018;
- *California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* report for the 7.5' USGS Thousand Oaks quadrangle and eight surrounding quadrangles, CNPS, data as of October 17, 2018;
- *FWS Critical Habitat Mapper for Threatened and Endangered Species*, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), data as of October 17, 2018;
- *List of Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichens*, CDFW, August 2015;
- *Natural Communities List*, CDFW, January 2018; and,
- *List of Special Animals*, CDFW, August 2018.

The biological survey to inventory the resources at the site was conducted by Mr. Tyler Barns, Biologist at Envicom Corporation. The survey involved a search for late-season rare, threatened, and endangered plant and wildlife species, special habitats, and sensitive natural communities, as well as an evaluation of the importance of the site for wildlife movement. The vegetation and land cover at the site was also mapped using high-resolution aerial imagery of the site from October 2016. The biological survey was conducted September 6, 2018 between the hours of 1:45 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. in warm and clear conditions (upper-70s °F) with winds of 3 to 8 m.p.h.

The surveys were performed by slowly walking 10-meter transects across the site and by thoroughly investigating particular areas, as necessary. Transects were approximate and were modified based on the site's terrain, conditions, and existing development. The survey methodology resulted in a thorough investigation of all plant communities and habitat types within the project site and accessible areas within the survey area. The vegetation communities at the site were correlated with the California Natural Communities List (CDFW, January 2018), where applicable. A complete inventory of vascular plants and wildlife observed was recorded, with all species identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine their status. Vascular plant species determinations were made using *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*, 2nd edition (Baldwin B. et al. 2012).

Vertebrate wildlife species were identified during the survey by direct observation, sign (e.g., tracks, scat, or burrows), or vocalization. Wildlife species identification relied upon Reid (2006), Sibley (2009), and Stebbins (2003). Plant species observed by Envicom during the site survey are presented as **Appendix 2**. Observations of wildlife have been recorded based on sight, or sign including, tracks, scat or vocal recognition. **Appendix 3** provides a listing of vertebrate wildlife species observed.

In addition to the survey for general biological resources, Mr. Barns conducted an onsite investigation to delineate the amount and type of jurisdictional waters and riparian habitat on October 11, 2018 in accordance with the statutory guidelines of the regulations listed below:

- CDFW under California Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq.
- ACOE under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- RWQCB Water Quality Certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Specifically, the delineation of “Waters of the US” was conducted in accordance with the 1987 ACOE *Wetlands Delineation Manual* (ACOE 1987), *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region* (Version 2.0) (ACOE 2008a), *A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) in the Arid West Region of the Western United States* (ACOE 2008b), and *A Field Guide to Mapping Episodic Stream Activity* [where applicable] (Brady and Vyverberg 2013). Vascular plant species determinations were made using *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Natural community classifications were correlated with the *Natural Communities List* (CDFW, January 2018). Several photographs were taken as a record of site conditions at the time of the survey.

## 2.1 FEDERAL JURISDICTION

The ACOE, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), regulates the filling of WOUS, including associated wetlands (ACOE 1987). The ACOE defines wetlands as:

“...those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas” (40 CFR 230.3(t)).

Wetlands are considered a subset of WOUS. This broad term incorporates aquatic systems that fall under the regulatory jurisdiction of the CWA (Section 404) and the Rivers and Harbors Act (Section 10), including deep-water aquatic habitats and special aquatic sites such as wetlands and mudflats (ACOE 1987). Waters of the US include the territorial sea, coastal and inland waters, lakes, rivers, and streams.

In addition, the ACOE defines swales as generally shallow features in the landscape that may convey water across upland areas during and following storm events. Swales usually occur on nearly flat slopes and typically have grass or other low-lying vegetation throughout the swale. Swales are generally not waters of the U.S. because they are not tributaries, or they do not have a significant nexus to traditional navigable waters (TNWs). Even when not themselves waters of the United States, swales may still contribute to a surface hydrologic connection between an adjacent wetland and a TNW.

## 2.2 SIGNIFICANT NEXUS OF TRIBUTARIES

On June 5, 2007, the USACE and the EPA issued joint guidance on implementing the June 19, 2006 U.S. Supreme Court opinions resulting from the *Rapanos v. United States* and *Carabell v. United States* (*Rapanos*) cases. EPA and the USACE released a revised version of the Guidance on December 2, 2008. The revised Guidance states that the agencies will assert jurisdiction over, 1) traditional navigable waters (TNW)<sup>1</sup>, 2) wetlands adjacent to TNW, 3) non-navigable tributaries of TNW that are relatively permanent

<sup>1</sup> A water body qualifies as a “navigable water of the United States” if it meets any of the tests set forth in 33 C.F.R. Part 329 (e.g., the water body is (a) subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, and/or (b) the water body is presently used, or has been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use (with or without reasonable improvements) to transport interstate or foreign commerce). The USACE districts have made determinations in the past regarding whether particular water bodies qualify as “navigable waters of the United States” for purposes of asserting jurisdiction under Sections 9 and 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC Sections 401 and 403).

where the tributaries typically flow year around or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically three months), and 4) wetlands that abut such tributaries.

A “significant nexus” determination will be made for non-navigable tributaries that are not relatively permanent and their adjacent wetlands. Such features that are determined to have a “significant nexus” to a TNW will also be subject to CWA jurisdiction. A significant nexus requires that there be “more than an insubstantial or speculative effect on the chemical, physical, and/or biological integrity of a TNW” (ACOE 2008). The revised Guidance states that swales or erosional features and ditches excavated wholly in and draining only uplands and that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water will generally not be subject to CWA jurisdiction.

### **2.3 STATE JURISDICTION**

The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the RWQCB maintain regulatory responsibility for management of wetlands and waterbodies in California and may review wetland delineations in concert with the ACOE. With specific regard to wetlands, the delineation of boundaries of WOS is usually based on the ACOE’s multi-parameter approach, as outlined in the 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual and 2008 Regional Supplement. “Waters of the State” are defined in Section 13050 of the California Water Code as “any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.” Surface waters are non-tidal wetlands, rivers, streams, and lakes, estuarine wetlands, estuarine waters, and coastal waters, and include waters in both natural and artificial channels.

Pursuant to California Fish and Game Code Section 1600, CDFW has authority over all perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral rivers, streams, and lakes in the state, and requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify the CDFW before beginning any activity that would “substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of, or substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake” that supports fish or wildlife resources.

A stream is defined as a “body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supports fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation” (California Code of Regulations, Title 14 §1.72). In addition, CDFW defines a swale as a “Depression or hollow where runoff from the surrounding uplands accumulates. Swales that yield channel flow are important sources of water, sediment, nutrients, and other materials during runoff, and are considered source areas to and integral parts of streams” (Brady and Vyverberg 2013).

A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement may be required for any proposed project that would result in an adverse impact to a river, stream, or lake. CDFW jurisdiction typically extends to the top of the bank and out to the outer edge of adjacent riparian vegetation, if present. However, CDFW can take jurisdiction over a body of flowing water and the landform that conveys it, including water sources and adjoining landscape elements that are byproducts of and affected by interactions with flowing water without regard to size, duration, or the timing of flow (Brady and Vyverberg 2013).

### **2.4 PRE-FIELD EVALUATION**

Prior to engaging in fieldwork, Envicom staff reviewed background reference materials to familiarize personnel with the survey area and determine potential wetland, water body, and drainage areas to be further evaluated. These materials included historic and current aerial photographs (Google Earth 2014, Hexagon 2016), the NRCS web soil survey (NRCS 2018) and the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), the National

Wetland Inventory (NWI) (USFWS 2018). NWI and NHD datasets provide representation of wetlands and other surface water features that may be present in an area (**Figure 4, National Hydrography Dataset and National Wetlands Inventory Data**). Soils in the area are illustrated in **Figure 5, Natural Resources Conservation Service Soils Map**. Database records are compiled from historic and contemporary data collection efforts, and thus they are a good starting point for indications of surface hydrology and soils; however, the data must be field verified as on-the-ground conditions are usually undergoing continuous anthropogenic modifications and aquatic features can be lost or highly altered.

The nearest available Wetland Determination (WETS) data is for the Thousand Oaks 2.3 NE gauge, which is located 2.3 miles northeast of the site. The most recent precipitation recorded for the survey area prior to the September survey was 0.01 inches on June 17, 2018 (Weather Underground 2018). NRCS Total rainfall for the vicinity of the project site from 2017 – Present is provided in **Table 1, NRCS Precipitation Data** (NRCS 2018b).

**Table 1**  
**NRCS Precipitation Data**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Annual</i>
2017	7.01	6.73	0.35	0.2	0.18	0	0.2	0.01	0.1	0.01	0.07	0	M
2018	1.83	0.15	5.7	M	0.44	0.04	0	0	0	M	M	M	M
<b>Mean</b>	<b>4.42</b>	<b>3.44</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>M</b>

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center - Agricultural Applied Climate Information System. Precipitation Data for Thousand Oaks 2.3 NE (US1CAVT0018 (GHCN)). Note: trace precipitation/snowfall/snow depth amounts are treated as zero in sums, means, and frequency counts. Values of 'M' indicate missing data and 'T' indicates a trace.

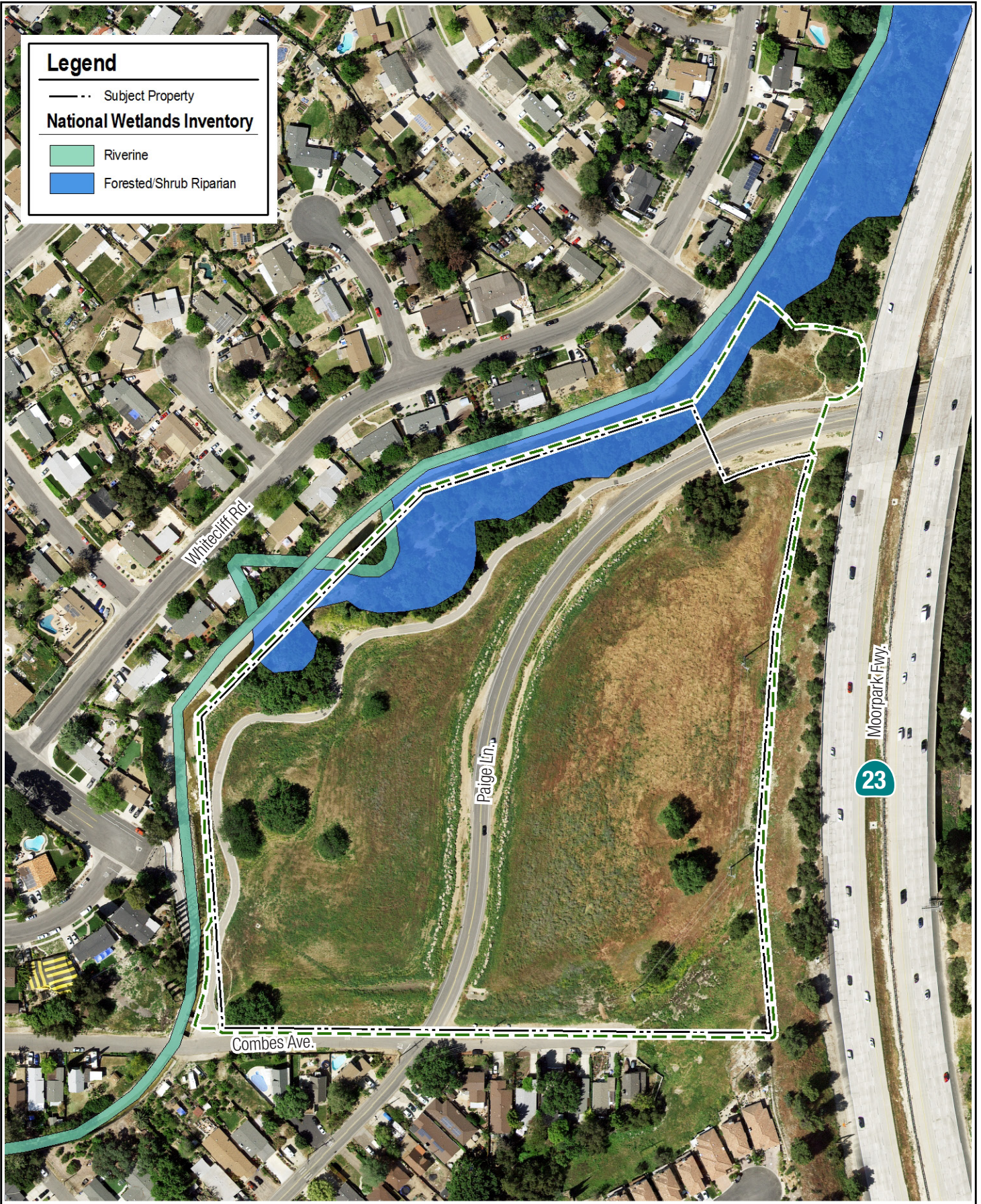
## 2.5 FIELD EVALUATION

After preliminary identification of potential wetland areas based on the pre-field evaluation with the aid of color aerial photographs and engineering-grade topographic maps, an Envicom wetland biologist examined the project site. Jurisdictional non-wetland WOUS (ACOE and RWQCB) include areas within onsite drainages below the plane of the ordinary high water mark, while CDFW jurisdictional areas extend from bank to bank, and include the landward edge of riparian vegetation, where present. In addition, CDFW jurisdiction extends to swales and depression areas that contribute to hydrological and ecological functions.

There is one swale within the Project site that is bisected by Paige Lane. For the purposes of this report, the swale has been split into two segments, Swale 1 (SW1) and Swale 2 (SW2). A shovel test pit was excavated within SW2 to determine the potential for ACOE wetland Waters of the US. The plot location was mapped with GPS coordinates, and the Wetland Determination Data Form was used to record observations of vegetation, soils and hydrology. The completed form is included in **Appendix 4**. The test plot location was mapped in the field using a Trimble GPS with sub-meter accuracy. No other test plots were recorded, as the remainder of the swale areas were clearly non-wetland, ephemeral in nature, and no other indicators warranting a test plot were observed.

## 2.6 GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM MAPPING

For this survey, Envicom used a Trimble GEOXH 6000 Series (sub-meter accuracy) Global Positioning System (GPS) unit with Terrasync and GPS Correct to map jurisdictional boundaries. Information was exported to a database format using ArcGIS software and edited before linking with a geographic information system. All of the survey data was recorded in the NAD 1983 geographic coordinate system and then projected into the NAD-83 State Plane Zone 5 coordinate system for post-processing (e.g., GIS acreage calculations).



**Legend**

--- Subject Property

**National Wetlands Inventory**

- Riverine
- Forested/Shrub Riparian

Source: Valtus Imagery Services; Hexagon Imagery Program (HxIP), 2017. <http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic>, 2013.

CONEJO CREEK PARK SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT - BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION



# National Hydrography Dataset and National Wetlands Inventory Data

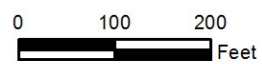


FIGURE 4



Source: Valtus Imagery Services; Hexagon Imagery Program (HxIP), 2017. Data Source: NRCS Soils: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>.

## 3.0 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

### 3.1 LOCAL WATERSHED

The survey area is located in the Upper Conejo Arroyo watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code, HUC, 180701030105) within the larger Calleguas watershed (HUC 18070103) and includes Conejo Creek, which runs along the western margin of the survey area from the northeast to the southwest. A man-made drainage swale collects and conveys waters from the project site into Conejo Creek in the western portion of the survey area. Conejo Creek ties into the Arroyo Conejo, which eventually leads to the Calleguas Creek and the Pacific Ocean.

### 3.2 LOCAL SOIL TYPES

Two (2) soil types that primarily consist of loams and sandy loams (Figure 5) characterize the survey area. All six of the soil types are listed in Hydrologic Group C or D, which include soils having a slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wet (C) or a very slow infiltration rate (high runoff potential) when thoroughly wet (D). Hydrologic Group C soils consist chiefly of soils having a layer that impedes the downward movement of water or soils of moderately fine texture or fine texture. These soils have a slow rate of water transmission. Hydrologic Group D soils consist chiefly of clays that have a high shrink-swell potential, soils that have a high water table, soils that have a claypan or clay layer at or near the surface, and soils that are shallow over nearly impervious material. These soils have a very slow rate of water transmission (NRCS 2018a). However, none of these soils are given a hydric soil rating. Brief descriptions of each soil type are given below:

- CALLEGUAS VERY CHANNERY LOAM, 30 TO 50 PERCENT SLOPES (CaF) - The Calleguas component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 30 to 50 percent. This component is on hills, uplands. The parent material consists of residuum weathered from sedimentary rock. Depth to a root restrictive layer, bedrock, paralithic, is 4 to 18 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very low. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 7e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. The calcium carbonate equivalent within 40 inches, typically, does not exceed 3 percent. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface.
- SORRENTO SILTY CLAY LOAM, 2 TO 9 PERCENT SLOPES, WARM MAAT, MLRA 19 (SxC) - The Sorrento component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 2 to 9 percent. This component is on alluvial fans, alluvial plains. The parent material consists of alluvium derived from sedimentary rock. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is high. Shrink-swell potential is moderate. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 3 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3e. Irrigated land capability classification is 2e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. The calcium carbonate equivalent within 40 inches, typically, does not exceed 8 percent. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface.

### 3.3 VEGETATION AND SENSITIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES

The vegetation within the survey area consists predominately of non-native grasslands, urban/disturbed or built-up, southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*) woodland, and coast live oak – arroyo



willow (*Quercus agrifolia* – *Salix lasiolepis*) woodland. A discussion of the flora and habitats at the survey area is provided below, which is organized by plant community type. Plant communities have been classified using the State Vegetation Classification system.

### 3.3.1 Vegetation Communities

During vegetation mapping of the Survey Area, four (4) different vegetation/land use types were identified under existing conditions. To the extent applicable, plant communities were correlated with plant communities included the *California Natural Communities List* (CDFW, January 2018), which provides a list of officially recognized plant communities occurring in the State of California. The list assigns a conservation status rank (also known as “rarity rank”) to each plant community, which is used to determine the sensitivity of the plant community. Plant communities with global or state status ranks of G1 through G3, or S1 through S3, respectively, are considered to be sensitive, and are referred to as “natural communities of special concern.” Plant communities are classified based on plant species composition and abundance, as well as the underlying abiotic conditions of the stand, such as slope, aspect, or soil type. As part of the vegetation mapping study, maps were also prepared that show the likely pre-development vegetation distribution.

#### Non-Native Grasses and Forbs Mapping Unit

Much of the survey area was disturbed and is routinely weed-whipped or mowed; these areas support few native species. Herbaceous vegetation was dead, dormant, or otherwise disturbed by fuel modification activities; thus, identification of the species was based on forensic evidence (e.g., florets) from this year’s seed bank. As such, other species may be present. Dominant non-native annual grasses in these areas typically include slender wild oats (*Avena barbata*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), bromes, foxtail barley (*Hordeum murinum*), and rattail sixweeks grass. Alien annuals, biennials and perennials often observed include tocalote (*Centauria melitensis*), common sow thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), and red-stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*). This vegetation community is not considered sensitive.

#### Southern California Black Walnut Woodland Associations [G3S3]

Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*) woodland occurs in several patches in the western portion of the survey area. The Survey Area includes relatively homogenous stands of walnut over herbaceous vegetation (e.g., grassland). The community is dominated by walnut with a variety of native and non-native grasses and forbs occur in the herbaceous layer. This vegetation community is considered sensitive by CDFW.

#### Coast Live Oak – Arroyo Willow Woodland Association [G3S4]

This woodland alliance occurs on the gentle to steep alluvial terrace in the western portion of the survey area. In this association, the tree layer is dominated by coast live oak with a lesser component of valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) and arroyo willow. The shrub layer is sparse to intermittent, primarily consisting of intermittent mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*). The herbaceous layer is diverse and includes mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*), field cucumber (*Marah macrocarpa*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and smilo grass (*Stipa miliacea*).

#### Developed and Asphalt

Developed areas located within the survey area include residential developments and hardscape areas (e.g., concrete portions of Conejo Creek and culvert structures) as well as Paige Lane.

### 3.3.2 Plant Communities/Habitats Listed in CNDDDB

A review of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Rarefind 5 application reveals 13 Sensitive Plant Communities/Habitats have been reported by other observers in the Thousand Oaks Quadrangle area, or within adjacent quadrangles have reported Sensitive Plant Communities/Habitats:

- California Walnut Woodland;
- Cismontane Alkali Marsh;
- Southern California Coastal Lagoon;
- Southern California Steelhead Stream;
- Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest;
- Southern Coastal Salt Marsh;
- Southern Mixed Riparian Forest;
- Southern Riparian Forest;
- Southern Riparian Scrub;
- Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland;
- Southern Willow Scrub;
- Valley Needlegrass Grassland; and
- Valley Oak Woodland.

The California walnut woodland, southern coast live oak riparian forest, southern mixed riparian forest, and southern riparian scrub vegetation communities area present within the survey area.

### 3.3.3 Plant Species Observed

A total of 26 vascular plant taxa were identified during the survey of the site, including 22 dicots and three (3) monocots. Twelve of the plants observed were native (46 percent) and 14 were non-native (54 percent). A complete list of the vascular plant species observed in the survey area is provided in Appendix 2.

### 3.3.4 Special-Status Plant Species

Special-status plant species either have unique biological significance, limited distribution, restricted habitat requirements, particular susceptibility to human disturbance, or a combination of these factors. For the purposes of this report, special-status plant species are those plants listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as Threatened or Endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA); those listed or proposed for listing as Rare, Threatened, or Endangered by the CDFW under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA); and plants on the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1A (plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere), 1B (plants considered to be rare, threatened, or endangered species in California and elsewhere), 2A (plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere), and 2B (plants considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere). The status codes for special-status plants are described in **Table 2, Status Codes for Special-Status Plants**.

#### *Special-Status Species Observed*

No Federal-, State-listed, or locally sensitive plant species were observed within the Survey Area, which is currently vegetated with woodlands or non-native grasses or is developed.

**Table 2**  
**Status Codes for Special-Status Plants**

<b>FEDERALLY PROTECTED SPECIES</b>	
FE (Federal Endangered)	A species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
FT (Federal Threatened)	A species that is likely to become Endangered in the foreseeable future.
FC (Federal Candidate)	A species for which USFWS has sufficient information on its biological status and threats to propose it as Endangered or Threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but for which development of a proposed listing regulation is precluded by other higher priority listing activities.
<b>STATE PROTECTED SPECIES</b>	
CE (California Endangered)	A native species or subspecies which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.
CT (California Threatened)	A native species or subspecies that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an Endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as "Rare" on or before January 1, 1985, is a "Threatened species."
CR (California Rare)	A species, subspecies, or variety of plant is rare under the Native Plant Protection Act when, although not presently threatened with extinction, it is in such small numbers throughout its range that it may become Endangered if its present environment worsens. Animals are no longer listed as Rare; all animals listed as Rare before 1985 have been listed as threatened.
<b>CALIFORNIA RARE PLANT RANK (CRPR) (formerly CNPS Lists)</b>	
CRPR 1A	Plants presumed extirpated in California and either rare or extinct elsewhere.
CRPR 1B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
CRPR 2A	Plants presumed extirpated in California, but more common elsewhere.
CRPR 2B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.
CRPR 3	A review list for plants for which there is inadequate information to assign them to one of the other lists or to reject them.
CRPR 4	A watch list for plants that are of limited distribution in California.
<b>CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS) THREAT RANK</b>	
The CNPS Threat Rank is an extension added onto the California Rare Plant Rank and designates the level of endangerment, as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.1-Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat).</li> <li>• 0.2-Fairly threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat).</li> <li>• 0.3-Not very threatened in California (&lt;20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known).</li> </ul>	
<b>LOCALLY IMPORTANT SPECIES</b>	
VC	Ventura County Locally Sensitive Plant Species.

### ***Potential for Occurrence Analysis***

An evaluation of the potential for occurrence at the site of special-status plant species known to occur in the region was undertaken through a search of the CNPS Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants, 8th ed. (CNPS 2018) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) Rarefind 5 application (CDFW 2018) for sensitive "elements" reported within the Thousand Oaks quadrangle, and eight (8) others that surround it, namely Moorpark, Simi, Santa Susana, Newbury

Park, Calabasas, Triunfo Pass, Point Dume, and Malibu Beach. The CNDDDB/CNPS derived lists are provided in **Appendix 5**.

Based upon a review of the resources and databases described above, 52 special-status vascular plant species have been documented within the nine USGS quadrangles. The evaluation considers the potential for occurrence within the biological survey area, i.e., within the development footprint and vicinity. Most special-status plant species known to occur in the region are precluded from occurring at the site due to lack of suitable habitat or because the site is outside of the known range of the species. Other species particularly shrubs and many of the perennial herbs could be confirmed as absent as they were not found during the survey.

After reviewing the habitat requirements, range, and distribution of the special-status plants that have been reported within the Thousand Oaks and eight surrounding quadrangles, only one (1) special-status plant species, Braunton's milkvetch (*Astragalus brauntonii*) [FE, CRPR 1B.2] has the potential to occur. The plant, reported by the District in 2013, was observed near the bike path west of Paige Lane in the northwestern portion of the survey area. Specifically, the plant was observed in a small opening among shrubs and a small coast live oak tree, surrounded by and tangled in a small patch of ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*). The area where the milkvetch was recorded was searched and neither it nor the ice plant or Virginia creeper were located.

Braunton's milkvetch typically occurs in chaparral, coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland habitats on recent burns or disturbed areas, usually sandstone with carbonate layers. The plant is a tall plant in the pea family that is recognized by its whitened stems, by the ample leaves composed of 12-16 pairs of dorsally keeled leaflets, and especially by the narrow, dense racemes of small, nodding, purplish flowers which arise from several distal axils and form a sort of panicle of spikes. As the flowers fade the petals turn brown and papery, investing with the somewhat accrescent calyx (i.e., growing larger after flowering) the base of the forming pod; they are not promptly shed as in most of the genus. This species requires a fire regime and while the frequency of the required regime is unknown, estimates are between 20 and 100 years. Depending on the natural fire regime, plant populations are only visible every 20 to 50 years. Seed banks of this species germinate readily following a fire, resulting in large numbers of above ground plants, which gradually die-off in the following few years. Based on the previous observation and the plant's reliance on the natural fire regime, there may be dormant seed banks of this species at the site. However, seeds of this species also germinate in response to mechanical scarification of the seeds, and consequently may show up in areas of mechanical disturbance, such as areas of vehicle or foot traffic. This species is threatened by urban development, fragmentation of habitat and reduced capability for sustained ecologic processes, fragmented ownership of single populations resulting in different landscape treatments, and extinction from natural occurring events due to small populations sizes and low individual numbers (USFWS 1997). The species is not likely to be found within the project site because the project site is continually tilled for fuel modification. If the seeds were present, then the mechanical disturbance likely would have resulted in seed germination. Because this perennial species was not observed, it is assumed absent from the project site. No other special-status plant species were found within the study area.

### 3.3.5 California Rare Plant Rank 4 Species

Plants with a CRPR of 4 are not rare, but rather are included on a "watch list" of species with limited distribution. While plants in this category cannot be called "rare" from a statewide perspective, and very few, if any, are eligible for state listing, many of them are significant locally. For this reason, CNPS strongly recommends that CRPR 4 plants be evaluated for consideration during preparation of environmental documents, which may be particularly appropriate for: the type locality of a CRPR 4 plant; populations at the periphery of a species' range; areas where the taxon is especially uncommon; areas where the taxon has sustained heavy losses; or, populations exhibiting unusual morphology or occurring on unusual substrates.

California black walnut is perennial deciduous tree that is found in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Although southern California black walnut are common in the Santa Monica Mountains, the species has been listed because walnut forest are a much fragmented, rare, and declining vegetation community throughout the state because they are threatened by urbanization, grazing, non-native plants, and possibly by lack of natural reproduction. With the exception of the southern California black walnut [CRPR 4.2], no other CRPR 4 species were located within the survey area and no other CRPR list 4 species are expected to occur.

### 3.3.6 Protected Trees

Per the City of Thousand Oaks Municipal Code, Sec. 9-4.203 – 904.205, all oak trees within City limits that are of a diameter of two or more inches at four and a half feet above the ground are protected. In addition, in accordance with the City of Thousand Oaks Landmark Trees Preservation and Protection Ordinance, Landmark trees include the following specimens of the following species that reached the designated maturity or diameter as measured from 4.5 feet above natural grade: western sycamores (*Platanus racemosa*) > 12” in diameter, California bay laurels (*Umbellularia californica*) > 8” in diameter, California walnuts (*Juglans californica*) > 8” in diameter, toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) > 8” in diameter tree as measured from 4.5 feet above natural grade. Trees of the aforementioned species shall be deemed to have reached maturity if the sum of the trunk diameters exceed the required “maturity” diameter plus 2”.

A site specific Protected Tree Survey recorded 30 coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), 11 valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*), and 6 southern California black walnut trees within the project site. An additional 150 - 200 trees of various age class distribution and species were assessed within the riparian habitat west of the project site. These trees are addressed in the protected tree report that has been prepared for the project, which is not included as part of this report.

## 3.4 WILDLIFE

### 3.4.1 Wildlife Observed

Wildlife species observed during surveys of the site were species common or relatively common to the region. A list of these species is included as Appendix 3. Many other non-special-status wildlife species can also be expected to utilize habitats at the site for cover, foraging, and reproduction. Furthermore, in general, this list includes species that are more easily detected during daytime surveys. Several species (e.g., reptiles, birds, small mammals) may reproduce in the survey area, and a wide range of larger or mobile species can be expected to utilize the site’s resources routinely, such as foraging raptors, and medium to large-sized mammals (e.g., striped skunk, coyote, and mule deer). Bird species observed during the survey consisted primarily of year-round and summer residents, and potential migrants. Several bird species likely nest within the survey area in any given year.

### 3.4.2 Special-Status Wildlife

For the purposes of this assessment, special-status wildlife species are those species that are listed, proposed for listing, or that meet the criteria for listing as endangered, threatened, or rare under the FESA or CESA; and those that are listed on the CDFW Special Animals list with a designation of SSC (California Species of Special Concern) or CFP (California Fully Protected). Special-status wildlife species also include species considered to be Locally Sensitive by the City of Thousand Oaks and Ventura County. The status codes for special-status wildlife are described in **Table 3, Status Codes for Special-Status Wildlife**.

#### *Special-Status Species Observed*

No special-status wildlife species were observed during the site survey.

**Table 3**  
**Status Codes for Special-Status Wildlife**

<b>FEDERALLY PROTECTED SPECIES</b>	
FE (Federal Endangered)	A species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
FT (Federal Threatened)	A species that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.
FC (Federal Candidate)	A species for which USFWS has sufficient information on its biological status and threats to propose it as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but for which development of a proposed listing regulation is precluded by other higher priority listing activities.
FSC (Federal Species of Concern)	A species under consideration for listing, for which there is insufficient information to support listing at this time. These species may or may not be listed in the future, and many of these species were formerly recognized as "Category-2 Candidate" species.
<b>STATE PROTECTED SPECIES</b>	
CE (California Endangered)	A native species or subspecies which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.
CT (California Threatened)	A native species or subspecies that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as "rare" on or before January 1, 1985, is a "threatened species."
SSC (California Species of Special Concern)	Animals that are not listed under the California Endangered Species Act, but which nonetheless, 1) are declining at a rate that could result in listing, or 2) historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist.
CFP (California Fully Protected)	This designation originated from the State's initial effort in the 1960's to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds. Most fully protected species have also been listed as threatened or endangered species under the more recent endangered species laws and regulations. California Fully Protected species may not be taken or possessed at any time and no licenses or permits may be issued for their take except for collecting these species for necessary scientific research and relocation of the bird species for the protection of livestock.
SA (Special Animal)	"SA" is used herein if the animal is included on the CDFW Special Animals list but does not fall under any of the categories listed above. In general, special protection of these species is not mandatory under CEQA, although CDFW considers these species to be among those of greatest conversation need.
<b>LOCALLY PROTECTED SPECIES</b>	
VC County	Ventura County Locally Important Animal List.

### ***Potential for Occurrence Analysis***

The potential for occurrence was undertaken through research of the CDFW Natural Diversity Database (CDFW 2018) using the Rarefind application for special-status "elements" on the Thousand Oaks quadrangle and eight adjacent quadrangles. The potential for occurrence analysis provides an assessment of the potential for the occurrence at the site of special-status animals on the basis of their known distribution and habitat requirements. Only the species with at least some potential to occur in the survey area are included on this list.

According to the CDFW CNDDDB Rarefind 5 application, no special-status invertebrates are known to occur on-site. In addition, there is no potential for special-status fishes or amphibians to occur due to lack of aquatic or suitable mesic habitats. In addition, the property does not contain federally designated critical habitat for a listed wildlife species.

The potential use of the site by special-status vertebrate wildlife species is limited to a small number of species of reptiles, birds, and mammals listed as California Fully Protected or Species of Special Concern by the State of California. One (1) special-status reptile, two (2) special-status birds, and seven (7) special-status mammals have or had potential to occur at the site, with varying probabilities ranging from low to moderate, including:

#### Reptiles

- Coastal Whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*) [SSC]

#### Birds

- Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) [CDFW WL]
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) [SSC, (nesting)]

#### Mammals

- Hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) [SA]
- Silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*) [SA]
- Western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*) [SSC]
- Spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum*) [SSC]
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) [SSC]
- Western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*) [SSC]
- San Diego Desert Woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) [SSC]

The special-status birds and bats may occur rarely or occasionally when foraging, but are not expected to roost or nest at the site.

### **3.4.3 Habitat Linkages and Wildlife Movement**

The site is not located in a designated wildlife linkage or corridor. Wildlife must be able to access habitat for water, foraging, breeding, and cover. Examples of barriers or impediments to movement, i.e., access, include housing and other urban development, roads, fencing, unsuitable habitat, or open areas with little vegetative cover. The term wildlife movement corridor is used to describe physical connections that allow wildlife to move between areas of suitable habitat in both undisturbed and fragmented landscapes, such as landscapes fragmented by urban development. Wildlife movement corridors are necessary for dispersal and migration, to ensure the mixing of genes between populations, and so wildlife can respond and adapt to environmental stress, and thus are necessary to maintain healthy ecological and evolutionary processes. Wildlife crossings are generally small, narrow areas allowing wildlife to pass through an obstacle or barrier, such as a roadway to reach another patch of habitat. These can be critical at both the local and regional level. Wildlife crossings include culverts, drainage pipes, underpasses, tunnels, and, more recently, crossings created specifically for wildlife movement over highways.

Based on a review of the following documents the Project site and the survey area are within an area that has been identified as important to wildlife movement, such as a regional-scale habitat linkage or a wildlife movement corridor:

- *City of Thousand Oaks General Plan* (October 2013).
- *California Essential Connectivity Project: A Strategy for Conserving a Connected California* (Spencer et al., February 2010); and
- *South Coast Missing Linkages Project: A Linkage Design for the Santa Monica Mountains – Sierra Madre Connection* (2006).

The potential importance of the project site to wildlife movement was also evaluated both in the field and by reviewing recent aerial photographs of the site and the surrounding area. A diversity of wildlife species could potentially move through the survey area, as it contains vegetative cover and suitable habitat for many species. However, the project site itself is not of particular importance to wildlife for movement, as it is located within a semi-developed area on the shoulder of a well-traveled two-lane paved road. Construction of the project would not impede wildlife movement through the area. There are no important wildlife movement corridors or wildlife crossings located at the project site. Extensive undeveloped native habitats are available for use by wildlife for movement through the surrounding area.

### 3.5 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS/HABITAT

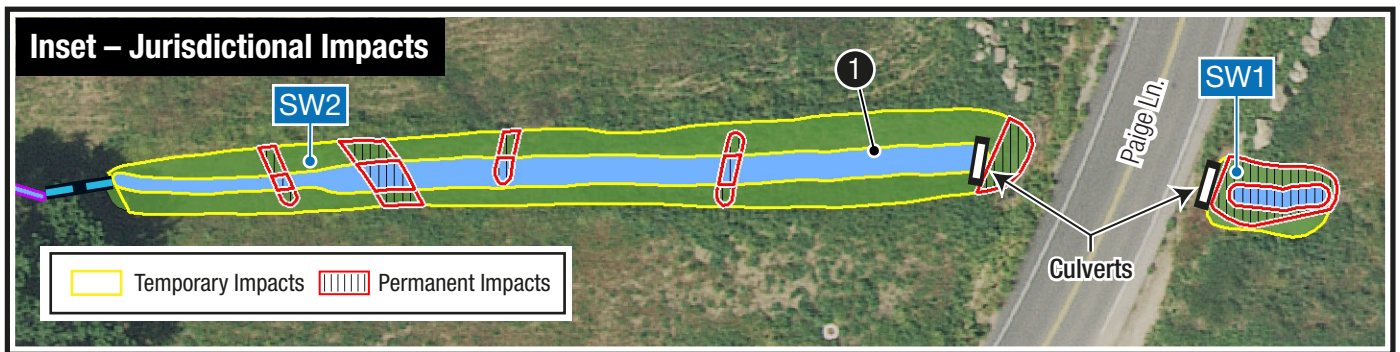
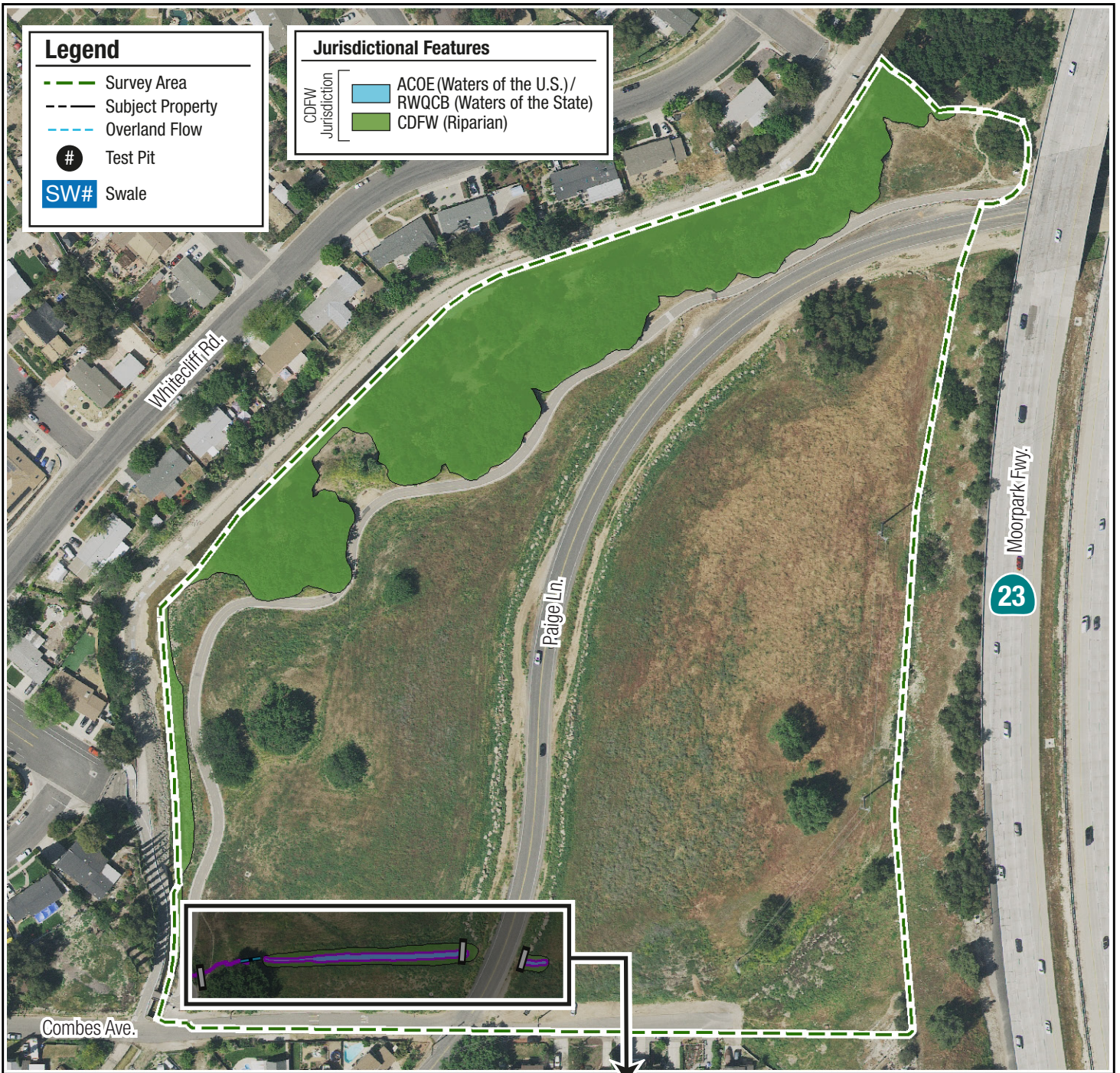
Potential federal and state jurisdictional features within the survey area are limited to two swale areas in the southern portion of the survey area (**Table 4, Summary of Potential Jurisdictional Features in Survey Area** and **Figure 6, Jurisdictional Delineation Map**).

This report uses the ACOE definition of a swale as described under Section 2.1. The swales appear to be relicts from development of Paige Lane. The ACOE will generally not assert jurisdiction over swales, erosional features, or ditches excavated wholly in and draining only uplands that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water. The ACOE does reserve the right to regulate these waters on a case-by-case basis. Conversely, the swales may yield channel flow, sediment, nutrients, and other materials during peak runoff, and may be considered source areas subject to the jurisdiction of the CDFW and the RWQCB. In addition, the swales do have a nexus to traditional navigable waters through Conejo Creek.

A test plot was recorded to determine the ACOE, RWQCB, and CDFW jurisdictional areas within the swale area in the western portion of the survey area. The plot location was mapped with GPS coordinates, and the Wetland Determination Data Form was used to record observations of vegetation, soils and hydrology. **Table 5, Dominant Plant Species Including Wetland Indicator Status at the Plot Location**, lists the plant species that were determined to be dominant at the test plots, and gives their Wetland Indicator Status (Lichvar 2016).

All features observed were recorded per both ACOE and CDFW guidance. A more in depth investigation using a soil test plot was conducted to discriminate between fluvial active and inactive areas where the surficial evidence of stream flow was subtle (i.e., in swale-like conditions) or obscured by long time between surface flow or the influence of other processes. Within the survey area, data for one (1) soil test plot was collected using ACOE methodology described above to delineate wetlands. The test plot was not located within the swale area in the western portion of the site. The one plot was excavated based on the topography (i.e., ditch-like feature) to confirm the absence of additional wetland indicators.





Source: Valtus Imagery Services: Hexagon Imagery Program (HxIP), 2017.

**Table 4**  
**Summary of Potential Jurisdictional Features in Survey Area**

Feature	Location (GPS Coordinates)*		Size** (Acres / Linear Feet)	
	Latitude	Longitude	ACOE Non-Wetland WOUS / RWQCB WOS	CDFW
<b>Swales</b>				
SW1	34.187911	-118.864344	0.004 / 31	0.01 / 49
SW2	34.187937	-118.864762	0.04 / 321	0.12 / 341
<b>Totals</b>			<b>0.044 acres / 352 linear feet</b>	<b>0.13 acres / 390 linear feet</b>
* North American Datum 1983, California State Plane Zone V. GPS coordinates are given for the upstream origin of the swale as accessed during field surveys and/or as digitized from aerial imagery.				
** Values are approximate due to rounding.				

**Table 5**  
**Dominant Plant Species Including Wetland Indicator Status at Plot Location**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Indicator Status*
<i>Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens</i>	red brome	UPL
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	field mustard	none
<b>Codes:</b>		
OBL = Obligate Wetland – Occur almost always (estimated probability >99%) under natural conditions in wetlands.		
FACW = Facultative Wetland – Usually occur in wetlands (estimated probability 67%-99%), but occasionally found in non-wetlands.		
FAC = Facultative – Equally likely to occur in wetlands or non-wetlands (estimated probability 34%-66%).		
FACU = Facultative Upland – Usually occur in non-wetlands (estimated probability 67%-99%), but occasionally found in wetlands (estimated probability 1%-33%).		
UPL = Obligate Upland – Occur in wetlands in another region, but occur almost always (estimated probability >99%) under natural conditions in non-wetlands in the region specified. If a species does not occur in wetlands in any region, it is not on the <u>National List</u> .		
* None = Plant species not listed are considered UPL for wetland delineation purposes (Lichvar 2016).		

The on-site features within the survey area have discernible banks but lack incised beds and other OHWM indicators. Instead, these features are all shallow features in the landscape that have grass or other low-lying vegetation throughout and convey water across upland areas during and following storm events. As such, these features have been classified as swales. Upland environs were determined based on the limits of upland indicators including mammal burrows, biotic soil crust, drainage swales, woody debris, and the development of soil. Most of these features are characterized by ruderal herbaceous species within the channel and along banks. The eastern swale (SW1) is hydrologically connected to the western swale (SW2) via a culvert. Swale 2 (SW2), appears to be hydrologically connected to Conejo Creek, even if only through overland sheet flow and erosional processes. The ACOE does not typically assert their jurisdiction over swales or erosional features but would likely assert their jurisdiction in this case given the hydrological connection. While the swales are not considered source areas that are integral parts of Conejo Creek, because the swales appear to yield channel flow(s) that are important sources of water, sediment, nutrients, and other materials during runoff they would subject to CDFW and RWQCB jurisdiction.

Based on the project design, only the eastern extent of potential CDFW riparian habitat associated with Conejo Creek was delineated. Also, the coast live oak woodland southwest of SW2 was excluded from

potential CDFW riparian habitat because the trees did not appear to be reliant upon the swale for a source of water and the tree canopy only overlapped the portion of the feature where there was limited evidence of overland sheet flow and no indicators of OHWM. In addition, this area does not appear to contribute significant shade, shadow, and leaf litter to influence the function of the drainage.

## 4.0 PROJECT IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 4.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of a park with a playground, multi-use court, sand volleyball court, fitness nodes, picnic area, backstop, corral, bike racks, fencing, parking lot, pedestrian path, restroom, and multi-use lawns. Regionally, the proposed project site is located immediately west of State Route 23 and north of Highway 101 in the City of Thousand Oaks. Locally, the project is north of Combes Avenue, south of the existing Conejo Creek Channel, and bisected by Paige Lane on approximately 14.1 acres of vacant land, as shown in Appendix 1.

In short, an earthen equestrian trail with scored concrete crossing would be constructed along the perimeter of the project site. Similarly, a pedestrian path would be constructed along the project perimeter that connects to the existing multi-use path in the southwest corner of the project site. A Chumash Creek themed playground, a single occupancy restroom, a parking lot, a picnic shade structure, a concrete multi-use court, and a sand volleyball court would be constructed in the center of the project site. To the north and south of these facilities would be multi-use lawns, with a backstop on the north multi-use lawn. A multi-use lawn and a corral would also be constructed west of Paige Lane. The single stall restroom on the project would connect to the existing wastewater and water lines with the service provider for wastewater and water both being the City of Thousand Oaks. Trash and recycling would be picked up by Conejo Recreation and Park District (District). The only lights on the proposed project site would be a solar powered security light at the single stall restroom.

All of the existing trees on site would remain. There will be trees planted throughout the project site and native and drought tolerant landscaping along the areas that are not multi-use lawns. In addition, the project would include a vegetated swale with on-site retention capability along the southern edge of the project site.

### 4.2 PROJECT IMPACTS

- a) **Would the project 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 Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)?**

***Less Than Significant Impact:*** No plant species listed as rare, threatened, or endangered that would require a mandatory finding of significance pursuant to CEQA 15380 were found during the biological survey of the site. Lists of vascular plants and animals observed during the survey are provided in Appendix 2. As described in Section 3.3.4, Braunton's milkvetch was previously observed near the bike path west of Paige Lane in the northwestern portion of the survey area, in an area not proposed to be disturbed as part of the Project.

The species relies on fire or mechanical scarification for the seeds to germinate. The fields within the project site are managed for fuel modification, including tilling that disturbs the soils and potential seed bank. As such, the seeds would have been subject to continued disturbance and have not germinated to date. Therefore, the species is assumed absent from the development footprint. The natural habitat within the project site is degraded and under continual fuel modification practices, which likely preclude other sensitive species from occurring. As such, the on-site development footprint is not expected to result in direct impacts to special-status plants and no mitigation is necessary.

**b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any jurisdictional riparian or wetland vegetation?**

***Less Than Significant With Mitigation:*** A proposed project would be considered to have a significant impact if a project would have a substantial adverse effect on federally- or state-protected wetlands (including, but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filing, hydrological interruption, or other means. The project site supports non-wetland "waters of the United States," "waters of the State," and CDFW jurisdictional water features that would be subject to ACOE, RWQCB, and CDFW jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and California Fish and Game Code Section 1600. The project limits of disturbance are overlaid on potential jurisdictional areas as illustrated in Figure 6 Jurisdictional Delineation Impacts Map.

The ACOE generally does not assert jurisdiction over erosional features (e.g., swales and depressions) or ditches excavated wholly in and draining only uplands that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water. In this case, the swales have a direct surface hydrologic connection to a relatively permanent water (RPW), where flow is year-round or continuous at least "seasonally," which makes it Waters of the United States (WOUS). All three Trustee Resource Agencies would likely determine that the swales constitute jurisdictional habitat, which would be affected by the proposed project.

The project includes installation of lines of rock boulders within the current swales. These boulders would create weirs to impound water, resulting in a series of bio-swales. The bio-swales would slow overland sheet flow that would otherwise continue untreated into Conejo Creek. In addition, through revegetation, the bio-swales would further retain run-off and capture pollutants. The installation of the bio-swales would enhance the current conditions and would result in a net beneficial habitat condition.

As illustrated in Figure 6, grading of the feature would temporarily impact approximately 0.04 acres (219 linear feet) of jurisdictional WOUS/Waters of the State (WOS) and approximately 0.11 acres (235 linear feet) CDFW riparian habitat. The project proposes to revegetate the re-contoured swale with similar native species to those occurring in the region to restore and repair the temporary impacts. The earthen crossing, weirs, and storm water infrastructure would permanently impact approximately 0.008 acres (59 linear feet) of jurisdictional WOUS/WOS and approximately 0.02 acres (86 linear feet) CDFW riparian habitat.

The project's impacts to potential jurisdictional areas would be subject to the review and approval of Trustee Resource Agencies (ACOE, CDFW, and RWQCB). Impacts to jurisdictional areas would be considered significant. Therefore, Mitigation Measure (MM) **BIO-1** requires consultation with the Trustee Resource Agencies regarding jurisdictional areas to reduce potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level. The ACOE, CDFW, and RWQCB have final authority in determining the presence, status, and extent of jurisdictional waters and riparian habitat.

**MM BIO-1:** To compensate for permanent impacts totaling to 0.008 acres (59 linear feet) of WOUS/WOS and 0.02 acres (86 linear feet) of herbaceous riparian jurisdictional habitat, the applicant shall follow all requirements, including permits or approvals and identified mitigation, of the appropriate regulatory agencies, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

At a minimum, the applicant shall compensate for the loss of habitat at a 1:1 ratio (compensation area: impact area), or as required by the RWQCB, ACOE, and CDFW. The same or similar habitat shall be restored or enhanced as close to the impact area as possible. If a location in the general area of the project is not feasible as determined by the District, then the applicant shall restore or enhance another appropriate area within the watershed

as close to the impacted area as possible. If a location in the watershed is determined infeasible by the District, mitigation shall occur at a location approved by the regulatory agencies, or through the purchase of mitigation credits to compensate for the loss of habitat from a qualified entity acceptable to the District and the regulatory agencies, as applicable.

Mitigation shall be completed within two (2) years of the completion of the project construction. A mitigation plan and monitoring program shall be prepared and submitted to the regulatory agencies for acceptance prior to initiating vegetation removal or ground disturbance within jurisdictional habitat. The mitigation plan and monitoring program shall outline methods of mitigation; planting sizes, quantities, and receiver sites; performance standards, including maintenance and monitoring (with periodic status reports and documentation). In the case of purchase of mitigation credits, evidence of payment of such fees shall be provided to the resource agencies prior to initiating vegetation removal or ground disturbance within jurisdictional habitat.

**c) Substantially interfere with, or create a barrier to the movement of wildlife?**

***Less Than Significant Impact:*** A project would be considered to have a potentially significant impact if it would interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The site does not support suitable habitat for migratory fish. Therefore, no assessment of potential impacts to migratory fish is warranted.

As described in Section 3.4.3, the project site is not within an area that has been identified as important to wildlife movement, such as a regional-scale habitat linkage or a wildlife movement corridor. However, the site is adjacent to Conejo Creek, which does support wildlife movement. As such, a diversity of wildlife species could potentially move through the study area, as it contains vegetative cover and suitable habitat for many species.

The project site itself is not of particular importance to wildlife for movement, as it is an open (i.e., exposed) grassland area that is bound by CA-23 Freeway and residential development. The constraints limit wildlife to the Conejo Creek area and the portion of the site nearest the CA-23 Freeway under cross at Paige Lane. The site is not within a bottleneck of habitat between larger areas of core suitable habitat and it is not necessary for wildlife to pass through the site to access essential resources for water, foraging, breeding, or cover. Given the project proximity to existing development and the CA-23 Freeway, site development would not fragment natural habitats. Similarly, the City has not designated the site as an important wildlife movement corridor and no designated wildlife crossings are located in the immediate vicinity of the project site.

The project's proposed fencing would not block or impede wildlife movement or adversely affect the portion of the drainage that provides suitable habitat. Therefore, project construction would not impede wildlife movement through the area. In addition, the project would construct a park that would be limited to day time use; thus, impacts to wildlife would be limited to those species that transit during the day, of which there are very few. Because the project site is located in an urbanized area adjacent to existing residential development and surface streets, construction and operation of the project would not substantially interfere with migratory corridors or impede wildlife movement. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

**d) Conflict with any General Plan Policies or City Ordinances intended to protect native oak or landmark trees?**

***Less Than Significant Impact:*** As described in Section 3.3.6, all oak trees within City limits that are of a diameter of two or more inches at four and a half feet above the ground are protected. In addition, in accordance with the City of Thousand Oaks Landmark Trees Preservation and Protection Ordinance, Landmark trees include western sycamores, California bay laurels, California walnuts, and toyon that reached the designated maturity or diameter as measured from 4.5 feet above natural grade. While the project has been designed to avoid removing trees, portions of the project may encroach into the tree protection zone of some of the oak trees. The City does not consider encroachments to be significant environmental impacts and thus does not require mitigation for encroachments. Therefore, impacts to native oak trees and landmark trees would be less than significant.

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**Appendix 1**  
**Site Plan, RRM**



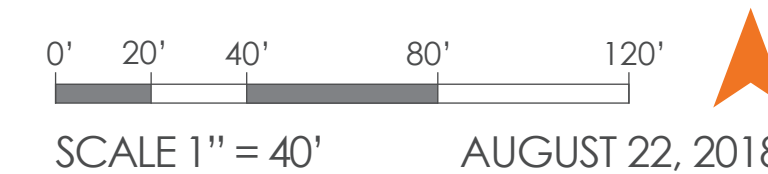
**KEY**

- 1. Existing Tree(s) to Remain
- 2. Existing Multi-Use Path
- 3. Existing Conejo Creek Channel
- 4. Existing Utilities
- 5. Vegetated Swale with On-Site Retention
- 6. Porous Asphalt Parking Lot (1 ADA, 8 Standard Spaces)
- 7. Crosswalk
- 8. Porous Asphalt Pedestrian Path
- 9. Native Earth Equestrian Trail with Scored Concrete Crossing
- 10. Restroom - Single Occupancy with Drinking Fountain and Bottle Filling Station
- 11. Chumash Creek Themed Playground
- 12. Picnic Shade Structure
- 13. "Optional" Picnic Shade Structure
- 14. Backstop
- 15. Multi-Use Court
- 16. Sand Volleyball
- 17. Multi-Use Lawn
- 18. Fitness Node (6 Total)
- 19. Boardwalk
- 20. Vehicle Gate
- 21. Future Corral
- 22. Park Sign (Primary)
- 23. Park Sign (Secondary)
- 24. Picnic Area
- 25. Native/Drought Tolerant Landscape Planting
- 26. Bike Racks
- 27. Perimeter Fencing
- 28. Culvert

**CONEJO CREEK SOUTHWEST PARK**

**CONCEPT PLAN**

THOUSAND OAKS, CA.



## Appendix 2

### **Vascular Plant Species Observed at the Project Site**

\* Denotes non-native or introduced species

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<b>FLOWERING PLANTS - DICOTS</b>			
	Adoxaceae		
		<i>Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea</i>	blue elderberry
	Anacardiaceae		
		<i>Malosma laurina</i>	laurel sumac
		* <i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian peppertree
	Arecaceae		
		* <i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Mexican fan palm
	Asteraceae		
		<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>	ragweed
		<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	mugwort
		<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>	mulefat
		* <i>Centauria melitensis</i>	tochalote
		<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	telegraph weed
	Brassicaceae		
		* <i>Brassica nigra</i>	black mustard
		* <i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	hoary mustard
	Chenopodiaceae		
		* <i>Salsola tragus</i>	Russian thistle
	Euphorbiaceae		
		* <i>Ricinus communis</i>	castor bean
	Fabaceae		
		<i>Acmispon americanus</i>	Spanish lotus
	Fagaceae		
		<i>Quercus a. agrifolia</i>	coast live oak
		<i>Quercus lobata</i>	scrub oak
	Geraniaceae		
		* <i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	red stemmed filaree
	Juglandaceae		
		<i>Juglans californica</i>	southern California black walnut
	Lamiaceae		
		* <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	horehound
	Malvaceae		
		* <i>Malva parviflora</i>	cheeseweed mallow
	Salicaceae		
		<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	arroyo willow
	Solanaceae		
		<i>Datura wrightii</i>	jimsonweed
<b>FLOWERING PLANTS - MONOCOTS</b>			
	Poaceae		
		* <i>Avena barbata</i>	slender wild oats
		* <i>Bromus diandrus</i>	ripgut brome
		* <i>Bromus madritensis rubens</i>	red brome

CONEJO CREEK PARK SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION

**Appendix 3**  
**Vertebrate Wildlife Species Observed  
at the Project Site**





<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
<b>REPTILES</b>	
Great Basin (western) fence lizard	<i>Sceloporus occidentalis longipes</i>
<b>BIRDS</b>	
acorn woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>
American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
Anna's hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>
black phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
California scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>
California towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>
Cassin's kingbird	<i>Tyrannus vociferans</i>
house finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>
house wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
mallard	
mourning dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>
northern mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>
oak titmouse	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>
Say's phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>
turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
<b>MAMMALS</b>	
California ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus beecheyi</i>
coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
desert cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>
mule deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>

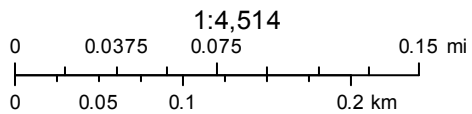
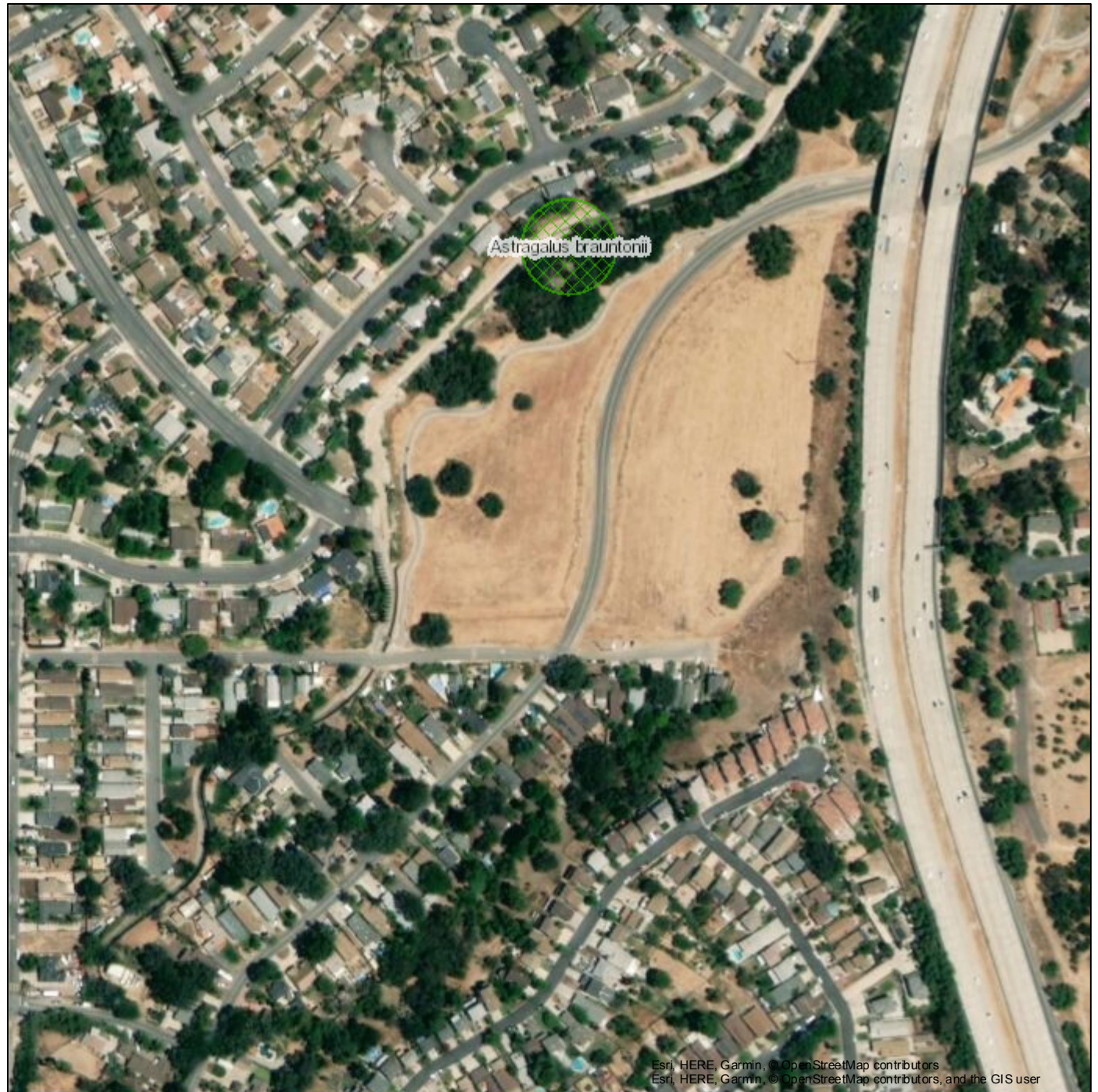


**Appendix 4**  
**CNDDDB/CNPS Literature Search Results**

# Map of Project Area

California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Commercial [ds85]

-  Plant (80m)
-  Plant (specific)
-  Plant (non-specific)
-  Plant (circular)
-  Animal (80m)
-  Animal (specific)
-  Animal (non-specific)
-  Animal (circular)
-  Terrestrial Comm. (80m)
-  Terrestrial Comm. (specific)
-  Terrestrial Comm. (non-specific)
-  Terrestrial Comm. (circular)
-  Aquatic Comm. (80m)
-  Aquatic Comm. (specific)
-  Aquatic Comm. (non-specific)
-  Aquatic Comm. (circular)
-  Multiple (80m)
-  Multiple (specific)
-  Multiple (non-specific)
-  Multiple (circular)
-  Sensitive EO's (Commercial only)



October 17, 2018

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Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user



# Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria: Quad (Thousand Oaks (3411827) OR Moorpark (3411838) OR Simi (3411837) OR Santa Susana (3411836) OR Newbury Park (3411828) OR Calabasas (3411826) OR Triunfo Pass (3411818) OR Point Dume (3411817) OR Malibu Beach (3411816))

Conejo Creek Park Southwest Development Project

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i> Cooper's hawk	ABNKC12040	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i> tricolored blackbird	ABPBXB0020	None	Candidate Endangered	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i> southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	ABPBX91091	None	None	G5T3	S3	WL
<i>Anaxyrus californicus</i> arroyo toad	AAABB01230	Endangered	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
<i>Anniella sp.</i> California legless lizard	ARACC01070	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<i>Anniella stebbinsi</i> southern California legless lizard	ARACC01060	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> pallid bat	AMACC10010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> golden eagle	ABNKC22010	None	None	G5	S3	FP
<i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i> California glossy snake	ARADB01017	None	None	G5T2	S2	SSC
<i>Artemisospiza belli belli</i> Bell's sage sparrow	ABPBX97021	None	None	G5T2T3	S3	WL
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> coastal whiptail	ARACJ02143	None	None	G5T5	S3	SSC
<i>Astragalus brauntonii</i> Braunton's milk-vetch	PDFAB0F1G0	Endangered	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<i>Athene cunicularia</i> burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<i>Atriplex coulteri</i> Coulter's saltbush	PDCHE040E0	None	None	G3	S1S2	1B.2
<i>Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii</i> Davidson's saltscale	PDCHE041T1	None	None	G5T1	S1	1B.2
<i>Baccharis malibuensis</i> Malibu baccharis	PDAST0W0W0	None	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<i>Bombus crotchii</i> Crotch bumble bee	IIHYM24480	None	None	G3G4	S1S2	
<i>California Walnut Woodland</i> California Walnut Woodland	CTT71210CA	None	None	G2	S2.1	
<i>Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis</i> slender mariposa-lily	PMLIL0D096	None	None	G4T2T3	S2S3	1B.2



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



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Calochortus fimbriatus</i></b> late-flowered mariposa-lily	PMLIL0D1J2	None	None	G3	S3	1B.3
<b><i>Calochortus plummerae</i></b> Plummer's mariposa-lily	PMLIL0D150	None	None	G4	S4	4.2
<b><i>Catostomus santaanae</i></b> Santa Ana sucker	AFCJC02190	Threatened	None	G1	S1	
<b><i>Centromadia parryi ssp. australis</i></b> southern tarplant	PDAST4R0P4	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Chaenactis glabriuscula var. orcuttiana</i></b> Orcutt's pincushion	PDAST20095	None	None	G5T1T2	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina</i></b> San Fernando Valley spineflower	PDPGN040J1	Proposed Threatened	Endangered	G2T1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi</i></b> Parry's spineflower	PDPGN040J2	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Cismontane Alkali Marsh</i></b> Cismontane Alkali Marsh	CTT52310CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b><i>Coelus globosus</i></b> globose dune beetle	IICOL4A010	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b><i>Danaus plexippus pop. 1</i></b> monarch - California overwintering population	IILEPP2012	None	None	G4T2T3	S2S3	
<b><i>Deinandra minthornii</i></b> Santa Susana tarplant	PDAST4R0J0	None	Rare	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Delphinium parryi ssp. blochmaniae</i></b> dune larkspur	PDRAN0B1B1	None	None	G4T2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i></b> San Bernardino ringneck snake	ARADB10015	None	None	G5T2T3	S2?	
<b><i>Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. blochmaniae</i></b> Blochman's dudleya	PDCRA04051	None	None	G3T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Dudleya cymosa ssp. agourensis</i></b> Agoura Hills dudleya	PDCRA040A7	Threatened	None	G5T1	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Dudleya cymosa ssp. marcescens</i></b> marcescent dudleya	PDCRA040A3	Threatened	Rare	G5T2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Dudleya cymosa ssp. ovatifolia</i></b> Santa Monica dudleya	PDCRA040A5	Threatened	None	G5T1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Dudleya multicaulis</i></b> many-stemmed dudleya	PDCRA040H0	None	None	G2	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Dudleya parva</i></b> Conejo dudleya	PDCRA04016	Threatened	None	G1	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Dudleya verityi</i></b> Verity's dudleya	PDCRA040U0	Threatened	None	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Elanus leucurus</i></b> white-tailed kite	ABNKC06010	None	None	G5	S3S4	FP



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



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i></b> southwestern willow flycatcher	ABPAE33043	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S1	
<b><i>Emys marmorata</i></b> western pond turtle	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Eriogonum crocatum</i></b> conejo buckwheat	PDPGN081G0	None	Rare	G1	S1	1B.2
<b><i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i></b> tidewater goby	AFCQN04010	Endangered	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b><i>Euderma maculatum</i></b> spotted bat	AMACC07010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Eumops perotis californicus</i></b> western mastiff bat	AMACD02011	None	None	G5T4	S3S4	SSC
<b><i>Euphydryas editha quino</i></b> quino checkerspot butterfly	IILEPK405L	Endangered	None	G5T1T2	S1S2	
<b><i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i></b> American peregrine falcon	ABNKD06071	Delisted	Delisted	G4T4	S3S4	FP
<b><i>Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni</i></b> unarmored threespine stickleback	AFCPA03011	Endangered	Endangered	G5T1	S1	FP
<b><i>Gila orcuttii</i></b> arroyo chub	AFCJB13120	None	None	G2	S2	SSC
<b><i>Harpagonella palmeri</i></b> Palmer's grapplinghook	PDBOR0H010	None	None	G4	S3	4.2
<b><i>Horkelia cuneata var. puberula</i></b> mesa horkelia	PDROS0W045	None	None	G4T1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Isocoma menziesii var. decumbens</i></b> decumbent goldenbush	PDAST57091	None	None	G3G5T2T3	S2	1B.2
<b><i>Lampropeltis zonata (pulchra)</i></b> California mountain kingsnake (San Diego population)	ARADB19063	None	None	G4G5	S1S2	WL
<b><i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i></b> western red bat	AMACC05060	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<b><i>Lasiurus cinereus</i></b> hoary bat	AMACC05030	None	None	G5	S4	
<b><i>Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri</i></b> Coulter's goldfields	PDAST5L0A1	None	None	G4T2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Lupinus paynei</i></b> Payne's bush lupine	PDFAB2B580	None	None	G1Q	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Macrotus californicus</i></b> California leaf-nosed bat	AMACB01010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b><i>Monardella hypoleuca ssp. hypoleuca</i></b> white-veined monardella	PDLAM180A3	None	None	G4T3	S3	1B.3
<b><i>Monardella sinuata ssp. gerryi</i></b> Gerry's curly-leaved monardella	PDLAM18163	None	None	G3T1	S1	1B.1



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



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b><i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i></b> western small-footed myotis	AMACC01140	None	None	G5	S3	
<b><i>Myotis yumanensis</i></b> Yuma myotis	AMACC01020	None	None	G5	S4	
<b><i>Navarretia ojaiensis</i></b> Ojai navarretia	PDPLM0C130	None	None	G2	S2	1B.1
<b><i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i></b> San Diego desert woodrat	AMAFF08041	None	None	G5T3T4	S3S4	SSC
<b><i>Nolina cismontana</i></b> chaparral nolina	PMAGA080E0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
<b><i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus pop. 10</i></b> steelhead - southern California DPS	AFCHA0209J	Endangered	None	G5T1Q	S1	
<b><i>Orcuttia californica</i></b> California Orcutt grass	PMPOA4G010	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Pentachaeta lyonii</i></b> Lyon's pentachaeta	PDAST6X060	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
<b><i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i></b> coast horned lizard	ARACF12100	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<b><i>Poliophtila californica californica</i></b> coastal California gnatcatcher	ABPBJ08081	Threatened	None	G4G5T2Q	S2	SSC
<b><i>Rana draytonii</i></b> California red-legged frog	AAABH01022	Threatened	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
<b><i>Riparia riparia</i></b> bank swallow	ABPAU08010	None	Threatened	G5	S2	
<b><i>Senecio aphanactis</i></b> chaparral ragwort	PDAST8H060	None	None	G3	S2	2B.2
<b><i>Socalchemmis gertschi</i></b> Gertsch's socalchemmis spider	ILARAU7010	None	None	G1	S1	
<b><i>Southern California Coastal Lagoon</i></b> Southern California Coastal Lagoon	CALE1220CA	None	None	GNR	SNR	
<b><i>Southern California Steelhead Stream</i></b> Southern California Steelhead Stream	CARE2310CA	None	None	GNR	SNR	
<b><i>Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest</i></b> Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest	CTT61310CA	None	None	G4	S4	
<b><i>Southern Coastal Salt Marsh</i></b> Southern Coastal Salt Marsh	CTT52120CA	None	None	G2	S2.1	
<b><i>Southern Mixed Riparian Forest</i></b> Southern Mixed Riparian Forest	CTT61340CA	None	None	G2	S2.1	
<b><i>Southern Riparian Forest</i></b> Southern Riparian Forest	CTT61300CA	None	None	G4	S4	
<b><i>Southern Riparian Scrub</i></b> Southern Riparian Scrub	CTT63300CA	None	None	G3	S3.2	



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



<b>Species</b>	<b>Element Code</b>	<b>Federal Status</b>	<b>State Status</b>	<b>Global Rank</b>	<b>State Rank</b>	<b>Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP</b>
<b><i>Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland</i></b> Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland	CTT62400CA	None	None	G4	S4	
<b><i>Southern Willow Scrub</i></b> Southern Willow Scrub	CTT63320CA	None	None	G3	S2.1	
<b><i>Spea hammondi</i></b> western spadefoot	AAABF02020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b><i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i></b> Riverside fairy shrimp	ICBRA07010	Endangered	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b><i>Taxidea taxus</i></b> American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	G5	S3	SSC
<b><i>Thamnophis hammondi</i></b> two-striped gartersnake	ARADB36160	None	None	G4	S3S4	SSC
<b><i>Thelypteris puberula var. sonorensis</i></b> Sonoran maiden fern	PPTHE05192	None	None	G5T3	S2	2B.2
<b><i>Tortula californica</i></b> California screw moss	NBMUS7L090	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	1B.2
<b><i>Trimerotropis occidentiloides</i></b> Santa Monica grasshopper	IIORT36300	None	None	G1G2	S1S2	
<b><i>Valley Needlegrass Grassland</i></b> Valley Needlegrass Grassland	CTT42110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	
<b><i>Valley Oak Woodland</i></b> Valley Oak Woodland	CTT71130CA	None	None	G3	S2.1	
<b><i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i></b> least Bell's vireo	ABPBW01114	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S2	

**Record Count: 94**

## Plant List

### Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

52 matches found. *Click on scientific name for details*

#### Search Criteria

Found in Quads 3411838, 3411837, 3411836, 3411828, 3411827, 3411826, 3411818 3411817 and 3411816;

[Modify Search Criteria](#)
[Export to Excel](#)
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[Display Photos](#)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
<a href="#">Abronia maritima</a>	red sand-verbena	Nyctaginaceae	perennial herb	Feb-Nov	4.2	S3?	G4
<a href="#">Asplenium vespertinum</a>	western spleenwort	Aspleniaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Feb-Jun	4.2	S4	G4
<a href="#">Astragalus brauntonii</a>	Braunton's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Jan-Aug	1B.1	S2	G2
<a href="#">Atriplex coulteri</a>	Coulter's saltbush	Chenopodiaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Oct	1B.2	S1S2	G3
<a href="#">Atriplex serenana var. davidsonii</a>	Davidson's saltscale	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	Apr-Oct	1B.2	S1	G5T1
<a href="#">Baccharis malibuensis</a>	Malibu baccharis	Asteraceae	perennial deciduous shrub	Aug	1B.1	S1	G1
<a href="#">Calochortus catalinae</a>	Catalina mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	(Feb)Mar-Jun	4.2	S3S4	G3G4
<a href="#">Calochortus clavatus var. clavatus</a>	club-haired mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	(Mar)May-Jun	4.3	S3	G4T3
<a href="#">Calochortus clavatus var. gracilis</a>	slender mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Mar-Jun(Nov)	1B.2	S2S3	G4T2T3
<a href="#">Calochortus fimbriatus</a>	late-flowered mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Jun-Aug	1B.3	S3	G3
<a href="#">Calochortus plummerae</a>	Plummer's mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jul	4.2	S4	G4
<a href="#">Calystegia peirsonii</a>	Peirson's morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jun	4.2	S4	G4
<a href="#">Camissoniopsis lewisii</a>	Lewis' evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	Mar-May(Jun)	3	S4	G4
<a href="#">Centromadia parryi ssp. australis</a>	southern tarplant	Asteraceae	annual herb	May-Nov	1B.1	S2	G3T2
<a href="#">Cercocarpus betuloides var. blancheae</a>	island mountain-mahogany	Rosaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Feb-May	4.3	S4	G5T4
<a href="#">Chaenactis glabriuscula var. orcuttiana</a>	Orcutt's pincushion	Asteraceae	annual herb	Jan-Aug	1B.1	S1	G5T1T2



<a href="#"><u>Chorizanthe parryi var. fernandina</u></a>	San Fernando Valley spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jul	1B.1	S1	G2T1
<a href="#"><u>Chorizanthe parryi var. parryi</u></a>	Parry's spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G3T2
<a href="#"><u>Convolvulus simulans</u></a>	small-flowered morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jul	4.2	S4	G4
<a href="#"><u>Deinandra minthornii</u></a>	Santa Susana tarplant	Asteraceae	perennial deciduous shrub	Jul-Nov	1B.2	S2	G2
<a href="#"><u>Delphinium parryi ssp. blochmaniae</u></a>	dune larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun	1B.2	S2	G4T2
<a href="#"><u>Delphinium parryi ssp. purpureum</u></a>	Mt. Pinos larkspur	Ranunculaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	4.3	S4	G4T4
<a href="#"><u>Dichondra occidentalis</u></a>	western dichondra	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	(Jan)Mar-Jul	4.2	S3S4	G3G4
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. blochmaniae</u></a>	Blochman's dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G3T2
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya cymosa ssp. agourensis</u></a>	Agoura Hills dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	1B.2	S1	G5T1
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya cymosa ssp. marcescens</u></a>	marcescent dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S2	G5T2
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya cymosa ssp. ovatifolia</u></a>	Santa Monica dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	1B.1	S1	G5T1
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya multicaulis</u></a>	many-stemmed dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S2	G2
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya parva</u></a>	Conejo dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	1B.2	S1	G1
<a href="#"><u>Dudleya verityi</u></a>	Verity's dudleya	Crassulaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	1B.1	S1	G1
<a href="#"><u>Eriogonum crocatum</u></a>	conejo buckwheat	Polygonaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S1	G1
<a href="#"><u>Hordeum intercedens</u></a>	vernal barley	Poaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	3.2	S3S4	G3G4
<a href="#"><u>Horkelia cuneata var. puberula</u></a>	mesa horkelia	Rosaceae	perennial herb	Feb-Jul(Sep)	1B.1	S1	G4T1
<a href="#"><u>Isocoma menziesii var. decumbens</u></a>	decumbent goldenbush	Asteraceae	perennial shrub	Apr-Nov	1B.2	S2	G3G5T2T3
<a href="#"><u>Juglans californica</u></a>	Southern California black walnut	Juglandaceae	perennial deciduous tree	Mar-Aug	4.2	S3	G3
<a href="#"><u>Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri</u></a>	Coulter's goldfields	Asteraceae	annual herb	Feb-Jun	1B.1	S2	G4T2
<a href="#"><u>Lepechinia fragrans</u></a>	fragrant pitcher sage	Lamiaceae	perennial shrub	Mar-Oct	4.2	S3	G3
<a href="#"><u>Lilium humboldtii ssp. ocellatum</u></a>	ocellated Humboldt lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Mar-Jul(Aug)	4.2	S4?	G4T4?
<a href="#"><u>Lupinus paynei</u></a>	Payne's bush lupine	Fabaceae	perennial shrub	Mar-Apr(May-Jul)	1B.1	S1	G1Q
<a href="#"><u>Monardella hypoleuca ssp. hypoleuca</u></a>	white-veined monardella	Lamiaceae	perennial herb	(Apr)May-Aug(Sep-Dec)	1B.3	S3	G4T3
<a href="#"><u>Monardella sinuata ssp. gerryi</u></a>	Gerry's curly-leaved monardella	Lamiaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S1	G3T1
	southern curly-leaved monardella	Lamiaceae	annual herb	Apr-Sep	1B.2	S2	G3T2

[Monardella sinuata ssp. sinuata](#)

<u><a href="#">Navarretia ojaiensis</a></u>	Ojai navarretia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	May-Jul	1B.1	S2	G2
<u><a href="#">Nolina cismontana</a></u>	chaparral nolina	Ruscaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	(Mar)May-Jul	1B.2	S3	G3
<u><a href="#">Orcuttia californica</a></u>	California Orcutt grass	Poaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	1B.1	S1	G1
<u><a href="#">Pentachaeta lyonii</a></u>	Lyon's pentachaeta	Asteraceae	annual herb	(Feb)Mar-Aug	1B.1	S1	G1
<u><a href="#">Phacelia hubbyi</a></u>	Hubby's phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jul	4.2	S4	G4
<u><a href="#">Phacelia ramosissima var. austrolitoralis</a></u>	south coast branching phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Aug	3.2	S3	G5?T3Q
<u><a href="#">Piperia michaelii</a></u>	Michael's rein orchid	Orchidaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Aug	4.2	S3	G3
<u><a href="#">Senecio aphanactis</a></u>	chaparral ragwort	Asteraceae	annual herb	Jan-Apr(May)	2B.2	S2	G3
<u><a href="#">Thelypteris puberula var. sonorensis</a></u>	Sonoran maiden fern	Thelypteridaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jan-Sep	2B.2	S2	G5T3
<u><a href="#">Tortula californica</a></u>	California screw-moss	Pottiaceae	moss		1B.2	S2S3	G2G3

**Suggested Citation**



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October 17, 2018

**Wetlands**

- |   |                                |   |                                   |   |          |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|----------|
|  | Estuarine and Marine Deepwater |  | Freshwater Emergent Wetland       |  | Lake     |
|  | Estuarine and Marine Wetland   |  | Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland |  | Other    |
|   |                                |  | Freshwater Pond                   |  | Riverine |

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

**Appendix 5**  
**Wetland Determination Data Forms**

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM - Arid West Region

Project/Site: CONEJO CREEK SW City/County: THOUSAND OAKS / VENTURA Sampling Date: 10/11/18  
 Applicant/Owner: CONEJO RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT State: CA Sampling Point: TP1  
 Investigator(s): T. BARNES Section, Township, Range: No Section T2N R20W USGS 7.5' THOUSAND OAKS  
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): SWALE Local relief (concave, convex, none): CONCAVE Slope (%): 1  
 Subregion (LRR): LPRC Lat: 34.187932 Long: -118.864755 Datum: NAD83  
 Soil Map Unit Name: Sorrento silty clay loam, 2 to 9 % slopes, warm MAAT, MLR11 NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes  No  (If no, explain in Remarks.)  
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes  No   
 Are Vegetation N, Soil N, or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS - Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Remarks: <u>Test plot located in swale constructed in uplands. Swale is connected to Conejo Creek through an overhead street flow.</u>	

VEGETATION - Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>15'</u> )	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet: Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: _____ (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: _____ (A/B)
1. <u>—</u>				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
= Total Cover				Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators: ___ Dominance Test is >50% ___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 <sup>1</sup> ___ Morphological Adaptations <sup>1</sup> (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) ___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation <sup>1</sup> (Explain)  <sup>1</sup> Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>10'</u> )				
1. <u>—</u>				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
= Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5'</u> )				
1. <u>Himantella meana</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>NL</u>	
2. <u>Bromus medicensis</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>UPL</u>	
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				
7. _____				
8. _____				
<u>75</u> = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____				
2. _____				
= Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>50</u> % Cover of Biotic Crust _____				
Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

Remarks: Vegetation upland natural species. No hydrophytic vegetation w/in test plot.

