

Appendix D Biological Resources Existing Environment

Biological Resources Existing Environment for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report

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July 31, 2023

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1.0 Introduction

This section describes the geographic setting for biological resources that occur within the City of Los Angeles (City). Figures are included as Attachment A. The regulatory setting for biological resources that occur within the City are included as Attachment B. Lastly, the biological database queries are included as Attachment C.

2.0 Setting

2.1 Geographic Setting

2.1.1 Regional Setting

The City of Los Angeles lies in Los Angeles County, which encompasses approximately 4,084 square miles. The County borders 70 miles of coastline on the Pacific Ocean and extends west to the Mojave Desert. The County is divided west-to-east by the San Gabriel Mountains, which are part of the Transverse Ranges of southern California. The region's climate is characteristic of a Mediterranean climate system with hot, dry summers and cooler, wetter winters.

2.1.2 Local Setting

The City of Los Angeles encompasses approximately 469 square miles of land and is bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Angeles National Forest to the north, and the San Gabriel Valley to the east. Elevations within the City range from sea level at the coast to 5,075 feet above mean sea level (amsl) at Mount Lukens in the northeastern end of the San Fernando Valley. Average temperatures in the City range from 55 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in the winter months to 74°F in the summer. Average annual rainfall in the City is approximately 14.77 inches, with the majority of rain falling between December and March (WRCC 2023).

3.0 Existing Conditions

3.1 Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types

Urbanization in the City has substantially reduced the abundance and diversity of biological resources. This is most evident in the central portion of the City, where development is the most dense (Figure 1; City of Los Angeles 2001). The majority of remaining natural open space in the City is limited to the mountainous terrain bordering the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys (the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, and Verdugo Mountains). Another large natural open-space area within the City is located at the eastern end of the Santa Monica Mountains, where the range separates the San Fernando Valley from the coastal plain of metropolitan Los Angeles (City of Los Angeles 2001).

Significant biological resource areas within the City include lowland areas of the coastal plain such as Sepulveda flood control basin, Tujunga and Pacoima spreading grounds, and Harbor Lake Park. In addition, the beaches and coastal canyons of the Pacific Palisades, dunes and estuarine wetlands of the southwest coastline, beaches and headlands of the Palos Verdes peninsula, and Terminal

Island in the Los Angeles Harbor are all important habitats for plants and wildlife of the City (City of Los Angeles 2001).

Vegetation communities within open space areas of the City are highly varied. The north slopes and high-elevation south slopes of the Santa Monica and Verdugo mountains are dominated by dense chaparral habitat. Lower-elevation south slopes of the Santa Monica and Verdugo Mountains, as well as the Simi Hills, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains are dominated by open coastal sage scrub and grassland habitats. The mountainous areas of the City support riparian woodland habitats dominated by willow, oak, sycamore, cottonwood, and alder (City of Los Angeles 2001). Along the coastal areas of the City, sandy beaches, rocky cliffs, and headlands provide suitable habitat for marine intertidal invertebrates, fish, mammals, various avian species, as well as rare plant species. The southwestern coastal area of the City includes coastal saltmarsh, salt flats, freshwater marsh, riparian scrub, bluffs, and dunes that support sensitive wildlife and plant species (City of Los Angeles 2001).

Other vegetation communities and land cover types that occur within the City include agriculture, annual grassland, open water, disturbed habitat, oak woodland, big-cone spruce woodland, walnut woodland, coastal dune scrub, and willow forest (Figure 1; City of Los Angeles 2001).

3.2 Wildlife of the City

Given the urbanized nature of the majority of the City, most wildlife communities in the City consist of species that can tolerate human-dominated landscapes. Commonly encountered mammals in the City include pocket gophers (*Thomomys* sp.), coyote (*Canis latrans*), squirrels (*Sciuridae* sp.), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), common raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), and rabbits (*Sylvilagus* sp.). Commonly encountered avian species in the City include house finch (*Haemorrhous mexicanus*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), California scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), and Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*). Common reptiles found in the City include southern alligator lizard (*Elgaria multicarinata*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), western side blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), and gopher snake (*Pituophis catenifer*). Amphibians found within the City include Baja California tree frog (*Pseudacris hypochondriaca*) and western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*) (iNaturalist 2023).

3.3 Aquatic Resources

Various aquatic resources, including rivers, streams, and wetlands, are present within the City (Figure 2; USGS 2023, USFWS 2023a). The Los Angeles River is the primary drainage channel within the City. The river originates in the Canoga Park region of the City, flows east from the San Fernando Valley along the Santa Monica Mountains, turns south through the City center, and ultimately flows to the Port of Long Beach in the Pacific Ocean. Ballona Creek is another drainage that flows through the Mid-City neighborhood of Los Angeles and continues to the community of Playa del Rey where it empties into the Santa Monica Bay.

The Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve, located in the Playa del Rey community of the City, is the City's largest wetland totaling approximately 600 acres. Habitats within the reserve include coastal salt marsh, salt pan, freshwater marsh, riparian scrub, riparian forest, seasonal wetlands, coastal sage scrub, and coastal sand dunes (Friends of Ballona Wetlands 2023).

3.4 Significant Ecological Areas

Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) are officially designated areas within Los Angeles County that contain sensitive biological resources. The SEA Program was originally established as a part of the 1980 County General Plan in order to conserve the genetic and physical diversity within the County by designating biological resources areas capable of sustaining themselves into the future. Within SEAs, development is carefully reviewed with a focus on conservation of sensitive biological resources.

Two County SEAs lie completely within the boundaries of the City: Tujunga Valley/Hansen Dam and Griffith Park. In addition, three more SEAs overlap partially with the City including Verdugo Mountains (northeast portion of the City), Santa Susana Mountains/Simi Hills (northwest portion of the City), and Santa Monica Mountains (southwest portion of the City; Figure 3).

Special-status species that are historically known to occur within the Tujunga Valley/Hansen Dam SEA include Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*), slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*), arroyo chub (*Gila orcuttii*), and Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*) (City of Los Angeles 2001). Sensitive vegetation communities within the Tujunga Valley/Hansen Dam SEA include alluvial scrub, freshwater marsh, willow forest, and willow scrub (City of Los Angeles 2001).

Special-status species that are historically known to occur within the Griffith Park SEA include mountain lion (*Puma concolor*), southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*), and coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*). Vegetation communities within the Griffith Park SEA include oak-walnut woodland, oak woodland, oak-sycamore riparian woodland, mixed chaparral, and mixed coastal sage scrub (City of Los Angeles n.d.).

Special-status species that are historically known to occur within the Santa Susana Mountains/ Simi Hills SEA include southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescen*), two-striped gartersnake (*Thamnophis hammondi*), and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) (PCR 2000a). Sensitive vegetation communities within the Santa Susana Mountains/Simi Hills SEA include coastal sage scrub, alluvial scrub, valley oak woodland, valley oak savannah, mainland cherry woodland, native grassland, southern willow scrub, and cottonwood-willow riparian forest (PCR 2000a).

Special-status species that are historically known to occur within the Santa Monica Mountains SEA include southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*), southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), arroyo chub, Coast Range newt (*Taricha torosa*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), and southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (PCR 2000b). Sensitive vegetation communities within the Santa Monica Mountains SEA include coastal sage scrub, native grassland, valley oak woodland, walnut woodland, southern willow scrub, southern cottonwood-willow riparian forest, sycamore-alder woodland, oak riparian forest, freshwater marsh, and salt marsh (PCR 2000b).

Both general and specific accounts of biological resources within the Verdugo Mountains SEA are lacking, and the most recent vegetation map of the area was prepared in 1934 (City of Los Angeles 2001). Based on aerial photography, vegetation communities within this SEA include grassland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian scrub and forests, and oak woodlands (City of Los Angeles 2001).

3.5 Coastal and Marine Habitats

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are areas where human activities are managed to protect important natural or cultural resources (NOAA 2023a). There are no MPAs in the City, however, there are MPAs near the City. The Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge (designated as a State Marine Conservation Area), is managed by CDFW and is located on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, south of Fort MacArthur (Figure 3). Commercial and recreational fishing is restricted in this MPA (NOAA 2023b). In addition, the Point Dume State Marine Reserve, is located along the Malibu coastline, west of Pacific Palisades. This MPA is managed by CDFW and has a "No Take" level of protection (NOAA 2023b).

In State marine conservation areas, it is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any marine resources for commercial or recreational purposes that would compromise the protection of the species of interest, natural community, habitat, or geological feature.

In State marine reserves it is unlawful to injure, damage, take, or possess any marine resource, except under a permit or specific authorization. Access for activities including, but not limited to, walking, swimming, boating, and diving may be restricted to protect marine resources.

3.6 Essential Fish Habitat

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) are areas in marine and estuary waters that include habitat that is essential for the spawning, breeding, feeding, and growth to maturity of federally managed fish (NOAA 2022). There are no EFHs within the City but the coastline surrounding the City contains EFHs for many species including albacore tuna, bigeye tuna, blue shark, broadbill swordfish, coastal pelagic species, common thresher shark, dorado, finfish, groundfish, krill, northern bluefin tuna, shortfin mako shark, skipjack tuna, striped marlin, and yellowfin tuna (Figure 3).

3.7 Critical Habitat

A database query of the USFWS Critical Habitat Online Mapper (USFWS 2023c) was conducted to identify any USFWS-designated critical habitat that occurs within the City. Critical habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*) is present in the northwest portion of the City near Oat Mountain (Figure 4). In addition, critical habitat for southwestern-willow flycatcher exists

near Hansen Dam. Designated-critical habitat for Santa Ana sucker is also present in the northeast area of the City along Big Tujunga Creek. A small area of critical habitat for Braunton's milk-vetch (*Astragalus brauntonii*) occurs within Topanga State Park in the southwest portion of the City. Two areas of critical habitat for western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*) occur within the City. One area is located between Pacific Palisades and Santa Monica, and the second area is located along Dockweiler State Beach. Lastly, a small area of critical habitat for the Palos Verdes blue butterfly (*Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis*) occurs near the southern tip of the City on the Palos Verdes peninsula.

Critical habitat for California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) falls just outside the western boundary of the City, just north of the City of Calabasas. Lastly, a small area of critical habitat for tidewater goby (*Eucycloglobius newberryi*) is present to the west of the City, south of Tuna Canyon Park (Figure 4).

3.8 Special-Status Species

Within the City, 61 special-status species, including 26 plants and 35 animals were identified through queries of multiple biological databases (Attachment C). First, a CNDDDB query was conducted of the U.S.G.S topographic quadrangles that overlap with the City's boundaries including *Sunland, Pasadena, Burbank, San Pedro, Torrance, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Hollywood, Venice, Beverly Hills, Topanga, Van Nuys, Canoga Park, and San Fernando*. The CNDDDB query focused on species occurrences that have been recorded from 2013 to present day (2023). In addition, a species list was obtained through the United State Fish and Wildlife's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website of Threatened and Endangered Species occurring within the City (USFWS 2023c). Lastly, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) was reviewed for a list of species that occur within marine areas located in/near the City (NOAA Fisheries 2022).

Potentials for special-status species to occur within the City were evaluated based on proximity, recency and abundance of known occurrences, availability of suitable habitats, and historic distributions of the species. Potentials for occurrence were generally evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **High** – Historic records indicate that the species has been known to occur within the vicinity of the City (5 miles), and moderate to high-quality suitable habitat occurs in the City.
- **Moderate** – Historic records indicate that the species has been known to occur within the vicinity of the City (5 miles), but low-quality suitable habitat occurs onsite, or; no historic records occur within the City, but the City occurs within the historic range of the species, and moderate to high quality habitat occurs in the City.
- **Low** – Historic records indicate that the species has not been known to occupy the immediate vicinity of the City, and low-quality habitat for the species exists in the City.
- **Unlikely** – The species is restricted to habitats not occurring within the City or is considered extirpated from the City.

The following status codes were used to categorize each special-status species identified in the database queries:

- FE: Federally Endangered
- FT: Federally Threatened
- FC: Federal Candidate
- SE: State Endangered
- ST: State Threatened
- SCE: State Candidate Endangered
- SCT: State Candidate Threatened
- SR: State Rare
- FP: California Fully Protected
- SSC: California Species of Special Concern
- WL: State Watch List
- CRPR:
 - 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
 - 2B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere
 - 3: Plants about which more information is needed
 - 4: Watch list, plants of limited distribution
 - 0.1: Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat)
 - 0.2: Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
 - 0.3: Not very threatened in California (less than 20% of occurrences threatened/low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)

3.8.1 Special-Status Plants

The following special-status plant species were identified in the database queries:

- Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*; **CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- slender mariposa-lily (*Calochortus clavatus* var. *gracilis*; **CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Santa Susana tarplant (*Deinandra minthornii*; **SR, CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Davidson's bush-mallow (*Malacothamnus davidsonii*; **CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- Braunton's milk-vetch (*Astragalus brauntonii*; **FE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- aphanisma (*Aphanisma blitoides*; **CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- Palmer's grapplinghook (*Harpagonella palmeri*; **CRPR 4.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- San Fernando Valley spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*; **SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- California Orcutt grass (*Orcuttia californica*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- Blochman's dudleya (*Dudleya blochmaniae* ssp. *blochmaniae*; **CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Lyon's pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta lyonii*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**

- Santa Catalina Island desert-thorn (*Lycium brevipes* var. *hassei*; **CRPR 3.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis*; **CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*; **CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Greata's aster (*Symphotrichum greatae*; **CRPR 1B.3**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- Orcutt's pincushion (*Chaenactis glabriuscula* var. *orcuttiana*; **CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- salt spring checkerbloom (*Sidalcea neomexicana*; **CRPR 2B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- south coast saltscale (*Atriplex pacifica*; **CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Sanford's arrowhead (*Sagittaria sanfordii*; **CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- coastal dunes milk-vetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *titi*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- Gambel's watercress (*Rorippa gambellii*; **FE, ST, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- salt marsh bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *Maritimus*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.2**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- slender-horned spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*; **FE, SE, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- spreading navarretia (*Navarretia fossalis*; **FT, CRPR 1B.1**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**

3.8.2 Special-Status Wildlife

The following special-status wildlife species were identified in the database queries:

- monarch - California overwintering population (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1; **FC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*; **FT, SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Santa Ana speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus* ssp. 8; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- arroyo chub (*Gila orcuttii*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- American badger (*Taxidea taxus*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**

- least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*; **FE, SE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*; **SCE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*; **WL**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- Coast Range newt (*Taricha torosa*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- California legless lizard (*Anniella* spp.; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- two-striped gartersnake (*Thamnophis hammondi*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- Pacific pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*; **FE, SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Low**
- California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*; **FE, SE, FP**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely (nesting), Low (foraging)**
- California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*, **FE, SE, FP**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- California spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*; **SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely (nesting), Low (foraging)**
- Hawaiian petrel (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*; **FE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely (nesting), Low (foraging)**
- light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*; **FE, SE, FP**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*; **FT, SE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria =Diomedea albatrus*; **FE, SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely (nesting), Low (foraging)**
- southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*; **FE, SE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*; **FT, SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*; **FT, SE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- arroyo toad (*Anaxyrus californicus*; **FE, SSC**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*; **FT**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**
- El Segundo blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*; **FE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- Palos Verdes blue butterfly (*Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis*; **FE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**

- Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottonii*; **FE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*; **FT**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Unlikely**
- mountain lion (southern California ESU) (*Puma concolor*; **SCT**)
 - Potential to Occur: **High**
- southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*; **FE, SCE**)
 - Potential to Occur: **Moderate**

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ATTACHMENT A

Figures



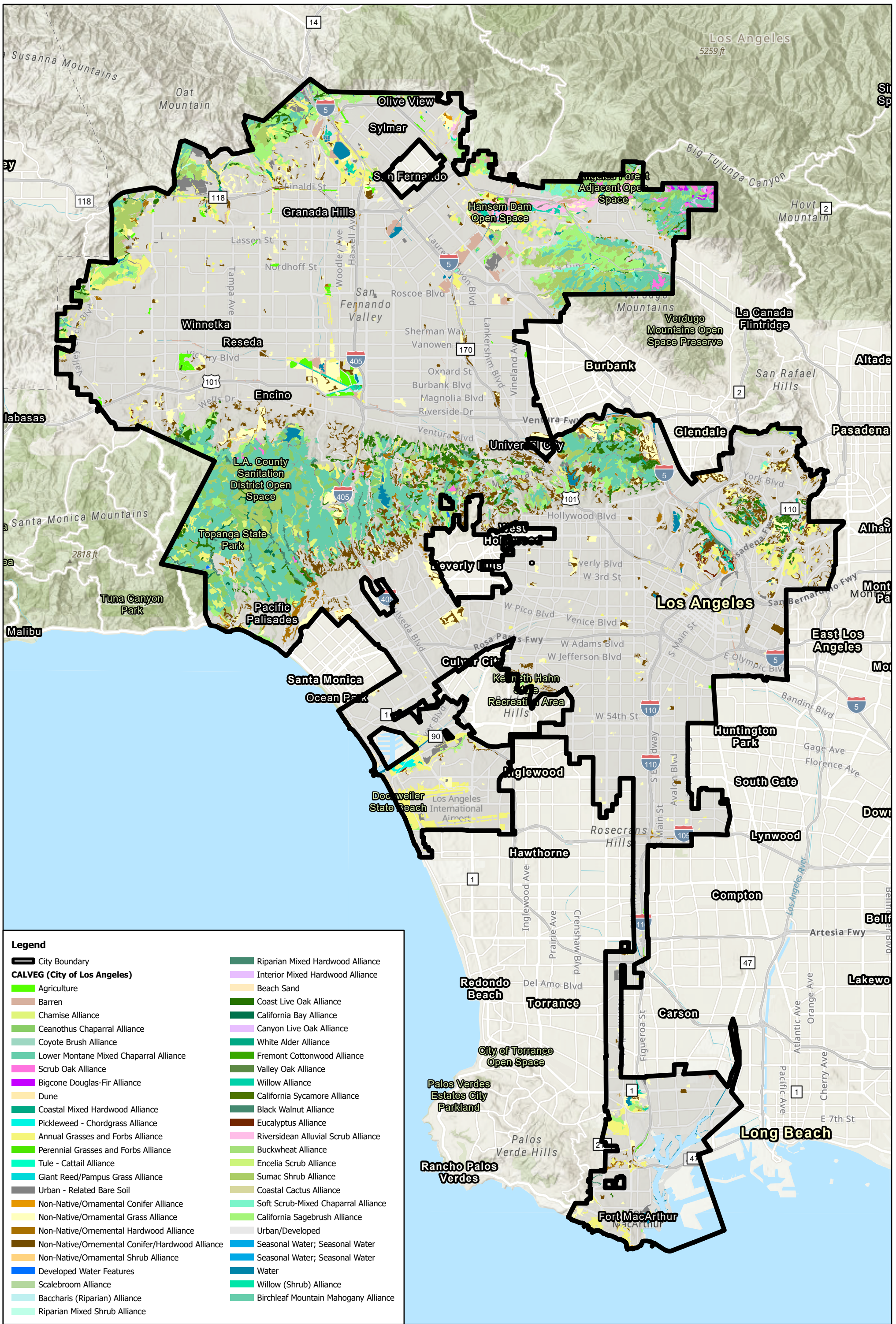
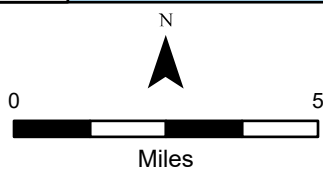


Figure 1
Vegetation Communities



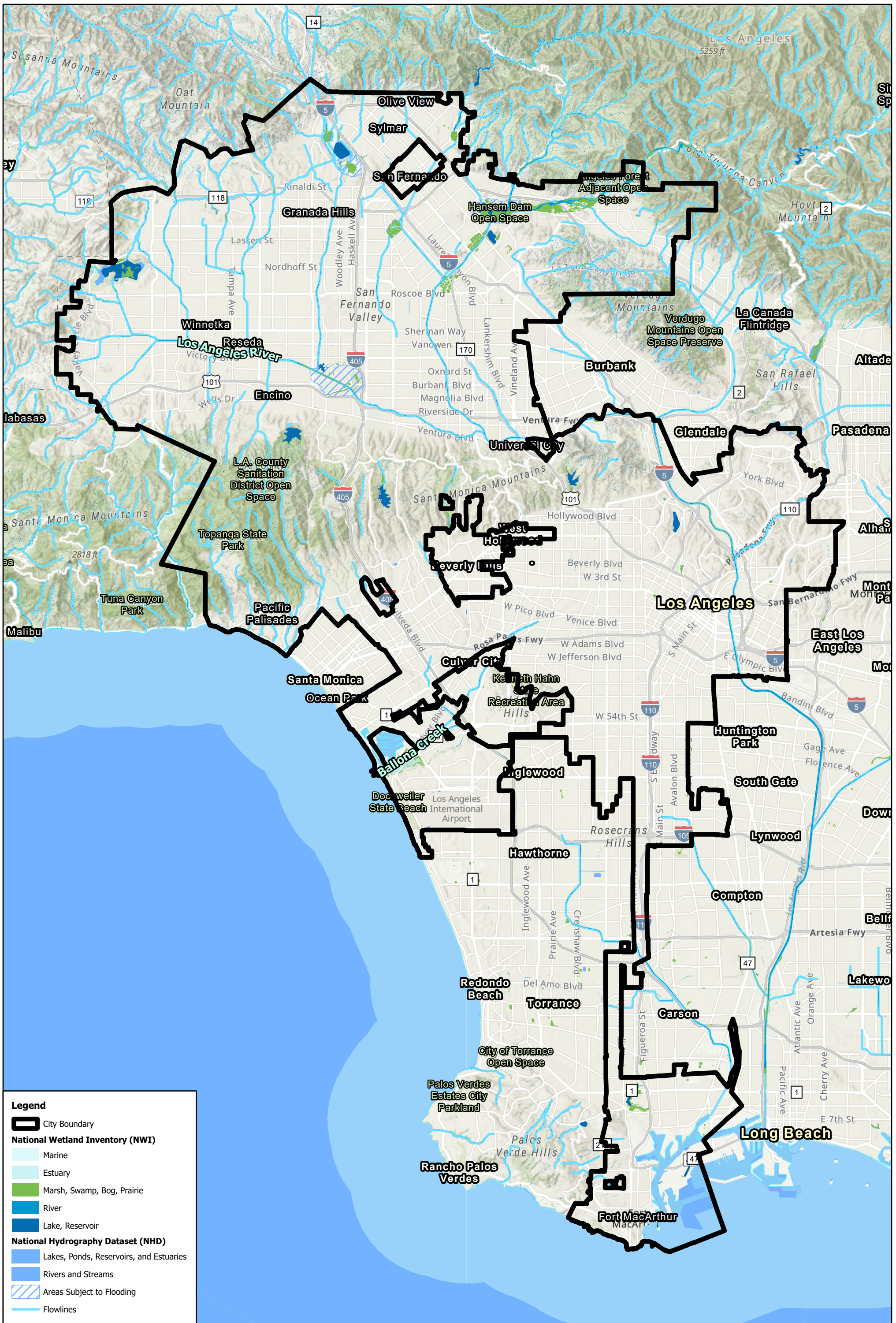
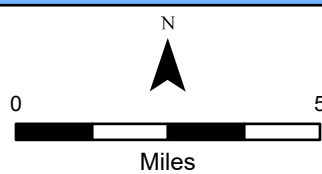


Figure 2
USFWS NWI and USGS NHD Results



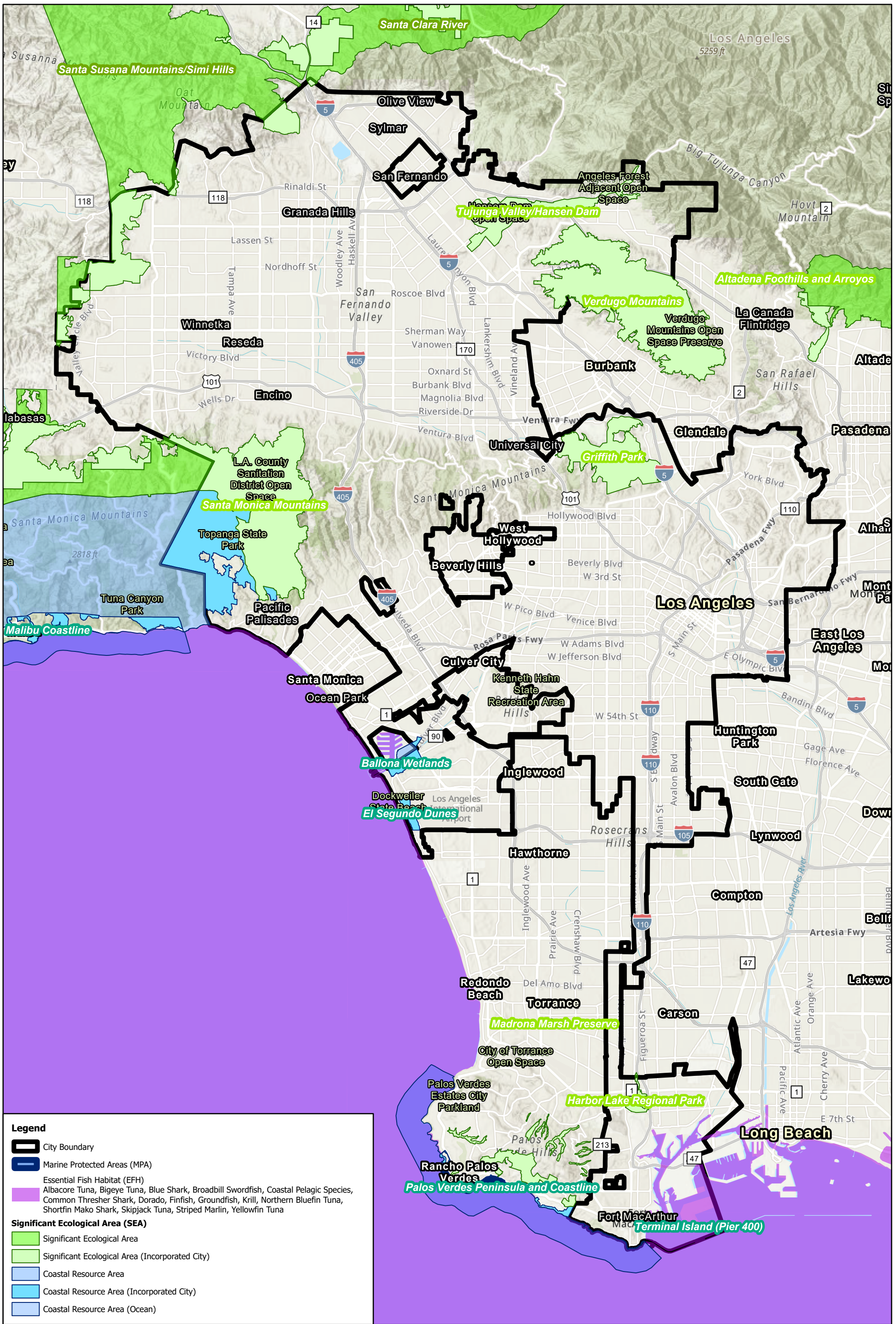


Figure 3
Significant Ecological Areas, Marine Protected Areas,
Essential Fish Habitat
 City of Los Angeles LASAN Plastics PEIR

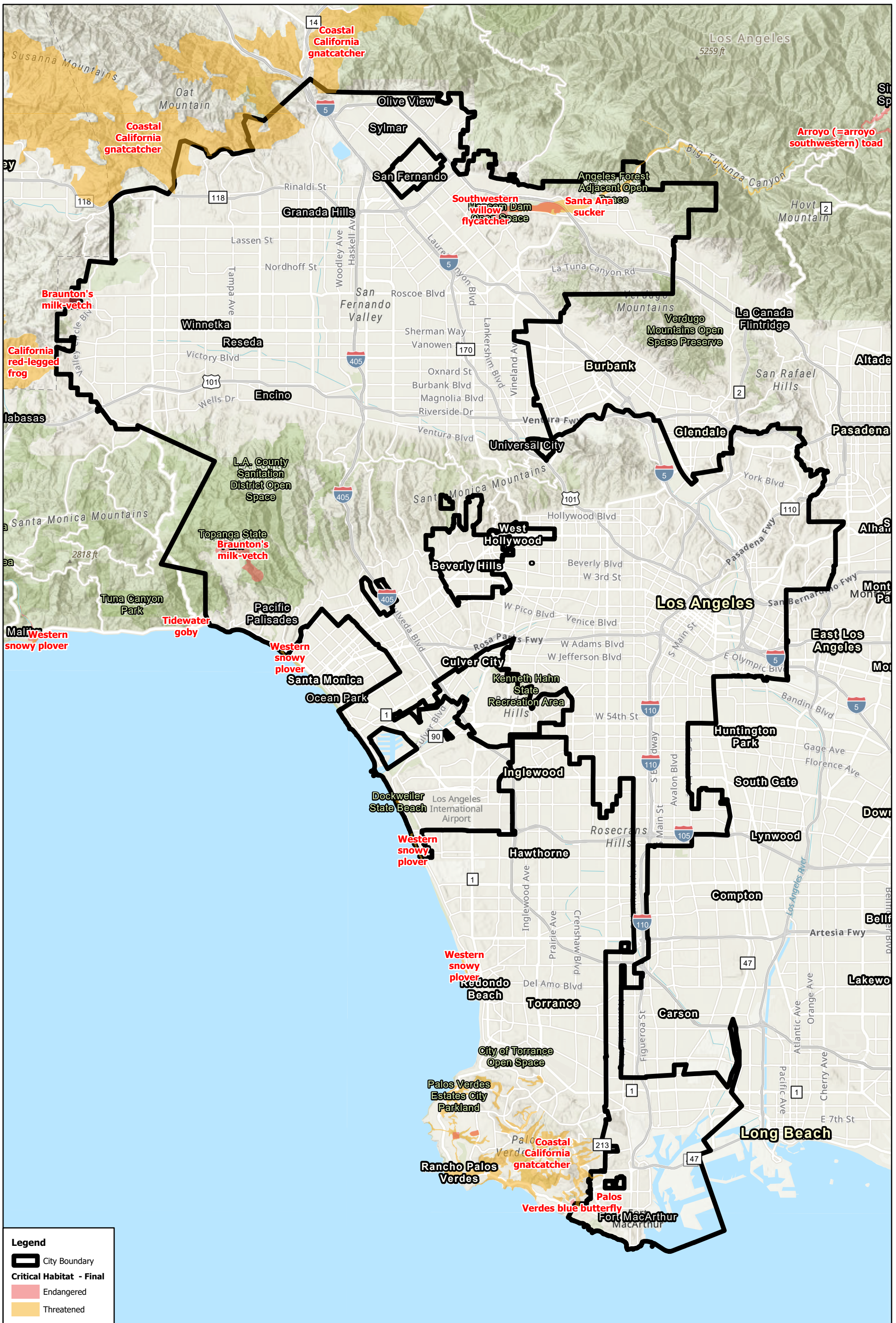
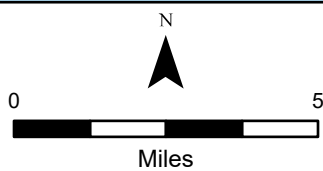


Figure 4
USFWS Designated Critical Habitat
 City of Los Angeles LASAN Plastics PEIR



ATTACHMENT B

Regulatory Setting



Regulatory Framework

1.1 Federal Regulations

1.1.1 Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) defines an endangered species as “any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.” A threatened species is defined as “any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.” Under provisions of Section 9(a)(1)(B) of the ESA it is unlawful to “take” any listed species. “Take” is defined in Section 3(18) of ESA: “...harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.” Further, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), through regulation, has interpreted the terms “harm” and “harass” to include certain types of habitat modification that result in injury to, or death of species as forms of “take.” These interpretations, however, are generally considered and applied on a case-by-case basis and often vary from species to species. In a case where a property owner seeks permission from a Federal agency for an action that could affect a federally listed plant and animal species, the property owner and agency are required to consult with USFWS. Section 9(a)(2)(b) of the ESA addresses the protections afforded to listed plants.

1.1.2 Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (PL 65-186, as amended; 16 USC §§ 703 et seq.) protects most birds, whether or not they migrate. Birds, their nests, eggs, parts, or products may not be killed or possessed. Game birds are listed and protected except where specific seasons, bag limits, and other features govern their hunting. Exceptions are made for some agricultural pests, which require a USFWS permit (yellow-headed, red-winged, bi-colored, tri-colored, rusty and Brewer's Blackbirds, cowbirds, all grackles, crows and magpies). Some other birds that injure crops in California may be taken under the authority of the County Agricultural Commissioner (meadowlarks, horned larks, golden-crowned sparrows, white- and other crowned sparrows, goldfinches, house finches, acorn woodpeckers, Lewis' woodpeckers and flickers). Permits may be granted for various non-commercial activities involving migratory birds and some commercial activities involving captive-bred migratory birds.

1.1.3 Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (PL 95-616; 16 USC §§ 668 et seq.) provides for protection of the bald and golden eagles by prohibiting taking, possession, and commerce in the birds.

1.1.4 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980 (PL 96-366; 16 USC §§2901 et seq.) provides for conservation, protection, restoration and propagation of certain species, including migratory birds threatened with extinction.

1.1.5 Federal Clean Water Act (CWA)

The Clean Water Act (CWA) regulates the discharge of pollutants to Waters of the United States to protect water quality and the beneficial uses of these waters. Through a permit application process, CWA Section 404 regulates dredge and fill discharges to waters of the United States.

1.1.5.1 USACE Waters of the U.S.

According to the USACE Wetland Delineation Manual, wetlands are defined as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater 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."

Regulatory Definition

In accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), USACE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States. The term "Waters of the United States" is defined as:

- All Traditional Navigable Waters (TNW) currently used, or used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;
- All interstate waters, including interstate wetlands;
- All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes or natural ponds; the use, degradation, or destruction of which could affect foreign commerce including any such waters, (1) which could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; or (2) from which fish or shellfish are, or could be, taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or (3) which are used or could be used for industries in interstate commerce;
- All other impoundments of waters otherwise defined as Waters of the United States under the definition;
- Tributaries of waters identified above;
- The territorial seas; and
- Wetlands adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in the paragraphs above (33 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 328.3[a]).

Non-navigable tributaries that do not constitute Relatively Permanent Waters (RPW; exhibit at least seasonal flow, typically three months) may be considered Waters of the U.S. based on significant nexus standards, which may include assessment of downstream hydrologic and ecological functions of the tributary, as well as connectivity to receiving waters (RPWs and/or TNWs).

Wetland Parameters

Wetlands are delineated using three parameters: hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology and hydric soils. According to USACE, indicators for all three parameters must normally be present to qualify as a wetland.

Hydrophytic Vegetation

Hydrophytic vegetation is defined as "the sum total of macrophytic plant life growing in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content" (USACE 1987). The potential wetland areas within the Survey Area were surveyed by walking through the Project site and making observations of those areas exhibiting characteristics of jurisdictional waters or wetlands. Vegetation units with potential wetland areas were examined, and data for each vegetation stratum (i.e., tree, shrub, herb and vine) were recorded on the datasheet provided in the Arid West Supplement (USACE 2008). The percent absolute cover of each species present was visually estimated and recorded.

The wetland indicator status of each species recorded was determined by using the National Wetland Plant Inventory (Lichvar, et. al. 2016). An obligate (OBL) indicator status refers to plants that are almost always hydrophytic and rarely in uplands. A facultative wet (FACW) indicator status refers to plants that usually are hydrophytic but are occasionally found in non-wetlands. A facultative (FAC) indicator status refers to plants that commonly occur as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte. Facultative upland (FACU) species occasionally are hydrophytic but usually occur in uplands. Upland (UPL) species almost always occur in uplands and are rarely hydrophytic. A not indicated (NI) status refers to species that have insufficient data available to determine an indicator status at this time for the local region.

Plant species nomenclature follows that contained in *the Jepson Online Interchange* (Jepson Flora Project 2014). Dominant species with an indicator status of NI or not listed in the 2014 list were evaluated as either wetland or upland indicator species based on local professional knowledge of where the species are most often observed in habitats characteristic of southern California.

Hydric Soils

A hydric soil is a soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions that favor the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation (USACE 1987). Hydric soil indicators are formed predominantly by the accumulation or loss of iron, manganese, sulfur or carbon compounds (USACE 2008). The hydric soil criterion is considered fulfilled at a location if soils in the area can be inferred to have a high groundwater table, evidence of prolonged soil saturation exists, or any indicators suggesting a long-term reducing environment in the upper 18 inches of the soil profile are present.

A sampling point is typically selected within a potential wetland area where the apparent boundary between wetland and upland is inferred based on changes in the composition of the vegetation and topography. Soil pits are dug to a depth of at least 18 inches or to a depth necessary to determine soil color, evidence of soil saturation, depth to groundwater, and indicators of a reducing soil environment (e.g., mottling, gleying, sulfidic odor).

Wetland Hydrology

The presence of wetland hydrology indicators can confirm that inundation or saturation has occurred on a site, but may not provide information about the timing, duration or frequency of the events. Hydrology features are generally the most ephemeral of the three wetland parameters (USACE 2008).

Hydrologic information for the site was obtained by reviewing USGS topographic maps, historic and current aerial photographs, and by directly observing hydrology indicators in the field. The wetland hydrology criterion is considered fulfilled at a location if, based upon the conclusions inferred from the field observations, an area has a high probability of being periodically inundated or has soils saturated to the surface at some time during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the surface soil environment, especially the root zone (USACE 1987). If at least one primary indicator or at least two secondary indicators are found at a sample point, the wetland hydrology criterion is considered fulfilled.

Atypical Situations

Because there are situations in which one or more of the wetland parameters has been removed or altered as a result of recent natural events or human activities, the definition of a wetland includes the phrase "under normal circumstances" (USACE 1987). To describe these conditions, USACE uses definitions for atypical situations and problem areas. They are as follows:

Atypical situation: ...refers to areas in which one or more parameters (vegetation, soil, and/or hydrology) have been sufficiently altered by recent

human activities or natural events to preclude the presence of wetland indicators of the parameter (USACE 1987).

Problem areas: . . . wetland types in which wetland indicators of one or more parameters may be periodically lacking due to normal seasonal or annual variations in environmental conditions that result from causes other than human activities or catastrophic natural events. Representative examples of problem areas include seasonal wetlands, wetlands on drumlins, prairie potholes, and vegetated flats (USACE 1987).

Atypical situations and problem areas may lack one or more of the three criteria, yet still may be considered wetlands. Background information on the previous condition of the area, field observations and/or the identification of undisturbed reference sites adjacent to atypical sites may indicate that the site met the wetland criteria prior to disturbance. Additional delineation procedures would be employed if normal circumstances did not occur on a site.

Vernal Pools

Vernal pools are considered "problem areas" because vegetation or hydric soils may be lacking due to seasonal filling by rainfall and eventual drying. As described in the Arid Supplement, "the species composition of some wetland plant communities in the Arid West can change in response to seasonal weather patterns and long-term climatic fluctuations. Wetland types that are influenced by these shifts include vernal pools, playa edges, seeps and springs. Lack of hydrophytic vegetation during dry periods should not immediately eliminate a site from further consideration as a wetland." In addition, since they support seasonally ponded soils, when soil investigations are performed within vernal pools, they may lack hydric soil indicators. The USACE includes problem soils as "seasonally ponded, depressional wetlands (that) occur in basins and valleys throughout the Arid West. Most are perched systems, with water ponding above a restrictive soil layer, such as a hardpan or clay layer, that is at or near the surface (e.g., in Vertisols). Some of these wetlands lack hydric soil indicators due to limited saturation depth, saline conditions or other factors."

1.1.5.2 USACE Non-Wetland Waters of the U.S.

The USACE also requires the delineation of non-wetland jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. These waters must have strong hydrology indicators, such as the presence of seasonal flows and an ordinary high watermark (OHWM). An ordinary high watermark is defined as:

. . . that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as [a] clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (33 CFR Part 328.3).

Areas delineated as non-wetland jurisdictional waters may lack wetland vegetation or hydric soil characteristics. Hydric soil indicators may be missing because topographic position precludes ponding and subsequent development of hydric soils. Absence of wetland vegetation can result from frequent scouring due to rapid water flow. These types of jurisdictional waters are delineated by the lateral and upstream/downstream extent of the OHWM of the particular drainage or depression.

1.2 State Regulations

1.2.1 California Endangered Species Act (CESA)

California's Endangered Species Act (CESA) defines an endangered species as "a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that is in 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." The State defines a threatened species as "a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant 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." Candidate species are defined as "a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the commission has formally noticed as being under review by the department for addition to either the list of endangered species or the list of threatened species, or a species for which the commission has published a notice of proposed regulation to add the species to either list." Candidate species may be afforded temporary protection as though they were already listed as threatened or endangered at the discretion of the Fish and Game Commission. Unlike the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), CESA does not list invertebrate species.

Article 3, Sections 2080 through 2085, of the CESA addresses the taking of threatened, endangered, or candidate species by stating "No person shall import into this state, export out of this state, or take, possess, purchase, or sell within this state, any species, or any part or product thereof, that the commission determines to be an endangered species or a threatened species, or attempt any of those acts, except as otherwise provided." Under the CESA, "take" is defined as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." Exceptions authorized by the state to allow "take" require permits or memoranda of understanding and can be authorized for endangered species, threatened species, or candidate species for scientific, educational, or management purposes and for take incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Sections 1901 and 1913 of the California Fish and Game Code provide that notification is required prior to disturbance.

State-Designation Special-Status Species

Some mammals and birds are protected by the state as Fully Protected (FP) Mammals or Fully Protected Birds, as described in the California Fish and Game Code, Sections 4700 and 3511, respectively. California Species of Special Concern (SSC) are species designated as vulnerable to extinction due to declining population levels, limited ranges, and/or continuing threats. This list is primarily a working document for the CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) project. Informally listed taxa are not protected but warrant consideration in the preparation of biotic assessments. For some species, the CNDDDB is only concerned with specific portions of the life history, such as roosts, rookeries, or nest sites.

1.2.2 California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a private plant conservation organization dedicated to the monitoring and protection of special-status species in California. The CNPS's *California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California* separates plants of interest into five categories. CNPS has compiled an inventory comprised of the information focusing on geographic distribution and qualitative characterization of Rare, Threatened, or Endangered vascular plant species of California. The list serves as the candidate list for listing as threatened and endangered by CDFW.

1.2.3 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Shortly after the United States federal government passed the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was passed in 1970 to institute a statewide policy of environmental protection. CEQA does not directly regulate land uses, but instead requires state and local agencies within California to follow a protocol of analysis and public disclosure of environmental impacts of proposed projects and adopt all feasible measures to mitigate those impacts. CEQA makes environmental protection a mandatory part of every California state and local agency's decision-making process.

CEQA Thresholds of Significance

Environmental impacts relative to biological resources are assessed using impact significance threshold criteria, which reflect the policy statement contained in CEQA, Section 21001(c) of the California Public Resources Code. Accordingly, the State Legislature has established it to be the policy of the State of California to:

“Prevent the elimination of fish or wildlife species due to man’s activities, insure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self-perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities...”

Determining whether a project may have a significant effect, or impact, plays a critical role in the CEQA process. According to CEQA, Section 15064.7 (Thresholds of Significance), each public agency is encouraged to develop and adopt (by ordinance, resolution, rule, or regulation) thresholds of significance that the agency uses in the determination of the significance of environmental effects. A threshold of significance is an identifiable quantitative, qualitative or performance level of a particular environmental effect, non-compliance with which means the effect will normally be determined to be significant by the agency and compliance with which means the effect normally will be determined to be less than significant. In the development of thresholds of significance for impacts to biological resources CEQA provides guidance primarily in Section 15065, Mandatory Findings of Significance, and the CEQA Guidelines, Attachment G, Environmental Checklist Form. Section 15065(a) states that a project may have a significant effect where:

“The project has the potential to: substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or wildlife community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, ...”

1.2.4 California Fish and Game Codes 3500 Series

California Fish & Game Codes 3500, 3503, 3503.5, 3505, 3511 and 3513 are State regulations that cover resident and non-resident game birds, protected bird nests, protected raptor nests, egrets, ospreys, Fully Protected bird species, and take considerations for Migratory Bird Treaty Act birds. The Project will comply with CDFW Code 3500 series protections for non-resident game birds, and this regulation is not further discussed in this report.

- **Code 3500:** “(a) Resident game birds are as follows:
 - (1) Doves of the genus *Streptopelia*, including, but not limited to, spotted, ringed turtledoves, and Eurasian collared-doves.
 - (2) California quail and varieties thereof.
 - (3) Gambel's or desert quail.
 - (4) Mountain quail and varieties thereof.

- (5) Sooty or blue grouse and varieties thereof.
- (6) Ruffed grouse.
- (7) Sage hens or sage grouse.
- (8) Hungarian partridges.
- (9) Red-legged partridges including the chukar and other varieties.
- (10) Ring-necked pheasants and varieties thereof.
- (11) Wild turkeys of the order Galliformes.

(b) Migratory game birds are as follows:

- (1) Ducks and geese.
- (2) Coots and gallinules.
- (3) Jacksnipe.
- (4) Western mourning doves.
- (5) White-winged doves.
- (6) Band-tailed pigeons

(c) Reference in this code to "game birds" means both resident and migratory game birds."

- **Code 3503:** "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto."
- **Code 3503.5:** "It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto."
- **Code 3505:** "It is unlawful to take, sell, or purchase any egret or egret, osprey, bird of paradise, goura, numidi, or any part of such a bird."
- **Code 3511:** "(a) (1) Except as provided in Section 2081.7 or 2835, fully protected birds or parts thereof may not be taken or possessed at any time. No provision of this code or any other law shall be construed to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take any fully protected bird, and no permits or licenses heretofore issued shall have any force or effect for that purpose. However, the department may authorize the taking of those species for necessary scientific research, including efforts to recover fully protected, threatened, or endangered species, and may authorize the live capture and relocation of those species pursuant to a permit for the protection of livestock. Prior to authorizing the take of any of those species, the department shall make an effort to notify all affected and interested parties to solicit information and comments on the proposed authorization. The notification shall be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register and be made available to each person who has notified the department, in writing, of his or her interest in fully protected species and who has provided an e-mail address, if available, or postal address to the department. Affected and interested parties shall have 30 days after notification is published in the California Regulatory Notice Register to provide any relevant information and comments on the proposed authorization.

(2) As used in this subdivision, "scientific research" does not include any actions taken as part of specified mitigation for a project, as defined in Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code.

(3) Legally imported fully protected birds or parts thereof may be possessed under a permit issued by the department.

(b) The following are fully protected birds:

- (1) American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*).
- (2) Brown pelican (*Pelican occidentalis*).
- (3) California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*).
- (4) California Ridway's rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*).
- (5) California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*).
- (6) California least tern (*Sterna albifrons browni*).
- (7) Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*).
- (8) Greater sandhill crane (*Grus Canadensis tabida*).
- (9) Light-footed Ridgway's rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*).
- (10) Southern bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*).
- (11) Trumpeter swan (*Cygnus buccinator*).
- (12) White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*).
- (13) Yuma Ridgway's rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*).

- **Code 3513:** "It is unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Treaty Act."

1.2.5 Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA)

The Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) was enacted in 1977 and allows the California Fish and Game Commission to designate plants as rare or endangered. There are 64 species, subspecies, and varieties of plants that are protected as rare under the NPPA. The NPPA prohibits take of endangered or rare native plants, but includes some exceptions for agricultural and nursery operations, emergencies, and/or with proper notification to the CDFW for vegetation removal from canals, roads, and other sites, changes in land use, and in certain other situations.

1.2.6 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code §§13000 et seq.) is the State's primary water law. It gives the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the nine regional water quality control boards substantial authority to regulate water use of surface and sub-surface waters.

1.2.7 CDFW Jurisdictional Waters

Under Sections 1600–1607 of the Fish and Game Code, CDFW regulates activities that would divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake that supports fish or wildlife. CDFW has jurisdiction over riparian habitats (e.g., riparian woodland) associated with watercourses. CDFW jurisdictional waters are delineated by the distances between

the outer edges of wetland/riparian vegetation or at the tops of the banks of streams or lakes, whichever is wider. Although CDFW does not regulate vernal pools under Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code, CDFW will assert jurisdiction over isolated riparian features (including vernal pools) if California state threatened and/or endangered species are present via the California Endangered Species Act, or which provide resources directly or indirectly to fish and wildlife of the region. CDFW may also assert jurisdiction over modified or man-made waterways; such jurisdiction is generally based on the value of such features to support riparian or aquatic plant or animal species. For clarification, of features that may be subject to CDFW jurisdiction, the CDFW Legal Advisor has prepared the following opinion (CDFG 1994):

- Natural waterways that have been subsequently modified and which have the potential to contain fish, aquatic insects, and riparian vegetation will be treated like natural waterways.
- Artificial waterways that have acquired the physical attributes of natural stream courses and which have been viewed by the community as natural stream courses should be treated by [CDFW] as natural waterways.
- Artificial waterways without the attributes of natural waterways should generally not be subject to Fish and Game Code provisions.

CDFW jurisdictional limits may also include artificial stock ponds and irrigation ditches constructed within uplands, and outer drip line limits of adjacent riparian habitat supported by a river, stream, or lake regardless of the riparian area's federal wetland status or its location beyond the defined bed, bank or channel.

1.2.8 RWQCB Jurisdictional Waters

RWQCB is the regional agency responsible for protecting water quality in California. The jurisdiction of this agency includes Waters of the State as mandated by the federal CWA Section 401. When CWA Section 404 jurisdiction is not present for isolated water, the RWQCB may assert jurisdiction via the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Waters of the State are defined as "any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state". The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act provides a regulatory framework to provide comprehensive protections for surface and groundwater within the State of California. Waters subject to jurisdiction under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act require that any discharge that may negatively impact or otherwise affect a Water of the State must coordinate with RWQCB. During coordination, RWQCB may require implementation of mitigation measures or other requirements to protect overall water quality.

1.2.9 California Coastal Act of 1976

The California Coastal Commission (CCC) regulates the diking, filling, or dredging of wetlands within the coastal zone. Section 30121 of the Coastal Act defines "wetlands" as land "which may be covered periodically or permanently with shallow water and include saltwater marshes, freshwater marshes, open or closed brackish water marshes, swamps, mudflats, and fens." The 1981 CCC Statewide Interpretive Guidelines state that hydric soils and hydrophytic vegetation "are useful indicators of wetland conditions, but the presence or absence of hydric soils and/or hydrophytes alone are not necessarily determinative when the Commission identifies wetlands under the Coastal Act." The 1981 CCC Statewide Interpretive Guidelines define riparian habitats as areas of riparian vegetation. Riparian vegetation is defined as "an association of plant species which grows adjacent to freshwater watercourses, including perennial and intermittent streams, lakes, and other bodies of fresh water." Riparian habitats may encompass wetland areas, but may also extend beyond those areas.

In addition, the California Coastal Act (California Public Resources Code Division 20, Section 30240a) restricts land uses within or adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHAs). The Coastal Act Section 30107.5 defines an ESHA as: "...any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which

could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments.” Included within this definition are wetlands, estuaries, streams, riparian habitats, lakes, and portions of open coastal waters, which meet the rare or valuable habitat criteria. Not all wetlands necessarily meet the “rare or valuable habitat criteria” and as set forth in Section 30233, “where there is no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative, and where feasible avoidance and minimization measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects” degraded or low-value wetlands that do not which meet the rare criteria.

1.3 Local Regulations

1.3.1 Los Angeles County – Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs)

Through the County of Los Angeles' General Plan 61 SEAs were established to protect a wide variety of biological communities within the County. If a project falls within a County SEA, a conditional use permit is required for development in order to protect resources contained in SEAs from incompatible development. The County CEQA Thresholds Guide also states that a biological constraints analysis is required to describe in “a general manner the extent, location, and sensitivities of ecological resources found within an SEA”.

1.3.2 City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Code Amendment Ordinance 177404

Ordinance 177404 protects four species of native trees including oaks (other than scrub oak), southern California black walnut, western sycamore, and California bay. Protected trees must measure 4 inches or more in cumulative diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground level at the base of the tree. No protected tree may be relocated or removed except as provided in Article 7 of Chapter 1 or Article 6 of Chapter 4 of the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code. The term “removed” or “removal” includes any act that will cause a protected tree to die, including but not limited to, acts that inflict damage upon the root system or other part of the tree by fire, application of toxic substances, operation of equipment or machinery, or by changing the natural grade of land by excavation or filling the drip line area around the trunk.

1.3.3 City of Los Angeles General Plan

The *Conservation Element* of the *City of Los Angeles General Plan* (City of Los Angeles 2001) contains policies that pertain to the preservation of biological resources, including the following:

Endangered Species Objectives and Policies

Objective 1. Protect and promote the restoration, to the greatest extent practical, of sensitive plant and animal species and their habitats.

- **Policy 1.** Continue to require evaluation, avoidance, and minimization of potential significant impacts, as well as mitigation of unavoidable significant impacts on sensitive animal and plant species and their habitats and habitat corridors relative to land development activities.
- **Policy 2.** Continue to administer city-owned and managed properties so as to protect and/or enhance the survival of sensitive plant and animal species to the greatest practical extent.
- **Policy 3.** Continue to support legislation that encourages and facilitates protection of endangered, threatened, sensitive, and rare species and their habitats and habitat corridors.

Fisheries Objectives and Policies

Objective 1. Protect and restore ocean fisheries (habitats).

Objective 2. Protect fisheries and enhance, restore, or create fisheries for native fish populations and for sport fishing or harvesting in city managed waters.

- **Policy 1.** Continue to implement and to cooperate with lake fish stocking or enhancement programs.
- **Policy 2.** Continue to consider and implement measures that will mitigate potential damage to and will encourage maintenance or restoration of fisheries.

Forest Objectives and Policies

Objective 1. Retain the forests as primary watershed, open space, and recreational resources for the region.

- **Policy 1.** Continue to support the preservation and protection of Angeles Forest and Santa Clarita Woodlands.

Habitats/Ecological Areas Objectives and Policies

Objective 1. Preserve, protect, restore, and enhance natural plant and wildlife diversity, habitats, corridors, and linkages so as to enable the healthy propagation and survival of native species, especially those species that are endangered, sensitive, threatened, or species of special concern.

- **Policy 1.** Continue to identify significant habitat areas, corridors, and buffers and to take measures to protect, enhance, and/or restore them.
- **Policy 2.** Continue to protect, restore, and/or enhance habitat areas, linkages, and corridor segments, to the greatest extent practical, within city owned or managed sites.
- **Policy 3.** Continue to work cooperatively with other agencies and entities in protecting local habitats and endangered, threatened, sensitive, and rare species.
- **Policy 4.** Continue to support legislation that encourages and facilitates protection of local native plant and animal habitats.

Ocean Objectives and Policies

Objective 1. Protect and enhance the diversity and sustainability of the natural ecologies of the Santa Monica and San Pedro bays, including the bay fishery populations.

- **Policy 1.** Continue to reduce pollutant discharge into the bays from both natural and human sources.
- **Policy 2.** Continue to support legislation and to seek funding and legislation intended for bay and coastal protection, enhancement, and habitat restoration.
- **Policy 3.** Continue to support and/or participate in programs to clean bay sediments and/or mitigate potentially harmful effects of contaminants in the sediments and waters of the bays.

ATTACHMENT C

Database Queries



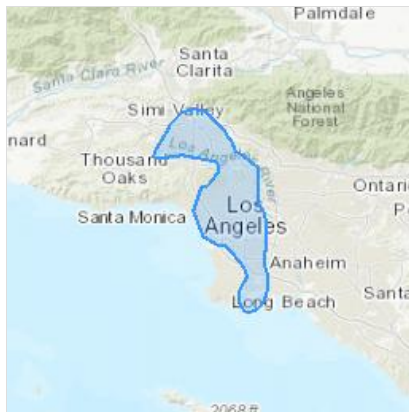
IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Los Angeles County, California



Local offices

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (760) 431-9440

📅 (760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

Ventura Fish And Wildlife Office

☎ (805) 644-1766

📅 (805) 644-3958

✉ FW8VenturaSection7@FWS.Gov

2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003-7726

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Pacific Pocket Mouse <i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8080	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
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<p>California Condor <i>Gymnogyps californianus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8193</p>	Endangered
<p>California Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum browni</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8104</p>	Endangered
<p>California Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7266</p>	Proposed Endangered
<p>Coastal California Gnatcatcher <i>Poliptila californica californica</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8178</p>	Threatened
<p>Hawaiian Petrel <i>Pterodroma sandwichensis</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6746</p>	Endangered
<p>Least Bell's Vireo <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945</p>	Endangered
<p>Light-footed Clapper Rail <i>Rallus longirostris levipes</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6035</p>	Endangered
<p>Marbled Murrelet <i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4467</p>	Threatened
<p>Short-tailed Albatross <i>Phoebastria (=Diomedea) albatrus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/433</p>	Endangered
<p>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749</p>	Endangered

Western Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* Threatened
 There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035>

Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus* Threatened
 There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911>

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
Arroyo (=arroyo Southwestern) Toad <i>Anaxyrus californicus</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3762	Endangered

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Santa Ana Sucker <i>Catostomus santaanae</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3785	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
El Segundo Blue Butterfly <i>Euphilotes battoides allyni</i> Wherever found There is proposed critical habitat for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3135	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate
Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly <i>Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8535	Endangered

Crustaceans

NAME	STATUS
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Riverside Fairy Shrimp *Streptocephalus woottoni* Endangered
 Wherever found
 There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8148>

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp *Branchinecta lynchi* Threatened
 Wherever found
 There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/498>

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
<p>Braunton's Milk-vetch <i>Astragalus brauntonii</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5674</p>	Endangered
<p>California Orcutt Grass <i>Orcuttia californica</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4923</p>	Endangered
<p>Coastal Dunes Milk-vetch <i>Astragalus tener</i> var. <i>titi</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7675</p>	Endangered
<p>Gambel's Watercress <i>Rorippa gambellii</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4201</p>	Endangered
<p>Lyon's Pentachaeta <i>Pentachaeta lyonii</i> Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4699</p>	Endangered
<p>Marsh Sandwort <i>Arenaria paludicola</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2229</p>	Endangered

<p>Nevin's Barberry <i>Berberis nevinii</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8025</p>	Endangered
<p>Salt Marsh Bird's-beak <i>Cordylanthus maritimus</i> ssp. <i>maritimus</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6447</p>	Endangered
<p>Slender-horned Spineflower <i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4007</p>	Endangered
<p>Spreading Navarretia <i>Navarretia fossalis</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.</p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1334</p>	Threatened

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

This location overlaps the critical habitat for the following species:

NAME	TYPE
<p>Coastal California Gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila californica californica</i></p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8178#crithab</p>	Final
<p>Santa Ana Sucker <i>Catostomus santaanae</i></p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3785#crithab</p>	Final
<p>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i></p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749#crithab</p>	Final
<p>Western Snowy Plover <i>Charadrius nivosus nivosus</i></p> <p>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8035#crithab</p>	Final

Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
<https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

Bald and Golden Eagle information is not available at this time

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the [Eagle Act](#) should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidentals-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

Migratory bird information is not available at this time

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

The area of this project is too large for IPaC to load all NWI wetlands in the area. The list below may be incomplete. Please contact the local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office or visit the [NWI map](#) for a full list.

ESTUARINE AND MARINE DEEPWATER

[E1UBLx](#)

ESTUARINE AND MARINE WETLAND

[M2USP](#)

[E2EM1P](#)

[E2USP](#)

[M2USN](#)

[E2SSP](#)

[E2USM](#)

[E2EM1N](#)

[E2SBN](#)

[E2USN](#)

[E2RSPr](#)

[M2RSPr](#)

[E2SBNx](#)

[E2SBM](#)

[M2RSNr](#)

[M2RSN](#)

[E2USNx](#)

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

[PEM1Cx](#)

[PEM1Ch](#)

[PEM1A](#)

[PEM1C](#)

[PEM1Ax](#)

[PEM1Rx](#)

[PEM1Cr](#)

[PEM1Fh](#)

[PEM1Ah](#)

[PEM1/SSAh](#)[PEM1R](#)[PEM1B](#)[PEM1/SSCx](#)[PEM1F](#)[PEM1Fx](#)

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

[PFOCh](#)[PSSAh](#)[PFOCx](#)[PFOC](#)[PFOA](#)[PSSA](#)[PSSCh](#)[PSSC](#)[PSSCx](#)[PSSAx](#)[PFOAx](#)[PFOAh](#)[PFO/SSCx](#)[PSS/EM1C](#)[PSS/EM1Cx](#)[PSSR](#)[PSSFx](#)[PSSS](#)[PFOB](#)

FRESHWATER POND

[PUSKx](#)[PUSAx](#)[PUBHx](#)[PUBFx](#)[PUBKx](#)[PUSCx](#)[PUBHh](#)[PUS/SSC](#)[PUSAh](#)[PUSCh](#)[PUS/EM1Ch](#)[PUBH](#)[PUBFh](#)[PUSA](#)[PUBKr](#)[PUSAr](#)[PABHr](#)[PUBF](#)[PUSKr](#)[PUS/EM1Ax](#)[PUS/SSAh](#)[PUSCr](#)[PABHx](#)[PUBFr](#)

LAKE

[L1UBHh](#)
[L1UBKr](#)
[L1UBHx](#)
[L2USAh](#)
[L2UBKx](#)
[L2USCh](#)
[L2USCx](#)
[L2UBFh](#)
[L1ABHx](#)
[L2UBHh](#)

RIVERINE

[R2UBHx](#)
[R2UBHr](#)
[R4SBCr](#)
[R4SBAr](#)
[R4SBA](#)
[R1UBVx](#)
[R2USCr](#)
[R4SBCx](#)
[R4SBJ](#)
[R4SBAx](#)
[R2USC](#)
[R4SBC](#)
[R2UBFr](#)
[R2USCx](#)
[R2UBFx](#)
[R4SBAh](#)
[R4SBJx](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded

from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

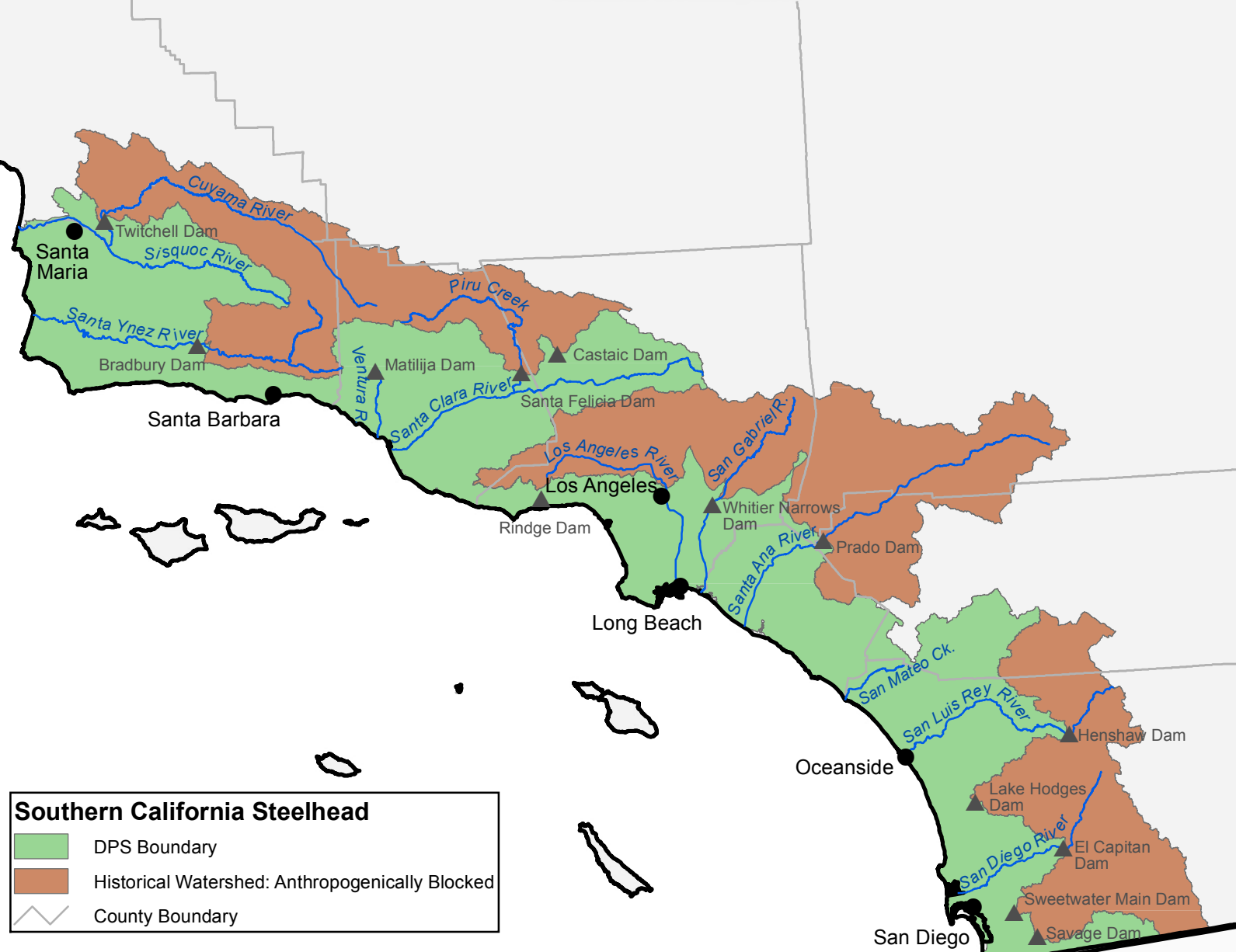
Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.



Southern California Steelhead Distinct Population Segment

Current as of January 2013



Southern California Steelhead

- DPS Boundary
- Historical Watershed: Anthropogenically Blocked
- County Boundary

